

# NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## 2021 NOMINATION GUIDELINES & CONDITIONS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

- The promoter is Youth Off The Streets Ltd (ABN 29 100 388 412) of 28 Bowden Street, Alexandria, NSW 2015, Australia.
- Nominations are invited from young people with a genuine talent, ability and determination in any education or training course, including (but not limited to): academic skills; visual or performing arts; sport; trade skills; and music.
- Scholarship recipients will be required to develop a Pathway Plan, which clearly shows their goals and how the scholarship money would be used.
- Approximately 20 scholarships of \$6,000 each will be awarded throughout Australia. Scholarships will be awarded on the merit of each application and numbers will differ between states.
- A minimum of one scholarship will be awarded to a current client or graduate from Youth Off The Streets programs/services. If an appropriate Youth Off The Streets recipient is not found, the scholarship will be awarded to the next short-listed nomination.
- Young people who are Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander or of diverse cultural and linguistic background are encouraged to apply.
- Nominations for the **National Scholarship Program** are taken from all Australian states and territories.

### NOMINEE ELIGIBILITY

- Nominees must be between aged 16 to 21 inclusive as at 20 September on the year of nomination.
- Nominees must be citizens or permanent residents of Australia or New Zealand (evidence will be required).
- The young person nominated must have a clear need for financial assistance and be studying in Australia for the two year period of the program.

### SELECTION CRITERIA

- “Talent, skill or ability” for the purposes of nomination refers to evidence of a demonstrated ability/capacity or potential to succeed in a given area. Ability may be current or future potential as identified by a referee.
- “Need for financial assistance” for the purpose of nomination refers to the nominee’s current personal and family financial circumstances limiting development of talent, skill or ability and progress towards their goals.
- The nomination form needs to show a clear outline of how the young person would use their scholarship funds which should show that the young person has set realistic goals that can be achieved with financial assistance.
- “Goal”, for the purposes of nomination refers to a specific aspiration/ambition and a plan (including clear targets).

### NOMINATION GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS

- Nominations must be made by the young person themselves, however assistance in completing the nomination is encouraged.
- A young person may only be nominated for one scholarship per year.

- The nomination must truthfully advise of any financial assistance provided to the nominee by government or non-government agencies which includes (but is not limited to); rental allowance; study allowance; additional scholarships; and unemployment benefits.
- Successful nominees must have a support person who is an adult e.g. parent/guardian, case worker, teacher, youth worker or coach who can regularly consult with the **National Scholarship Program** staff on the nominee's progress.
- The support person cannot also be a referee for the young person.
- All nominations must include at least one reliable, independent referee letter which confirms the personal circumstances and talent, skill or ability of the young person nominated. This letter must be signed by the referee.
- The referee must be an adult. This includes (but is not limited to) a teacher, youth worker or coach). The referee cannot be related to the nominee.
- The referee and support person need to be available via phone as they may be contacted for a reference check by July/August, 2021.
- Nomination forms must be filled out correctly and completely. Unsigned nominations will not be considered.
- Nominations must be received by **4pm, Friday 21 May, 2021**.
- The only method to apply is to complete the scholarship nomination form online on our website at;

[www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/programs/scholarship](http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au/programs/scholarship)

- Youth Off The Streets will not return nomination applications. Applicants are advised to keep copies for their own records.
- All nominees will be notified of the outcome of their application by September 2021 in writing to the email address provided on the nomination form.

## **SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT CONDITIONS**

### National Scholarship Program – Virtual Awards Ceremony

- Successful scholarship recipients will be required to submit a short 'thank you' video presentation and other information to include in the virtual awards ceremony. All attendees will be sent a link to watch the pre-recorded ceremony at a designated time and date. The details of the ceremony will be confirmed in October 2021.

### Community Mentor

- Scholarship recipients must be prepared to enter into a Mentor relationship for the two years of their scholarship. Mentors will be assigned to each recipient to provide support and guidance. If a mentor relationship breaks down during the two years, Youth Off The Streets (at their discretion) will make efforts to establish another relationship for the scholarship recipient. Mentors will not be direct family members of recipients.

Where possible, those recipients based within a reasonable distance of Sydney will be matched with a face-to-face Mentor. For others based outside of the Sydney area, Mentors will use alternate forms of communication.

#### Communication with Scholarship Team

- Scholarship recipients must be prepared to continue communication with Youth Off The Streets Scholarship Program staff and take part in regular progress reports (including updates for sponsors) for two years based on their Pathway Plan.
- Failure by a scholarship recipient to demonstrate ongoing commitment to their Pathway Plan and communication with Youth Off The Streets Scholarship Program staff may result in the Scholarship being terminated. Youth Off The Streets reserves the right to request repayment of Scholarship funds by the recipient.

#### Pathway Plan

- Scholarship recipients will be required to identify a Pathway Plan, which clearly shows their goals and how scholarship funds will be used. Pathway Plans must provide an outline for the use of scholarship funds during the two year period.

#### Scholarship Funds

- Scholarship funds will be paid as expenses arise over the two year period depending on the individual requirements of each recipient.
- Scholarship recipients will be required to keep a record of all payments made with Scholarship funds, and provide these records and appropriate receipts to Youth Off The Streets as requested. Failure to supply appropriate receipts may result in a request for repayment of scholarship funds.
- Please note Youth Off The Streets will support scholarship recipients to use all of their allocated funds according to their 'Pathway Plan'. If however this is not possible it will be at Youth Off The Streets discretion to allocate the remainder of the funds to other student's education/learning.

#### Media and Marketing

- Scholarship recipients may be requested for limited media coverage for promotion of the Youth Off The Streets Scholarship Program. This may be in the form of press releases, photographs and radio or television interviews. Scholarship recipients may be requested to take part in media coverage prior to the Scholarship Awards Ceremony. Consent from any scholarship recipient will be sought prior to the release of any of the media coverage outlined above. Scholarship recipients may not engage with the media about the program without prior consent (in writing) from Youth Off The Streets Scholarship Program staff.

#### **TERMS**

- The decision of the Youth Off The Streets Selection Committee is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- By submitting a nomination, you consent to Youth Off The Streets contacting the nominee, support person and referee directly. Successful nominees will be required to confirm acceptance of the scholarship within a week of email receipt, otherwise Youth Off The Streets reserves the right to offer the scholarship to an alternative nominee.
- Details (excluding any identifying information) of the successful nominees may be published on the Youth Off The Streets website [www.youthoffthestreets.com.au](http://www.youthoffthestreets.com.au) in November 2021.
- Youth Off The Streets accepts no responsibility for personal injury suffered or sustained during the course of accepting or using the scholarship funds.
- In certain circumstances, recipients may be required to declare scholarship assistance on their individual tax declaration. It is the responsibility of individuals to discuss this with their tax advisor or the Australian Tax Office.