
E.W. STEVENS

— *Trust Fund* —

ABN: 72 496 581 201

Scholarship offers valuable regional student support

Primary Producers SA, through the E.W. Stevens Trust Fund, is offering students from remote and regional areas up to \$5,000 in scholarship grants.

The grants are designed to help students undertake study options that may otherwise be closed to them, due to their financial situation.

The fund was established at the request of former builder, the late Mr Earnest William Stevens, from the Fleurieu Peninsula, who provided funding for the scholarship in his Will.

Mr Stevens aim with the scholarship was to assist students in rural and regional areas who wanted to further their education but were unable to do so due to their financial circumstances.

The fund was previously administered by the now-defunct South Australian Farmers' Federation.

Primary Producers SA Chair Prof Simon Maddocks said PPSA was proud to now be the custodian of the EW Stevens Trust.

“Our organisation sees the Trust as a key vehicle to address the inequity faced by students living in regional SA, allowing them to access education opportunities and recognising the higher cost of living away from home,” he said.

Primary Producers is responsible for the administration of the fund, while a Board of Trustees has been appointed to select the recipient or recipients annually.

This current round of successful scholarship recipients will receive funding for their study in 2023.

Guidelines and selection criteria

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be an Australian citizen residing in a rural or remote area of South Australia
- Wish to study at a secondary (Year 10-12) or university level, or an approved RTO course
- Be unable to do so due to their financial circumstances
- Demonstrate a commitment and ability to complete their chosen course of study

While ties to primary production are not essential to be eligible for the scholarship, they will be looked upon favourably as part of the selection process.

The funding can be used to meet a range of costs including a contribution towards school fees, books or other course materials, uniforms, board and accommodation, IT equipment, undertaking a study tour, or travel costs to return home from study.

Other considerations

Students will need to provide a written statement, of no more than 500 words, which addresses their future career goals and aspirations, their commitment to support rural and regional South Australia and whether the student has any ties to primary production.

Evidence of financial hardship is also required, but this can be as simple as a letter from a Rural Business Support financial counsellor or accountant, or Centrelink evidence.

Applicants should also be aware the selection panel may hold interviews as part of the final selection process.

Applications for the grants open on November 24 and close on January 12.

The review and selection of applicants will take place from January 12-20, and applicants will be advised of their success or otherwise in early February.

Application forms must be emailed to EWStevensTrust@ppsa.org.au and can be downloaded at: <https://ppsa.org.au/scholarships/>