

2026 UNSW
Sport Scholarships &
Elite Athlete Program

## Introduction

High performance sport has a long and successful history at UNSW. Our sports program has allowed us to attract and retain some of the best and brightest student athletes, and creates a sense of pride in the UNSW name through the celebration of student and alumni success.

UNSW is endorsed by Sport Australia as a member of the Elite Athlete Education Network (EAEN) and we offer flexible entry and study for identified elite athletes, allowing them to balance sport and study in order to provide pathways to life after sport. This ensures their experience on campus is one that is rewarding, flexible and helps them acquire the right skills and qualifications needed to follow their passions and interests outside of sport.

The Elite Athlete University Network provides a network of AIS endorsed providers in the areas of higher education where athletes can learn and equip themselves with qualifications, knowledge and skills for future careers beyond their sport.

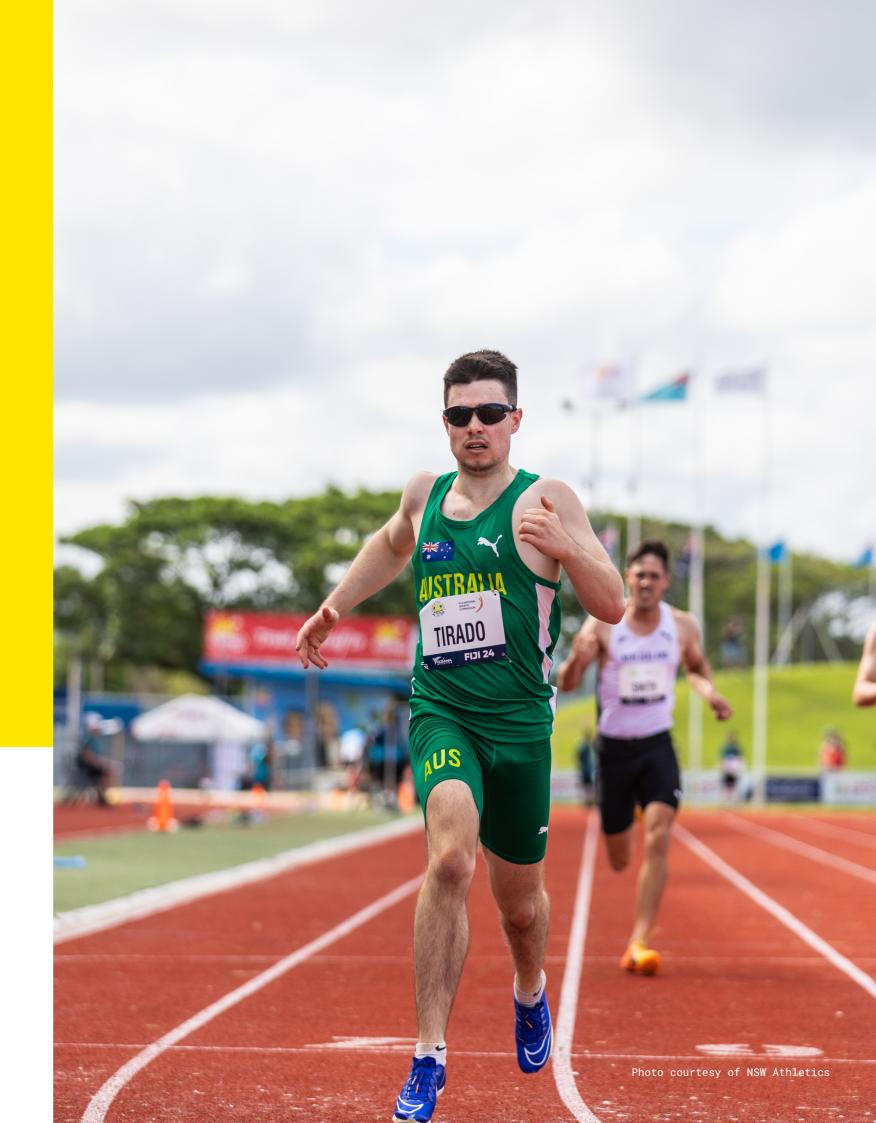
OUR STUDENT-ATHLETES ARE SUPPORTED TO ACHIEVE IN SPORT AND STUDY, THROUGH THE UNSW ELITE ATHLETE PROGRAM AND OUR RANGE OF SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS.

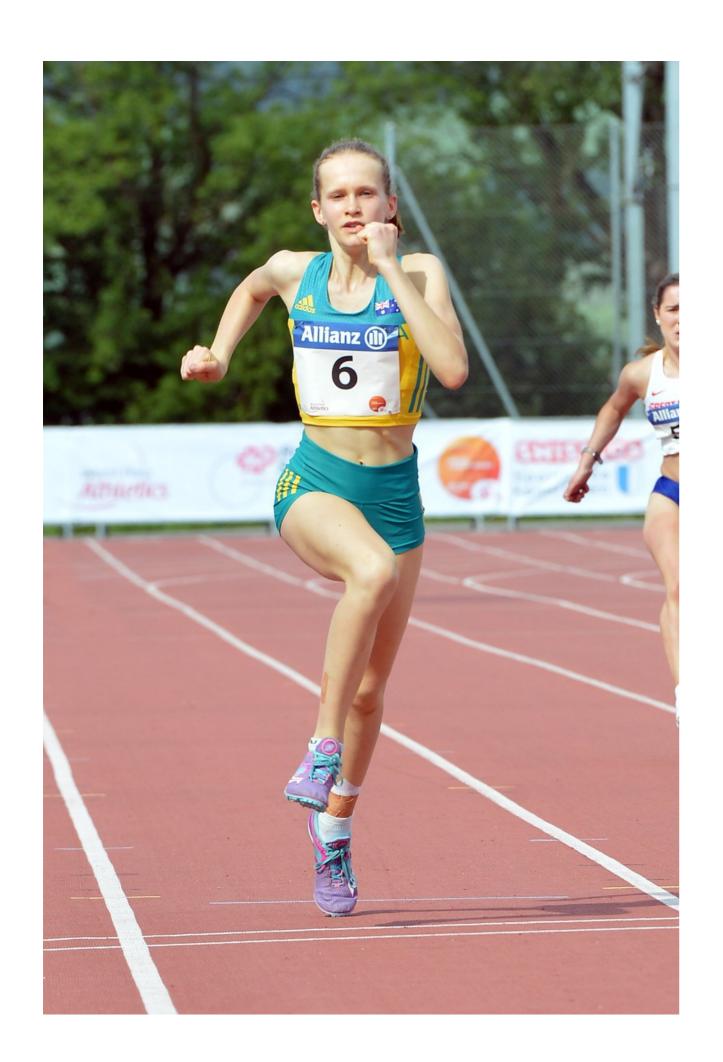
IF YOU WANT TO BALANCE SPORT AND STUDY,
NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, #TEAMUNSW HAS THE
SUPPORT YOU NEED.



# **Acknowledgement of Country**

UNSW Sport would like to Acknowledge the Bedegal (Kensington campus), Gadigal (City and Art & Design Campuses) and Ngunnawal people (UNSW Canberra) who are the traditional custodians of the lands where each campus of UNSW is located.





# Ben Lexcen Scholarship

The Ben Lexcen Sports Scholarship is the premier elite athlete sports scholarship for current UNSW students with an outstanding ability in sport.

The scholarship aims to enable the scholar to continue excelling at their sport while also supporting their academic endeavours and promoting the development of well-rounded future leaders.

It is awarded on elite athlete merit, leadership qualities and potential to contribute to the UNSW community.

### Ben Lexcen Scholars

Caitlin Cronin

Master of Public Health Australian Rowing, Paris 2024 Olympics

**Ethan Jamieson** B Politics, Philosophy & Economics U19 Australian Cricket & UNSW Cricket

Hayley Ballesty B Landscape Architecture (Hons) Aussie Stingers Water Polo

Jack Adams

B Engineering (Hons)/Commerce NZ National Snow Sports Team

John Hedges

B Commerce Aussie Sharks Water Polo

Lucy Coleman

B Engineering (Hons) Australian Rowing Team Mark Crosbee

B Engineering (Hons) Australian U23 Canoe Slalom Team

Matilda McDonell

B Psychological Science / Law GIANTS Netball

Matthew Byrnes

B Commerce Aussie Sharks Water Polo

Rebecca Beeson

Master of Property & Development Giants AFLW

Sophie Fawns

B Science NSW Swifts

**Tamsin Colley** 

B Exercise Physiology Australian Para-Athletics Team

# **Application Information**

"UNSW provided flexibility so I could succeed in a professional sporting environment while also completing a degree. It wasn't always easy combining the demands of AFL with study but having the relationship I did with the Elite Athlete Program certainly made things easier."

Nick Smith Former Sydney Swans player & UNSW student



## Flexible Entry - Adjustment Factors

#### Elite Athletes, **HSC Plus UNSW Access Scheme Performers and Leaders** (No application) (Application to UAC) (Application to UNSW) The EAPL Program considers HSC Plus is designed to Provided for students new reward strong performance in to higher education who both academic and elite **Australian Senior Secondary** have experienced long-term achievements and recognises these by awarding adjustment Certificate (Year 12) educational disadvantage factors. Number of points awarded Disrupted schooling; and the Year 12 subjects Financial hardship; Severe considered are specific to family disruption; Excessive family responsibilities; individual undergraduate English language difficulties; degrees Attendance at a rural high Maximum of 5 points for each school: Low Socio-economic UNSW preference Status No application required Applicants for UNSW's (automatically applied) ACCESS Scheme lodge an **HSC Plus Calculator Educational Access Schemes** (EAS) application and their circumstances are assessed centrally at UAC

You can gain up to 12 points across a range of adjustment factors schemes to use towards UNSW Admission

## Elite Athletes, Performers & Leaders (EAPL)

### **EAPL Adjustment Factors**

- Adjustment Factors, including the EAPL Program considers both academic and elite achievements and recognises these by awarding adjustment factors
- Up to five points to high school leavers who have excelled in areas of sport, academia, leadership, and/or music at an elite level
- · Achievements in separate sports can be combined
- Activities and/or commitments must have been undertaken in years 11 and/or 12
- 2025 applications open in August and close on November 30, 2025



# 2026 Sport Scholarships

### Ben Lexcen Scholarship

Value: \$10,000 per year

The Ben Lexcen Sports Scholarship is the premier elite athlete sports scholarship for current UNSW students with an outstanding ability in sport. It is awarded on elite athlete merit, leadership qualities and potential to contribute to the UNSW community.

### **Indigenous Elite Athlete Scholarship**

Value: \$10,000 per year

Premier elite athlete sporting scholarship at UNSW for Indigenous student athletes. Awarded on elite athlete merit, leadership qualities and potential to contribute to the UNSW community. Applicants must identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander.

### **Prue Watt Sport Award**

Value: \$10,000 per year

The Prue Watt Sports Award supports elite athletes living with a disability. Prue Watt OAM established herself as one of Australia's most successful Paralympians winning one gold, five silver and two bronze medals in swimming across three Paralympic Games. The Prue Watt Sport Award is part of Prue's legacy at UNSW, where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Neuroscience in 2017.

### **UNSW & NSW Rugby Awards**

Value: \$10,000 per year

Specifically for rugby players based in NSW. Including playing in NSW rugby competitions and/or involvement in NSW Rugby pathways and/or NSW Waratahs.

### Elite Athlete Program Scholarship

Value: \$5,000 per year

Targeted at elite athletes who are still progressing along their pathway to top level selection. Awarded on elite athlete merit and potential to represent UNSW at University Nationals and other competitions.



### **High Performance Club Scholarship**

Value: \$5,000 per year Specifically for student athletes competing for a UNSW High Performance Club- AFL, Cricket, Football (Soccer), Hockey, Judo, Water Polo

### Randwick Rugby / St Hillier's Scholarship

Value: \$5,000 per year Specifically for rugby players representing community partner Randwick Rugby Club. Awarded on elite athlete merit and value to Randwick Rugby Club.

### **Bill Jameson Football Scholarship**

Value: \$5,000 per year

Specifically for football (soccer) players representing UNSW Football Club. Awarded on elite athlete merit and value to UNSW Football Club.

### **Mark Dorrity Athletics Scholarship**

Value: \$5,000 per year

Specifically for track and field athletes representing UNSW Athletics Club. Awarded on athletic merit, club contribution and value to UNSW Athletics Club.

### Sam Cracknell Memorial Scholarship

Value: \$5,000 per year Targeted at athletes who are strong contributors to the running of their UNSW sports club or strong contributors to UNSW sport overall - both on and off the field.

**UNSW Sport Scholarships** recognise and support student athletes to achieve their sporting and academic goals





# Progra Elite Athlete

### Flexibility of Study

- Tailored timetables to integrate with sporting commitments, and access to distance education materials
- Leave of absence where required due to increased commitments. EG. Olympic Games
- Possibility to sit exams externally under exam conditions
- Three-term academic model

### **Student Support Advisors**

Student Support Advisors help with personalised advice and information about:

- University life
- Student visas
- Wellbeing- anxiety, stress etc
- Academic performance- time management, goal setting
- If you need help but don't know where to go

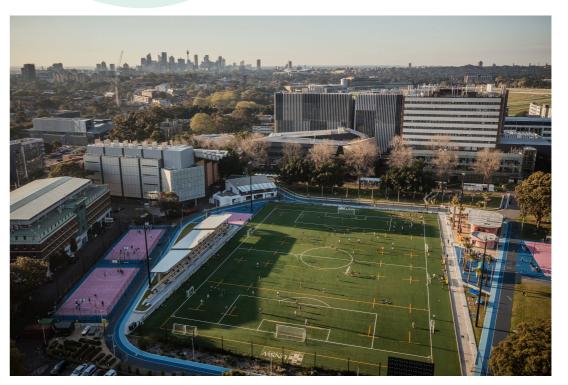
### **Psychology and Wellness**

UNSW Psychology and Wellness provides a confidential counselling service to all students enrolled at UNSW. Services include:

- Individual counselling
- Motivational support
- · Personal skills development
- Psychological services
- Anxiety and mood management
- · Stress management programs
- Our online self-help resources, specific programs, workshops and seminars
- Can refer to other mental health services external to UNSW
- Facilities free Membership to Fitness & Aquatic Centre to use pool and gym for training

A new era has arrived at UNSW





### **Village Green Wellness Precinct**

The new Village Green Wellness Precinct at our Kensington campus is a vibrant and connected space that provides sport, social, recreational and wellness activities. It is a space where students, staff and the community come together and enjoy sport and active recreation at a variety of levels.

### **Features**

- FIFA and World Rugby competition-standard multi-purpose pitch
- Multi-sport facilities to exercise, socialise and relax
- Multi-purpose courts for netball, basketball and futsal
- 500m walking and running track
- Flood lighting
- · Basketball half-court



### WHEN DO UNSW SPORT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN AND CLOSE FOR 2026?

Applications are now open for 2026 scholarships and will close on December 1, 2025.

### WHEN WILL APPLICANTS BE NOTIFIED OF THE OUTCOME OF THEIR APPLICATION?

All applicants will be notified if they have been successful or unsuccessful during December 2025 and January 2026.

# IF I AM SUCCESSFUL IN BEING AWARDED A UNSW SPORT SCHOLARSHIP, HOW WILL I RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL COMPONENT?

Scholarship recipients will have payment made to their nominated bank account. Payments are made once per term throughout the academic year.

### WHAT IS CONSIDERED FULL-TIME STUDY LOAD?

Full-time study load is studying a minimum of six subjects spread across the three academic Terms.

# IS MY SPORT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION THE SAME AS MY APPLICATION FOR ELITE ATHLETE, PERFORMERS AND LEADERS (EAPL) ADJUSTMENT FACTORS?

No. These are two separate applications and are reviewed by separate review committees.

For more information on Elite Athlete, Performers & Leaders (EAPL) Program please visit the Future Students website.

# IF I AM UNSUCCESSFUL IN RECEIVING A UNSW SPORT SCHOLARSHIP, IS THERE STILL AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF THE UNSW ELITE ATHLETE PROGRAM (EAP)?

Yes. Successful Scholarship applicants will automatically be included on the UNSW Elite Athlete Program. However, non-scholarship students can separately apply for the UNSW Elite Athlete Program once they commence studying at UNSW.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Scan here to visit the scholarships page of the UNSW Sport website, where you will find all the info and links to apply for your course of choice, sports scholarships and the Elite Athlete Program.





## **KEY DATES**

- Scholarship applications open: July 1, 2025
- EAPL Adjustment Factors applications open: August 2025
- Scholarship applications close: December 1, 2025
- EAPL Adjustment Factors applications close: November 30, 2025
- Scholarship recipients notified: December 2025 & January 2026



# **OUR SPORTING PARTNERSHIPS**

# **Community Partners**



















## **Venue Partners**



# **Testimonials**



Giants Netball | B Psychological Science / Law

"I think it's really important to balance study with sport – there are a lot of studies about mind and body working together, so it's always been important to me to study really hard and get a job as well as an athletic career."



Australian Kookaburras Hockey | B Actuarial Studies

"Getting the right balance as an athlete is really important. Study is a good outlet, it helps me take my mind off hockey and I enjoy it."



Sydney Swans AFL | M Commerce

"I transferred once UNSW adopted trimesters. It suits our program much better. The greatest thing I've noticed is that the team are great communicators and very proactive with making sure we've flagged potential clashes of schedules or workloads."

18

