



Thousands of scholarships to make the impossible possible for country students thanks to Country Education Foundation and University of Sydney

The Country Education Foundation of Australia is excited to launch the <u>2019 Scholarships Guide</u> with new principal partner, the <u>University of Sydney</u>.

CEF hit the 'live' button today on the reinvigorated resource, aimed at helping young rural and regional Australians access scholarships, grants and bursaries. This purpose-built online scholarship search platform includes student blogs, an <u>interactive personality quiz</u>, tips and tricks for applying successfully and a host of resources provided by the University of Sydney, allowing students to search the thousands of opportunities in just a few quick clicks.

There are hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships up for grabs but knowing where to look and how to apply is a big hurdle for school leavers, especially regional students who don't have easy access to information about tertiary institutions. CEF and the University of Sydney have made this information easily accessible to students.

The free guide is a gold mine of higher education scholarship opportunities with scholarships from a broad range of institutions from across Australia available.

"This year we've amped up what we have to offer because we recognise school leavers need, and want, to know more [about tertiary education]. It's important we encourage our rural and regional students to think about what opportunities are available to them, and support them with their aspirations," CEF CEO Wendy Cohen said.

"School leavers from rural and regional Australia have just as much potential as students who grow up in the city but are being locked out of further education because of financial pressures and a lack of access to opportunities. And now with the drought there is an extra layer of challenge we hope the 2019 CEF Scholarships Guide will help students overcome."

"We are privileged and delighted this year to have the University of Sydney as our principal partner helping to open doors for rural and regional students," Ms Cohen finishes.

Mary Teague, Head, Widening Participation and Outreach at the University of Sydney, said the Scholarships Guide is an ideal way to communicate the thousands of opportunities that exist for school leavers.

"We know the challenges that all students, particularly those from rural and regional areas, face in accessing higher education, not least the additional costs involved in relocation. We are proud to partner with the Country Education Foundation in producing this comprehensive and user-friendly resource which will improve students' chances of successfully applying for scholarships," Ms Teague said.

"We feel this resource is an ideal way to show school leavers from regional and remote areas that the opportunities are endless."

CEF scholarship recipient <u>Sophie Nelson</u>, from Broken Hill, in far west NSW, says her transition to uni life was eased thanks to her three-year scholarship. "University, especially the first year when you are finding your feet, can seem stressful and overwhelming at times. My scholarship took away the financial stress, so I had one less thing to worry about."

The 2019 Scholarship Guide is available to search now at www.cef.org.au/scholarships-guide.

For more information, images, interviews and CEF recipient details contact Seona Cremasco on 0427 595 050, seona@cef.org.au or CEF CEO Wendy Cohen on 0456 222 365, wendy@cef.org.au. University of Sydney media queries to Rachel Fergus on 0478 316 809, rachel.fergus@sydney.edu.au.