



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Young Achievers Program

Supporting the aspirations of deserving students



Welcome to the Young Achievers Program

The Young Achievers Program supports the university aspirations, career options and community-mindedness of nominated Queensland state high school students by engaging and mentoring them throughout their academic journey and beyond.

The focus of the program is on nurturing and developing participants from disadvantaged backgrounds through mentoring, advice, financial assistance, and opportunities for personal growth.

Instilling a strong sense of civic responsibility is an important goal of the program. For this reason, Young Achievers undertake school and community volunteer projects in Years 11 and 12.

The program also aims to develop student role models who will go on to build the aspirations of others by serving as mentors to future cohorts of Young Achievers.

Since its establishment in 2009, 1236 students from state high schools across Queensland have participated in the program.



Student nomination and selection

School principals nominate Year 10 students who are motivated young people with the demonstrated potential to succeed at university. To be considered for the program, students must be ATAR eligible and consistently demonstrate a high level of commitment to their school studies. Full eligibility criteria are outlined in the program guidelines.

Student benefits

The program provides a valuable support framework to enable participating students to realise their potential.

Students selected for the program benefit from:

- ongoing support and mentoring from current UQ students
- on-campus experiences, including residential camps at UQ St Lucia
- financial assistance of \$1000 per year in Years 11 and 12 to assist with education costs
- scholarship support of \$7000 per year for up to four years while enrolled as a full-time student at UQ
- information and personalised assistance with study and career planning
- five adjustment factors towards study at UQ
- advice on university study options, pathways and application procedures
- opportunities for personal growth and leadership development
- tailored transition advice and student support services
- accommodation support and access to Young Achiever grants up to \$11,000 per year
- regular newsletters and updates from UQ
- invitations to UQ Open Days and other university events.

Mentor support

UQ student mentors play a vital role in the delivery and success of the program by generously volunteering their time to inspire, inform and encourage Young Achievers to pursue their educational ambitions.

This team of current UQ students supports the Young Achievers in a variety of ways by serving as:

- friendly and helpful sources of information, motivation and support
- positive role models, who inspire students and assist the development of leadership, interpersonal and communication skills.

The program provides an extraordinary and fulfilling opportunity for mentors and students alike.



Study and career planning



\$1000 per year for Years 11 and 12



\$7000 per year for up to four years while enrolled at UQ



“The Young Achievers Program is what I call a second family – from the supportive mentors who check up with me every month, to the hundred other UQ mentees who have been with me along this journey, and to the support team who help organise the program and to those who financially support the program – they have all been there to support me during my senior studies. Year 11 and year 12 can be difficult and to have this support behind me to help me if I fall is a crucial asset.”

JADE TETLOW

Young Achiever
Year 12 – Roma State High School

Your support ensures success – help shape the future of talented students

Raising and supporting the tertiary aspirations of students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds requires a long-term commitment.

The University welcomes support from individuals and organisations who share our ambition to improve educational outcomes for students from low-income families and would like to contribute to the success and sustainability of the program. Your gift will provide much-needed assistance for these students as they embark on the journey to fulfil their educational and life ambitions.

The University of Queensland is committed to the long-term sustainability of this important initiative and the benefits it will bring, not only to participants, but also to their families, schools and communities.

We encourage our supporters to take advantage of opportunities to personally meet our Young Achievers. You will gain immense satisfaction in seeing these young people complete secondary school, thrive at university and, importantly, give back to the program by helping others.

Contact

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“The Young Achievers Program (YAP) has given me the invaluable opportunity to go to university – it would not have been possible without their support. YAP understands the obstacles that students from low socio-economic status backgrounds face and provides them a chance to pursue tertiary education. The YAP program recognised my potential and gave me the means to pursue my passion – education. I have always wanted to become a teacher and YAP is playing a crucial role in making that dream come true. I’m so grateful for the opportunity to study at a highly recognised institution. The YAP scholarship also assisted me with accommodation, making the transition to university much smoother. I was able to stay in student accommodation and have that immersive university experience. Since becoming a Young Achiever, I have learnt the importance of giving back. My mentors were extremely supportive – they helped me to prepare for university and made sure to answer all of my questions. As a result of the support that YAP has given me, I was fortunate enough to be selected as a mentor and am now volunteering for cohort 11. Giving back to a program that has given me so much is truly rewarding. So many aspects of my life are facilitated by this program, and since joining I have realised that anything is possible. I love what YAP is doing for people like me.”

TEGAN FREI

Young Achiever mentor and scholarship recipient
Third-year Bachelor of Arts/Education
(Secondary) student