



COMMONWEALTH & CSU EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS

EXCEPTIONAL FINANCIAL HARDSHIP FORM 2009



Only complete the personal statement below if you are **not** in receipt of a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (other than Family Tax Benefit A) and you believe you can demonstrate **exceptional** financial hardship.

This generally does not include students whose family income is above the threshold for eligibility for a Centrelink payment. For more information on Centrelink Benefits, go to their website - www.centrelink.gov.au

Family name:	Given names:
Student I.D. No:	Name of Scholarship:

Personal Statement

Please explain why you are not eligible for a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (Centrelink Benefits).

Describe the exceptional financial hardship you have experienced, and will continue to experience in 2009.

What was the period of exceptional financial hardship up until now?

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years months

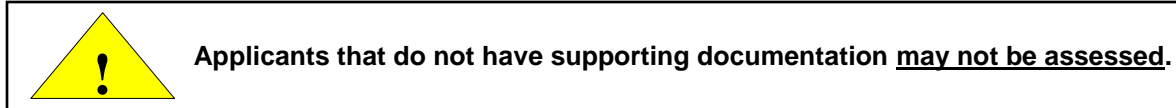
Will the financial hardship continue in 2010 and beyond? If so, for how long? Explain why.

Support Statement

If you are unable to provide supporting documentation to verify your circumstances, please have a responsible person (who is not a family member) provide a statement below to verify your circumstances and supply their personal details and signature.

Details of responsible person (for example, your Course Coordinator, a doctor, lawyer, social worker, religious or community leader - who is not a family member)

Family name:		Given names:	
Relationship to applicant:		Occupation:	
Address:		Suburb:	Postcode:
Daytime contact phone number: ()		Email:	
Signature of person providing statement:		Date:	



Documentation required

1. You must provide the following documents if applicable to you:
 - an ATO Notice of Final Assessment for the last financial year and a copy of a recent payslip showing a YTD amount earned; and
 - a copy of your current Health Care Card; and
 - a copy of a statement with details of any Centrelink payments you are receiving, for example Family Tax Benefit A and/or B; and
 - a copy of an Exceptional Circumstances Certificate from the NSW Rural Assistance Authority, or similar.
2. If you are living with your parent/s or with a partner and you are being financially supported you must also provide evidence of their income eg a copy of their last available ATO Notice of Final Assessment for the last financial year or a copy of a recent payslip showing a YTD amount earned.
3. If you are being supported by your parent/s (whether you are living with them or not), they must also prepare a statement which states that they are supporting you. In the statement they must also provide details of any other dependent children, including their ages and whether or not they are tertiary students at home or away.
4. In the case of bankruptcy, documentation could be a letter from a solicitor together with bank statements.
5. Any other documents you wish to provide to demonstrate your exceptional financial hardship.

Privacy Statement

Personal information provided for the administration of the Commonwealth and CSU Equity Scholarship program and Grants is protected by the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). The information collected will only be used by authorised staff to assess ongoing eligibility and administer the Equity Scholarships and Grants. Students should be aware that they provide information of their own free will.

Personal information provided by you will not be made available to any person within the University or any person or organisation outside the University for any other purpose without the student's consent, except where the University may be legally required to do so. Students may access their personal information to ensure that it is not inaccurate, irrelevant to the purpose for which it was collected, misleading, incomplete or out-of-date.

Students may also ask a Student Equity Officer to amend any of the information held about them or to add comments or explanations in relation to their information. To do any of these things students should contact one of the Student Equity Officers. Students dissatisfied with the way a Student Equity Officer has handled their personal information may apply to have the matter reviewed by lodging a formal application with the University Ombudsman.

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Please tick the boxes to indicate you have read and understood the Financial Hardship requirements for your scholarship.

- I acknowledge that I have read the relevant Scholarship Guidelines.
- I certify that the information supplied on this form and in the accompanying documents is complete, true and correct.
- I agree that CSU can contact Centrelink direct to verify my Centrelink Benefits.
- I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the Criminal Code (Commonwealth).
- I understand that incorrect information may render my ongoing eligibility assessment invalid, and in such a case, the committee may revoke the scholarship.
- I have attached all necessary documents and that they are correctly verified.

Student signature _____ Date _____