



## **SYDNEY MINERAL EXPLORATION DISCUSSION GROUP (SMEDG)**

### **2026 GEOSCIENCE HONOURS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION**

SMEDG (Sydney Mineral Exploration Discussion Group) is a not-for-profit organisation affiliated with the Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG). SMEDG is based in Sydney to support mineral exploration and connection and was established over 50 years ago, continuing to be run by a volunteer committee. SMEDG provides monthly technical talks with networking in Sydney, as well as the biannual Sydney Harbour Cruises, the biennial Awards Dinner, and jointly hosting the biennial Symposium, *Discoveries in the Tasmanides - Mines and Wines*.

SMEDG is committed to supporting geoscience education and the future minerals industry. The 2026 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship with a total value of \$10,000 is open to students from a NSW or ACT based university with projects related to economic geology (exploration and/or mining).

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

The 2026 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship is open to students who, at the closing date for applications, are enrolled in a geoscience Honours course at a NSW or ACT based university. The total value of the scholarship is up to \$10,000, and this amount may be divided between one or more recipients. Applications for the scholarship open in October 2025 and close on Thursday 12 March 2026. No late applications will be accepted.

#### **USE OF SCHOLARSHIP**

The objective of the Scholarship is to provide financial support for student/s undertaking the geoscience Honours year of a Bachelor's degree in 2026 focussing on economic geology (exploration and/or mining). The Scholarship may be used to support the student including project expenses or general living, travel and other expenses.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

To apply for the SMEDG scholarship simply:

- ✓ **Complete the 2026 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship Application Form** (see attached)
- ✓ **Provide your CV** detailing your education, work history, involvement in geoscientific societies and interests (max 3 pages)
- ✓ **Provide proof of enrolment** in an Honours year at a NSW or ACT university with an academic transcript or evidence from your university
- ✓ **Provide an abstract or overview of your Honours project** including project background, aims, methodology and expected outcomes (max 500 words)
- ✓ **Provide short answers to the questions** 'Where do you see your future career?' and 'What are your interests and/or passions?' (max 200 words for each question).



All completed applications must be submitted to [mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au](mailto:mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au) by 5pm AEDT Thursday, 12 March 2026. No late applications will be accepted.



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#### PROCESSING AND SELECTION PROCESS

All submitted applications will receive an email to acknowledge receipt of the application. Offer/s will be made by late March/early April 2026 and notified through direct email.

Applications will be assessed by a Judging Panel appointed by SMEDG, with recommendations made to SMEDG for scholarship offer/s.

The Judging Panel will assess the eligible applications, aligned to the following criteria and weighting:

- **Honours project (60%)** – clarity of project objective and outcomes, relevance to economic geology, originality and innovation, methodology and feasibility, impact and innovation
- **Future focus (20%)** – vision and foresight, career and development potential, adaptability
- **Interests and passions (20%)** – personal motivation and engagement, alignment with career goals, commitment and enthusiasm.

Referee checks with the Honours supervisor and virtual interviews of applicants may be part of the judging process.

The decision on scholarship offer/s to students made by SMEDG will be final.

#### PAYMENT AND PRESENTATION

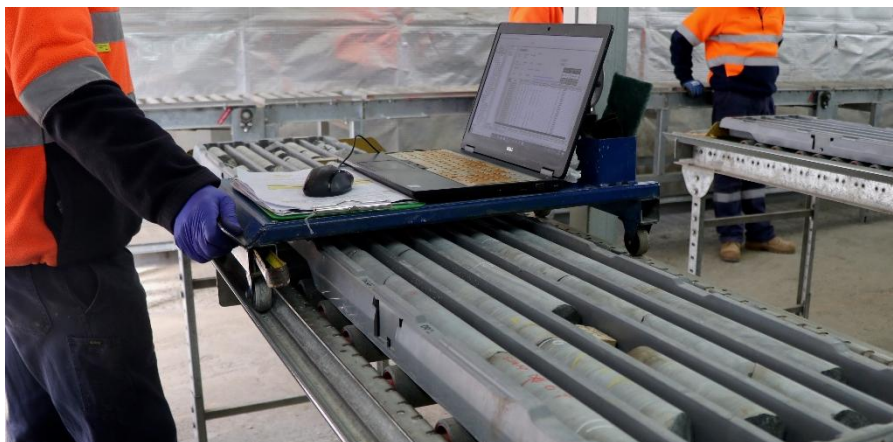
Payment of the scholarship will be directly to the scholarship recipient. Payment will be made to the student's nominated Australian bank account on the scholarship offer form in two parts – 50% on acceptance of the offer (as early as April 2026) and 50% on evidence of successful completion of the Honours project.

Official presentation of the SMEDG Geoscience Honours Scholarship Award will be at the *Discoveries in the Tasmanides - Mines and Wines Symposium* in Orange, NSW on 9-11 September 2026 (attendance preferred but not an eligibility requirement of the scholarship).

Recipients of the SMEDG Geoscience Honours Scholarship will be requested to provide a presentation (in person or virtual) on their research and results at a SMEDG meeting within six months of completing their Honours thesis.

#### QUERIES ON THE SCHOLARSHIP

For any queries, please contact Lucy McClean at SMEDG on [mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au](mailto:mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au).





## SYDNEY MINERAL EXPLORATION DISCUSSION GROUP (SMEDG)

### 2026 GEOSCIENCE HONOURS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

#### APPLICANT/STUDENT DETAILS:

Student Name .....

Honours project title .....

Location of project site (if applicable) .....

University (must be in NSW or ACT) .....

Mobile ..... Email (primary) ..... Email (secondary) .....

Postal address .....

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I heard about this Scholarship via .....

#### HONOURS SUPERVISOR/UNIVERSITY CONTACT DETAILS:

Supervisor Name .....

Mobile ..... alternate phone ..... Email .....

#### ATTACH:

- ✓ CV detailing your education, work history, involvement in geoscientific societies and interests (max 3 pages)
- ✓ **Proof of enrolment** in an Honours year with an academic transcript or evidence from your university
- ✓ **Abstract or overview of your Honours project** including project background, aims, methodology and expected outcomes (max 500 words)
- ✓ **Provide short answers to the questions** 'Where do you see your future career?' and 'What are your interests and/or passions?' (max 200 words for each question)

#### DECLARATION:

I ..... (name of applicant) wish to submit this application for the  
SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship 2026.

(please tick)

- ☐ I confirm that the information in my application is true and correct, and I understand that the decision of SMEDG will be final.
- ☐ I will/ should/ will not (cross one out) be available to attend the presentation of the SMEDG Honours Scholarship at the *Discoveries in the Tasmanides - Mines and Wines Symposium* in Orange, NSW on 9-11 September 2026 (preferred but not an eligibility requirement of the scholarship).
- ☐ I will be available to provide a presentation (in person or virtual) on my research and results at a SMEDG meeting within six months of completing my Honours thesis if my application is successful.

Signed: ..... Date: .....

**Submit this completed form with your signature and attachments to [mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au](mailto:mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au)  
by 5pm AEDT Thursday, 12 March 2026. No late applications will be accepted.**