

Bill Borthwick Student Scholarships 2025

Applications for the 2025 round of Bill Borthwick Student Scholarships are now open.

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) provides annual scholarships for tertiary students to support research on the values and management of public land in Victoria.

The scholarships were established in 2011 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the first meeting of VEAC's predecessor, the Land Conservation Council (LCC). They honour the vision of the Hon. Bill Borthwick, Victoria's first Minister for Conservation who led the establishment of the LCC in 1970 to advise governments on the use of Victoria's public land.

Applications close at 5:00 pm on Tuesday 11 March 2025.

Areas of Research Focus

The council is seeking applications for research which informs its role to "advise on the protection and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources of public land". This can include:

- public land management practice e.g. sustainable, active and adaptive management
- ecological, geological, social and cultural values of public land
- synergies and trade-offs between public land uses e.g. recreation, ecosystem services and ecological outcomes.

Eligibility

Applicants must be enrolled in an Australian university in 2025, undertaking an honours, masters or PhD research project related to public land management in Victoria. Relevant fields of study may include natural and social sciences.

Award

Scholarships will be awarded in the range of \$500 to \$2,500. Criteria for selection include the:

- relevance of the research to understanding public land values and management
- quality and achievability of the project
- the difference the scholarship may make to the achievement of the project.

VEAC generally seeks to award scholarships across a range of disciplines and degree levels, and considering Victorian public sector's diversity and inclusion policy.

Conditions of the scholarship

- A brief report outlining the progress of the research project must be forwarded to the Executive Officer of VEAC by 30 June 2026.
- Any publications arising from the project scholarship should acknowledge the scholarship, and a copy of the publications should be forwarded to the Executive Officer of VEAC.
- Recipients are expected to give a presentation on their research project to VEAC.

Any queries should be directed to Executive Officer, VEAC on 1800 134 803 (toll free from landline) or to veac@deeca.vic.gov.au

For further information about VEAC, see <http://www.veac.vic.gov.au>

Application for Bill Borthwick Student Scholarships

Applicants please note:

1. Applicants will receive an email acknowledging receipt of the application.
2. Copies of supporting documentation must be attached with this application.
3. VEAC intends to advise successful applicants by Tuesday 25 March 2025.
4. Previous recipients of this scholarship will generally be given lower priority.
5. VEAC reserves the right to not award the scholarships following its assessment of applications.

If handwritten, use clear block letters

1. Personal Details

Family Name: _____ Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr/Other: _____

Given Names: _____

Postal Address:

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

2. Research Project

Short title of research project:

Project commencement date (actual or proposed): _____

Course enrolled in: _____

University: _____

Name, title, and contact details (including email address) of your research supervisor/s:

3. Scholarship

Amount of funding sought: \$ _____

Attach separate pages (no more than 2 A4 pages in 11 point font) outlining:

- a brief summary of your research project
- the relevance of the project to understanding public land values and management
- the budget for the requested funding and how this would assist your research.

The budget must clearly identify how the funding will be used, i.e. specific project costs, such as travel and accommodation expenses for fieldwork, equipment purchases and research consumables. The scholarship will not fund items that are not directly related to the project, such as parking, thesis binding and printing. Conference attendance will not generally be funded.

4. Have you attached?

- A summary of your research project and its relevance to public land values and management
- A detailed budget breakdown for the requested funding
- Evidence of enrolment.

Applications must be submitted to veac@deeca.vic.gov.au by 5pm Tuesday 11 March 2025.