



Guidelines for the ParaQuad NSW - Golden Stave Foundation Scholarships 2010

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Please note: Golden Stave, through their generous support, is the financial contributor only of these scholarships and is not involved in any decisions relating to the selection of the recipients and the ongoing management of their eligibility. These decisions are made by ParaQuad NSW.

2010 Scholarship Program

Program Objectives

ParaQuad NSW's purpose is to empower people with a spinal cord injury to achieve their potential.

Current statistics suggest that less than 35% of people living with a spinal cord injury are able to gain employment.¹ These scholarships are designed to support youth with a spinal cord injury to reach their potential by providing funding for education and the development of skills in order to secure their future employment.

With the continued support of the music industry's Golden Stave Foundation, ParaQuad is able to provide substantial funding for each successful scholarship recipient in two areas:-

1. Education – providing financial assistance for:
 - Course fees
 - Equipment to assist with studies
 - Transport and accommodation in relation to study
 - Assistance such as carers, scribes, tutors and typing services
2. Sport and Recreation activities, training and/or equipment that will provide future income prospects.

Student Eligibility Requirements

Recipients are selected on the following criteria as defined by ParaQuad NSW:

- § Australian Citizens or Permanent Residents (residing in NSW/ACT)
- § Person with a spinal cord injury
- § Must provide evidence of financial need (please refer to 'Low Socio-economic Background Criteria')
- § Motivation and perseverance towards goals

Low Socio-economic Background Criteria

A student is not eligible for a scholarship unless the student meets one of the following criteria:

- § The student is in receipt of a pension or allowance under the Social Security Act 1991, or Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986, or ABSTUDY; or
- § We will consider all applications; however, preference for funding will be given to individuals whose family income does not exceed \$120,000 per annum (documentation of household income must be provided on receipt of application).

2010 Scholarship Program

Additional Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship Eligibility Requirements

Additional Criteria are as follows:

- § Should a scholarship be awarded and at some later stage it is found that the student no longer satisfies the scholarship criteria, the scholarship will be withdrawn. However, no refund will be requested (please refer “Conditions of Scholarship”)
- § Scholarship payments are made on proof that the students maintain a satisfactory rate of academic progress. The scholarship is paid once only for each session of study, hence where a student needs to repeat a session due to academic failure then the scholarship will be suspended until the failed subjects have been passed and the student progresses to the next session
- § Should a student, in receipt of a scholarship, change their mode of study for example from full-time to part-time and not demonstrate strong justification for the change then the scholarship payments will cease.
- § Successful applicants, at the time of accepting an offer for scholarship funding from ParaQuad NSW, must accept the conditions of the scholarship and agree to provide personal information relevant to assessing their ongoing eligibility for the scholarship funds.

Conditions of Scholarship

Ongoing Eligibility Requirements

ParaQuad NSW is responsible for monitoring the ongoing eligibility of the scholarship recipients to ensure that each recipient continues to meet the eligibility requirements for The Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship as set out in “Student Eligibility Requirements”.

Each successful applicant will need to become a member of ParaQuad NSW; if they are not already (a membership form can be found on the website at www.paraquad.org.au).

Each successful applicant will need to provide a photo of themselves, as well as a twice-yearly report i.e end of June 2010 and end December 2010 to ParaQuad NSW on the progress of their studies and how the scholarship has helped. ParaQuad NSW may choose to use this material for promotional purposes.

ParaQuad NSW requires recipients to achieve satisfactory academic/sporting progress to be continue to be eligible for the **Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship**.

2010 Scholarship Program

Deferral of Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship

ParaQuad NSW may approve request for periods of deferral in the recipient's study and therefore funding, once ParaQuad NSW has received a full report from the educational institution in which the recipient attends.

Termination of the Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship

ParaQuad NSW may terminate the Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship:

- § If the student ceases to meet the eligibility criteria specified under "Student Eligibility Requirements" and "Conditions of Scholarship" of these Guidelines, other than during a period in which the scholarship has been deferred; or
- § Once the full value of the scholarship has been paid; or
- § If the student does not resume study at the conclusion of a period of deferral; or
- § If the educational institution determines that a student is guilty of serious academic misconduct; or
- § If the student fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by the educational institution and ParaQuad NSW.

Where a student needs to repeat a session due to academic failure then the scholarship will be suspended until the failed subject(s) have been passed and the student progresses to the next session

Should a student, in receipt of a scholarship, change their mode of study, for example from full-time to part-time, and not demonstrate strong justification for the change, then the scholarship payments will cease

Successful applicants, at the time of accepting an offer for scholarship funding from ParaQuad NSW, must accept the conditions of the scholarship and agree to provide personal information relevant to assessing their ongoing eligibility for the scholarship funds.

2010 Scholarship Program

Payments to Students

Commencement and Mode of Payments

Golden Stave Foundation Scholarship payments to students will not be made prior to the student's first day of attendance of the first term / first sporting clinic/session. Mode of payment will only be cheque.

Payment Arrangements

Scholarship recipients should post their receipts / invoices to ParaQuad NSW not more than **three times in the year**, starting from the end of the first term/ first sporting clinic/session. In case this seems difficult, especially with regard to big purchases, like computers etc, please call on (02) 8741 5669 to discuss

Original invoices received from the scholarship recipient have to be accompanied by a covering letter stating the amount they wish to claim at that point in time. Payment will be made within a week of receipt of the receipts/invoices.

Payments will be made directly to students, the educational institution, carer or tutor (once receipt or invoice has been received by ParaQuad NSW).

Rollover of Unspent Funds

All recipients must spend **all** allocated funds within the period of the scholarship, ie. February to December. All claims must be received by ParaQuad NSW no later than close of business, 31 December 2010. ParaQuad NSW **will not** accept any request to rollover unspent funds to the following year.