



SYDNEY MINERAL EXPLORATION DISCUSSION GROUP (SMEDG)

2027 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 2027 SMEDG Geoscience Honours Student Scholarship with a total value of \$10,000 (maximum \$2,500 per recipient) is open to students from a NSW or ACT based university with projects related to economic geology (exploration and/or mining).

ELIGIBILITY

The 2027 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 annual scholarship pool is up to \$10,000, with a maximum of \$2,500 per recipient. Applications for the scholarship open in September 2026 and close on Thursday 11 March 2027. No late applications will be accepted.

USE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The objective of the Scholarship is to provide financial support for students undertaking the geoscience Honours year of a Bachelor's degree in 2027, 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 2027 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).



Submit the completed form with your signature and attachments to mgf@mgf-advisory.com.au by 5pm AEDT Thursday, 11 March 2027. 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. Offers will be made by late March/early April 2027 and notified through direct email.

Applications will be assessed by a Judging Panel appointed by SMEDG, with recommendations made to the SMEDG Committee for scholarship offers.

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, and methodology and feasibility.
- **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 offers 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 2027) and 50% on evidence of successful completion of the Honours project.

Official presentation of the SMEDG Geoscience Honours Scholarship Award will be at the SMEDG Awards Dinner in Sydney, NSW in August 2027 (date TBC and 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.



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2027 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 2027.

(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 Awards Dinner in Sydney, NSW in August 2027 (date TBC and attendance 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
by 5pm AEDT Thursday, 11 March 2027. No late applications will be accepted.**