

An introduction to CEF



The Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEF) is a national not-for-profit organisation helping rural and regional youth access education, training and jobs through grants, scholarships, support services and resources

Our story

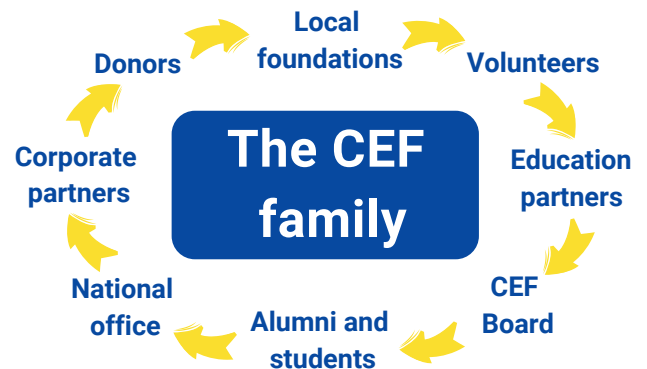
The idea of the Country Education Foundation started in Boorowa, NSW in 1993, when a group of community members came together to raise funds for students who couldn't afford post-school training or further education.

The idea soon spread and similar foundations were formed in Yass, Cowra and Harden. CEF has since **grown into a family** of more than 40 local education foundations across NSW, NT, Qld and SA.

Executive board members, Nick Burton Taylor AM and Julia Burton Taylor OAM, are the founding members of the national organisation. Their belief in the **power of local communities to change lives** by providing further education, training and career opportunities is **contagious and inspirational**.

Our vision

CEF is committed to creating **vibrant** and **thriving** rural and regional communities where school-leavers of any background or ability can access the services and resources they need in order to fulfil their personal potential and contribute fully to the communities in which they live and the broader Australian society.



Fast facts

We are a registered NFP - We are a national not-for-profit (NFP) charity with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR1) status.

We are community-based - We have a community-based model, with 44 local foundations run by more than 400 volunteers across Australia.

We receive no government funding - All of our income is derived from private sector fundraising and by working with our corporate, philanthropic and education partners.

Our impactsince 1993



20%
higher
completion
rates

*compared to the national average

\$3.10
social return
on investment

4883
individual
grants and
scholarships

over
\$9.3
million
in financial support
to country
students

over
4000

CEF alumni and their families. Increasing by 500+ individuals per annum

over
400

volunteers and their grassroots supporter networks

44

local foundations run by volunteer committees

21

education partners nationally



Our reachacross Australia



Not just financial assistance



Advocacy

With a comprehensive submission to the Independent Review into Rural, Regional and Remote Education, and invitations to participate in the Go8 round table on higher education and the drought relief task force, CEF is **fast becoming a strong voice** in the **advocacy** space for rural and regional communities and further education.



The Scholarships Guide

With **more than 4000 scholarship listings** from Australian universities, this **free online resource** is an ideal way for students needing financial assistance to search for scholarships which ease the financial burden of further education. This resource is proudly supported by **The University of Sydney**.

Partnerships

CEF is **proud to partner** with organisations from the corporate and philanthropic sectors who **share our passion** for rural and regional Australia, and the further education of country students. These partnerships enable vital support programs and financial assistance, allowing CEF to create sustainable impact.

The University Survival Guide

With hints and tips, guest blogs and links to useful information, **The University Survival Guide (USG)** is another fantastic, **free online resource** for all students finding their feet during the first years of education after school. **Southern Cross University** is the principal partner of the USG.



Easy to use technology

CEF is committed to moving with the times when it comes to **technology**. With local foundations, alumni and students as far as Alice Springs and Kangaroo Island, we are progressing toward a fully integrated system. This will give members of the CEF family the opportunity to **collaborate and communicate** in real time, no matter the distance. We also engage in a dynamic fashion via our **various social media platforms**.

CEF Alumni Program

Alumni are the best **ambassadors** for any organisation. Our alumni program allows us to reconnect with past recipients, find out where they are now and how CEF helped them. In a recent survey, **96% of our alumni** indicated the assistance they received from CEF was important. Over time, the program will become the foundation of many other programs and sustainability initiatives for CEF.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

CEF seeks support from organisations and donors who share our passion for a thriving and sustainable rural and regional Australia. This can be realised through financial contributions, partnerships and/or joint ventures. Together, we can ensure the future is bright for young people in the country and the communities they represent.

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