



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, 1126 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 has opened my mind on where life can take you and how the greatest moments are those times when you step outside your comfort zone. Thank you for guiding me through this wonderful experience that I will forever remember.”

MAXINE LOVELL

Young Achiever
Year 12 – Pittsworth 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 greatly influenced my life and my family. Its generosity cannot be spoken of highly enough and its impact in low-SES areas cannot truly be measured. For me, the YAP made visible the path to university and cleared this once unknown route of its troublesome obstacles. I was fortunate enough to receive Accommodation Scholarships for my first year at UQ, which allowed me to attend St Johns College and greatly reduced the difficulties of settling into the university environment. Through this program I was introduced to the importance of supporting schools and the local community, a pillar attribute of the program known as ‘Community Mindedness’. I have seen the positive, lasting effects that ‘Yappers’ leave behind at their schools through their MAD Challenge initiatives and through their role model characteristics. The YAP experience brings out the best in its Yappers and was an invaluable asset for me throughout high school. I can safely say this program changed the course of my life!”

BART DICKMAN

Young Achiever mentor and recipient

Second-year Bachelor of Engineering (Honours)/
Business Management student