Cotton Australia Conference 2024

Scholarship for **university undergraduates**

Cotton Australia will offer 12 scholarships for university undergraduates to attend the **Australian Cotton Conference** which is held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre from August 6 – 8 August 2024.

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 university undergraduates in attending the 2024 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 employers.

Newcomers to cotton are especially welcome. This scholarship covers the costs of attending the full three days of the conference for 12 undergraduate students from universities or educational institutions from across Australia. The value of the scholarships is up to $1500 each.

Scholarship Inclusions

The scholarship shall include:

• Cotton Conference registration for the full three days of the event \* (6 - 8 August 2024)

• Travel costs up to $500 if required\*\*

• 3 nights’ accommodation from 6 - 8 August 2024 at the Gold Coast if required\*\*\*

• Attendance at Welcome Dinner hosted by Cotton Australia on 6 August 2024

• Ticket to the Cotton Conference Awards Dinner on 8 August 2024

\* To be paid directly by Cotton Australia.

\*\* Travel costs will be determined on a case-by-case basis. The maximum that will be paid for travel is $500. Travel will not be paid for those in the Gold Coast region. Scholarship recipients will be responsible for arranging their own travel and providing Cotton Australia with receipts for reimbursement.

\*\*\* Accommodation, if required, will be twin-share or similar, booked and paid directly by Cotton Australia.

Eligibility Criteria

The scholarships are open to candidates:

• Currently enrolled in undergraduate study.

• Currently studying agriculture, agricultural science, applied science, agribusiness, teaching or associated fields.

• Eligible to live, work, and study in Australia.

• Able to attend the full conference (6 - 8 August 2024).

• Are working towards a Diploma or Bachelor’s Degree.

• Who have not received a scholarship to attend previous Australian Cotton Conferences.

Your Application Should Include

1. A written application (max 500 words) or short video (max 3 mins) outlining the following:

• Explain how you came to be interested in the cotton industry

• Explain how attendance at the conference will assist your studies

• List any scholarships you have been awarded in the past five years

• Describe your career aspirations and how the scholarship will help you achieve them

• A brief resume outlining your work experience, hobbies, community involvement and interests

1. Attach a copy (not originals) of your academic transcript.
2. The contact details of two referees
3. Your full contact details, including your address.

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 28 June 2024 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 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 payment of up to $500 upon the receipt of valid travel receipts.

Ongoing Eligibility

If the recipient takes extended leave, exits, or is suspended from their university degree 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 events, 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

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