Cotton Australia Conference 2022

Scholarship for **teachers and educators**

Cotton Australia will offer 10 scholarships for school teachers and educators to attend the **Australian Cotton Conference** which will be held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre from 16 – 18 August 2022.

About Cotton Australia

Cotton Australia is the peak body for Australia’s cotton growing industry, supporting up to 1500 cotton farming families in NSW and Queensland. We foster a world-class agricultural industry that’s sustainable, valued for its economic and social contributions and produces a top-quality product in demand around the globe.

Some of Cotton Australia’s priorities are to ensure we have access to a skilled workforce across the supply chain and to educate the community about the positive contributions of the industry to local communities through to its innovative farming practices. As part of this commitment, Cotton Australia is delighted to support teachers and educators in attending the Australian Cotton Conference.

Nature of the Scholarships

The Australian Cotton Conference is held every two years. It is an extraordinary opportunity for industry networking, learning from peers, hearing from leading experts in cotton research, production, business and marketing and meeting potential partners. 17 - 18 August has been designated as ‘teacher days’, however, please advise if you wish to attend Day One of the conference (16 August) for our consideration. This scholarship aims to subsidise the costs of attendance for ten teachers from across Australia. The equivalent value of the scholarships shall be up to $1500 each.

In addition, Cotton Australia will provide some financial support to your school, with $400 available to be put towards teacher-release funding, upon an official invoice being sent from your school.

Eligibility Criteria

The scholarships are open to candidates who:

• Are educators from Stage 2 – Stage 6. Teaching areas include Agriculture, Agricultural Science, Primary Industries, Science (incl. Biology), Design and Technology, Textiles Technology, STEM, Primary School, or other related teaching areas.

• Can demonstrate they are interested in teaching related to the cotton industry.

• Can provide evidence of the intention to use the skills and knowledge gained at the conference, or the partnerships gained at the conference, in their education program or a school program.

• Can commit to extending the knowledge from the conference to colleagues.

• Commits to writing one article (300 words max) for Cotton Australia to create Case Studies or articles for publication in industry communications channels (to be provided to Cotton Australia by Friday 26 August 2022).

Commits to using the conference to develop an outline for (at least) one lesson or activity (to be provided to Cotton Australia by Monday 17 October 2022).

Your Application Should Include

1. A written application (max 500 words) or short video (max 3 mins) addressing each of the criteria.

2. A brief resume.

3. The contact details of two referees.

4. Your full contact details, including your address.

Scholarship Inclusions

The scholarship will include:

• Cotton Conference registration for two days (17-18 August)

• One day teacher relief to the value of $400\*

• Travel up to $300\*\*

• Up to 2 nights’ accommodation at the Gold Coast if required (16 – 17 August)\*\*\*

• Conference morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea (17-18 August),

\* To be paid directly to the school upon receipt of an invoice to Cotton Australia by 16 September 2022

\*\*Travel costs will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The maximum that will be paid for travel is $300. Travel will not be paid for those in the Gold Coast region. Scholarship recipients will be responsible for arranging their own travel.

\*\*\* Accommodation, if required, will be twin share on the evening of 4th August only.

NOTE: You are invited to attend the Newcomers Welcome Reception on the evening on 16 August at the convention centre if you would like to attend. There is no cost associated with this event.

Application Procedures

Applicants can answer the selection criteria via a video presentation or as a written document. Applications must be submitted by email, no later than 5pm (EST) Friday 8 July 2022 to: jennyh@cotton.org.au

Selection Process

The award of the scholarship shall be made at the absolute discretion of the Selection Committee. The selection committee reserves the right not to award a scholarship in any year. The selection committee’s decision will be final, and no correspondence will be entered into. The selection committee will determine all matters relating to the Scholarship.

Payment

All of the scholarship inclusions will be paid for on behalf of the scholarship recipient by Cotton Australia, except for travel. Recipients for whom Cotton Australia has agreed to pay travel will receive a cheque of up to $300.

Ongoing Eligibility

If the recipient takes extended leave, resigns, or is suspended from service after being offered and having accepted a scholarship, Cotton Australia reserves the right to suspend or cancel the scholarship funding. The recipient must notify Cotton Australia of any changes in circumstance as soon as the decision has been made.

Conditions of the Scholarship

Scholarship awardees acknowledge that they may be required for promotional events and publicity and agree to participate in such events. Content from the original applications may also be used for this purpose.

By submitting the application, the applicant authorises the Selection Committee to verify any information provided by the applicant.

Scholarship recipients may be invited to industry event/s e.g., meals and sponsored talks occurring around the Cotton Conference. Recipients are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these networking opportunities.

Need More Information?

Please contact Cotton Australia Education Manager Jenny Hughes: jennyh@cotton.org.au

Australian Cotton Conference <http://www.australiancottonconference.com.au/> <https://www.facebook.com/australiancottonconference>