

THE George  
Alexander   
FOUNDATION

# The GAF Guide

All you need to know about **your scholarship**



# Congratulations!

We are thrilled to celebrate your well-deserved success as you begin this new chapter.

Applying for a scholarship is no small feat and receiving one is an incredible accomplishment. You've been selected because you demonstrated strong academic skills, a capacity for leadership, and have contributed to your community.

You are the talented and promising individuals that George Alexander wanted to support to reach your full potential.

**This scholarship represents the Foundation's confidence in you.**

We genuinely believe in you, want to see you thrive, and look forward to seeing the contributions you make to your community and the fields in which you'll work.

This milestone reflects your potential. Now it's time to turn that potential into progress.



# Who's George?



George at home in the Gold Coast

The George Alexander Foundation (GAF) was established in 1972 by businessman, inventor and philanthropist George Alexander as a way of sharing his wealth and giving back to the community.

Born in London, George migrated to Australia at age 15 under the Big Brother Movement, an organisation that brought young British men to Australia to work on the land given to soldiers returning from WWI.

He spent time working on a rural dairy farm and later at a local garage, where he decided he wanted to become an A-grade mechanic.

He realised his goal by enrolling in evening classes in mechanics and management at The Gordon Institute. George's love of learning also led him to study Industrial Management and Executive Training at RMIT.

George went on to combine his creativity, mechanical knowledge and engineering skills to invent some highly successful

products. This included Neta, a line of brass hose nozzles that are still manufactured today. The business flourished, and George eventually sold it in 1976.

With the revenue generated from Neta, George invested in property in the Gold Coast. Continued property investments generated the wealth used to establish The George Alexander Foundation, ensuring it would be put to good use.

George deeply believed in the transformative power of education and dedicated the core of GAF's programs to undergraduate scholarships.

Recognising the obstacles he faced in his youth, George wanted to provide exceptional young people from rural, regional and remote backgrounds with opportunities to succeed.

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 [Watch a short video about George](#)



George believed in

“Planting seeds  
and hoping they  
grow into pretty  
big trees”



a philosophy that guides the  
Foundation's programs to this day



# More than just money

Your scholarship is paid in instalments during the length of your degree and will be issued through your institution.

## Sustaining your scholarship



### Maintain academic performance

You must meet the academic standards set by your institution to remain eligible for your scholarship.



### Submit your Annual Scholar Report

This is a check-in to see how you're progressing in your degree, what milestones you may have achieved and how you're adapting to new challenges.

The report is usually submitted near the end of the academic year. Don't worry, your institution will remind you when it's due!



### Notify your institution of any changes

If you decide to change your major, discontinue or defer your degree, reduce your study load, or transfer to another campus, please contact your institution's Scholarships or Advancement team to let them know as soon as possible.

While the financial support is significant, our scholarships offer so much more.

## Making the most out of your scholarship



### Embrace the GAF Community

You're now a part of the GAF Community – a diverse and growing community of 1,000+ talented young people across Australia.

There will be opportunities to connect with your fellow scholars and even alum across all our partner institutions throughout your scholarship.



### Attend events

We host in-person and online events throughout the year, so you can connect with your peers and gain valuable insights.

Keep an eye out for news and invites in your email inbox.

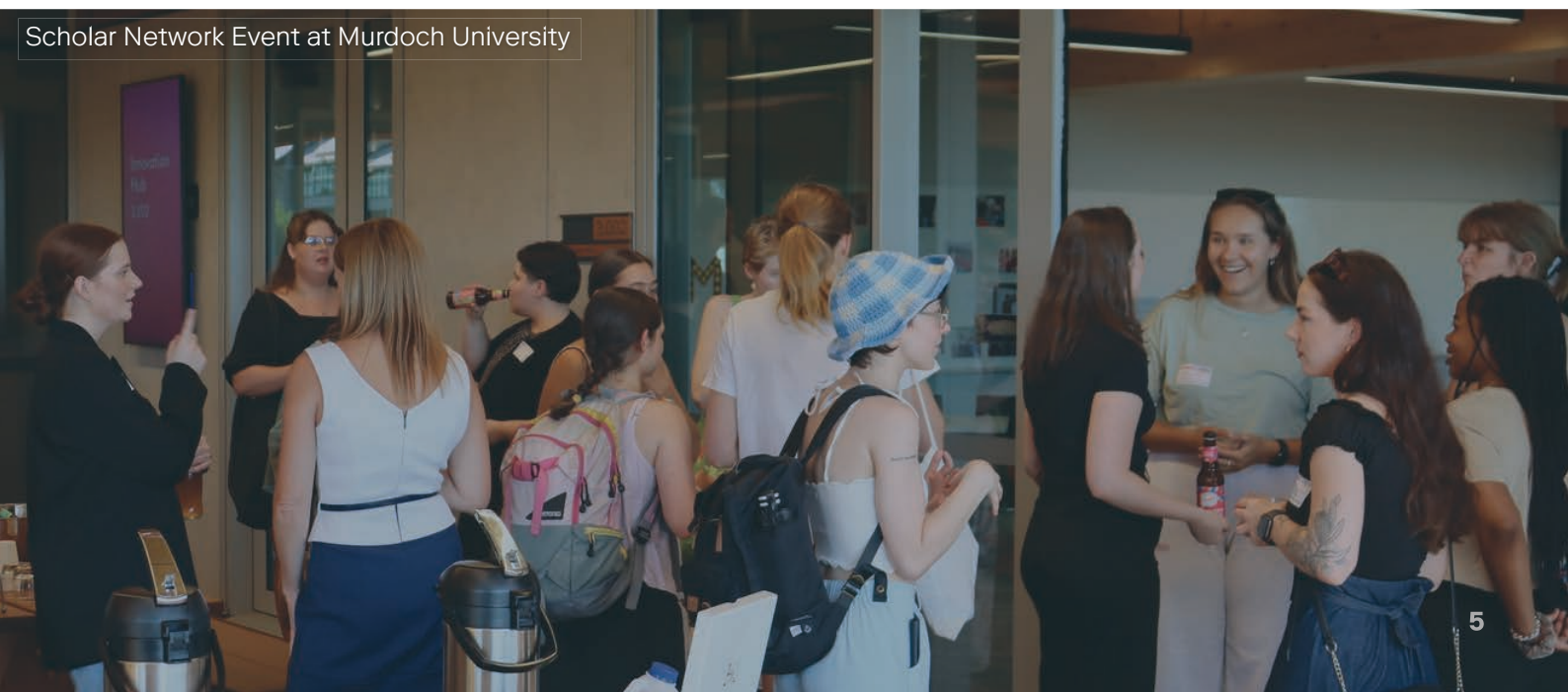


### Get involved

Throughout your scholarship journey, you'll have opportunities to step into leadership roles and support the GAF Community. This is a great way to pay it forward, and your involvement will be reflected in your GAF Reference Letter.

Plus, if you have any feedback, ideas, or suggestions that can help enhance your GAF scholarship experience, let us know by [email](#).

Scholar Network Event at Murdoch University



# A symbol that sticks



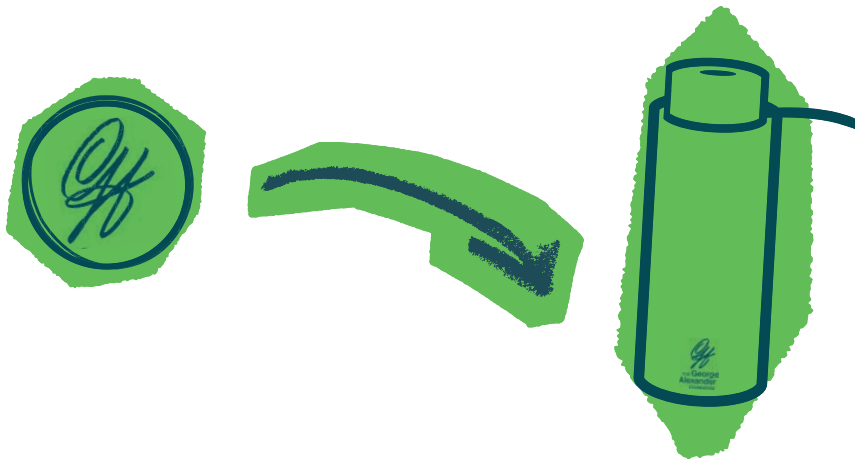
Scholar Network Event at Swinburne University

In the mid-to-late twentieth century, lapel pins were a popular accessory worn on jackets to display your identity, achievements, or support for a particular organisation.

George saw the lapel pin as a way for current scholars and alum to instantly recognise one another and feel connected to the GAF Community.

We've reimagined that idea into something modern, meaningful and practical.

**That's how the GAF water bottle was born.**



Made by our friends at Frank Green, we hope this water bottle displaying the GAF logo serves as a reminder of your determination and hard work that landed you this opportunity.

It's also recognisable by other GAF Scholars at your institution.

Look out for them while on campus – it could lead to a new friendship!

# Scholarship journey

Here's what you can expect...



**April → May**

Commencing Scholars Event | Online

**May → August → September**

GAF Scholar Network Event | In-person

**October → November**

Submit Annual Scholar Report



get your water bottles here!

**May → August → September**

GAF Scholar Network Event | In-person

**September → October**

Second Year Scholars Workshop | Online

**October → November**

Submit Annual Scholar Report



**May → August → September**

GAF Scholar Network Event | In-person

**August → September**

Finishing Scholars Event | Online

**October → December**

Submit Finishing Scholar Report + Receive GAF Reference Letter

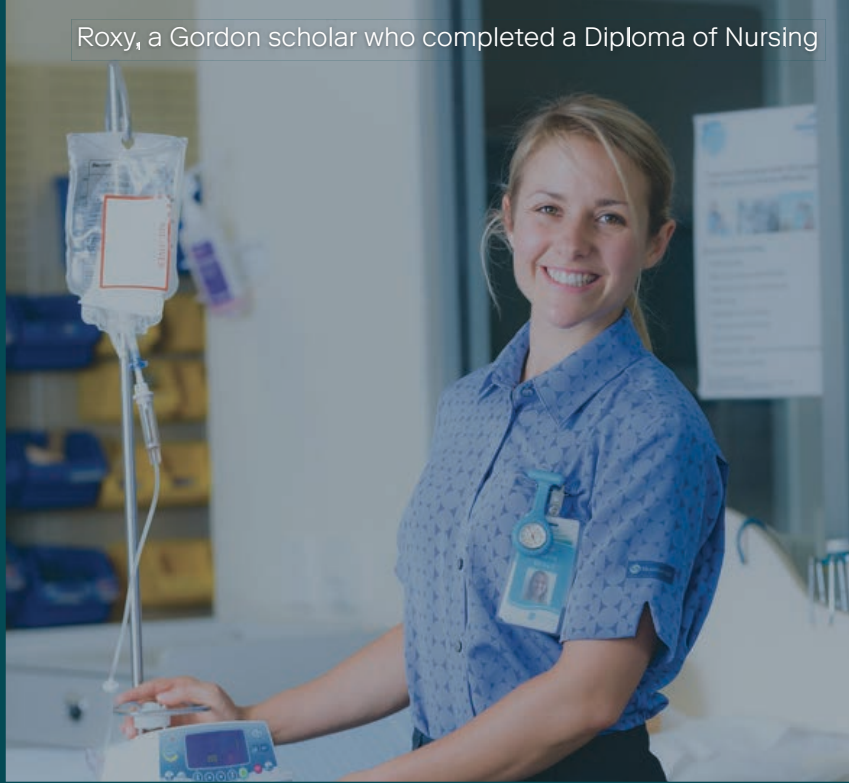
“ In the spirit of George Alexander, continue your philanthropy, get involved in the community and take initiative with your career.

You are deserving of this scholarship for a reason, so show them your worth! ”

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**Sasha, a Deakin scholar**  
who actually voluntarily said this

# You've got this



You got the scholarship.

And we know you have what it takes to go far in your degree.

We look forward to seeing where your journey takes you. We'll be cheering you on every step of the way.

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## Stay connected with GAF



**Instagram | GAF Community**

Your community source for real-time updates



**LinkedIn | The George Alexander Foundation**

Connect and join our Scholars & Alum group



**Website | The George Alexander Foundation**

Find out the latest news and other programs we support

