

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

### **Are these scholarships national?**

Yes. The scholarships are available to Australian students from all states and territories, whether you live in a city, regional town, or a rural community. To date we have awarded over 1100 scholarships to girls throughout Australia.

### **What are the criteria? Do I have to be in Year 8 to apply?**

Yes, you need to be in Year 8 at the time of your application. Our criteria are:

- Be a female student enrolled at a public/government high school
- Be currently a Year 8 student entering Year 9 in 2025
- Be demonstrating high academic results and/or academic potential
- Be currently experiencing low socio-economic circumstances

You also need to demonstrate that you have the motivation to achieve academically and professionally, including an intention to undertake tertiary studies. An interest in extracurricular, community, and leadership activities will be considered favourably.

### **I want to apply for a HMEF scholarship. How do I do this?**

It is easy to apply. Go to [hardingmillereducationfoundation.org.au](https://hardingmillereducationfoundation.org.au) during the application period and click on the **APPLY NOW** link.

You can start your application, save it and come back to it later. All applications must be submitted by 11.59pm AEST on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### **Can I apply more than once?**

No. You can only apply once, and you must be in Year 8 when you submit your application.

### **Do I have to get over a certain grade to qualify?**

Your school grades need to be strong and show that you have academic capability and potential for high achievement. Your attitude and commitment to studying and doing well at school also need to be evident in your application.

**I have won another scholarship already. Can I still apply for this?**

Yes. You can still apply if you meet our criteria. We are happy for you to have more than one scholarship.

**I am not an Australian citizen. Can I still apply?**

Yes, you can still apply. Evidence of your visa status is required to be included in our application.

**How many applications do you receive every year?**

We receive hundreds of applications every year – and this is increasing as more people hear about the scholarship and are inspired by the success stories of our Harding Miller scholars.

**How many scholarships do you award every year?**

The number of scholarships is dependent on funding. We currently support over 700 scholars in Years 9 to 12.

**How do you define disadvantage?**

A range of factors contribute to disadvantage. In our experience we generally see students who experience a combination of the following factors:

- Living with very low income or experiencing financial hardship
- Having an immigrant, asylum or refugee background (personally or parents)
- Identifying as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- Living with low parental or carer academic achievement
- Living with a disability (personally or family members)
- Living in out of home care
- Living in a geographically isolated area
- Suffering misfortune or destitution
- Living with family violence or dysfunction

**Do all the scholarships offer the same in all states and territories?**

Yes, every scholarship is the same, for all girls, across all regions of Australia.

**Are the Quinn scholarships different to the HMEF scholarships?**

The Quinn scholarships are the same as the HMEF scholarships. They are financed and supported by the Quinn Femelle Foundation which is why they are called the Quinn scholarships for Queenslanders.

**Can I still apply if I do not have a teacher to support me?**

As part of the application, you need your principal to provide a reference. The reference can be written by an assistant principal or your year coordinator but it must be signed by the principal, and it needs to be on school letterhead.

**Are the scholarships only for girls? Can boys apply?**

Only girls are eligible to apply for the Harding Miller scholarship program. Our founders believe that educating girls has the potential to create societal change by breaking the cycle of poverty and stimulating economic growth.

**Do I have to give the laptop back at the end of the scholarship?**

If you complete Year 12 and provide us with your ATAR result, the laptop is yours to keep.

**How much is a scholarship worth and what does it include?**

Scholarships are valued at approximately \$20,000 over the course of four years. Successful applicants for 20245 will receive the following support:

- High-quality laptop and help desk support.



- 4G mobile broadband including 20GB internet per month
- \$2500 of face-to-face or online tutoring each year
- Subscription to an online study help provider
- \$650 pre-paid card for school expenses each year
- Mentoring from a personal coach

Scholars also receive access to the Enhanced Learning study skills program and many other career and educational enrichment opportunities.

### **What is the selection process?**

Your application will be reviewed by a selection panel, which includes representatives from the Harding Miller Education Foundation, Departments of Education, and other independent judges.

Members of the selection panel assess each application against the selection criteria and provide their recommendations to the Harding Miller Education Foundation Board for approval.

### **When will I find out if I've been successful?**

We will send you an email to notify you of the outcome of your application in December before the end of the school year. Your principal and parents and/or guardians will also be notified.

### **Is there someone I can call if I get stuck with my application?**

Please call the Harding Miller Education Foundation on 1300 103 896 or email [info@hardingmiller.org.au](mailto:info@hardingmiller.org.au)