



# Robyn Preston MP

## Member for Hawkesbury

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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Friday, 23 October 2020

### SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN TO HELP LOCAL STUDENTS

Applications are now open for a scholarships program to help young people living in social housing or out-of-home care reach their education goals.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, said eligible students in Hawkesbury can apply for \$1,000 as part of the NSW Government's Department of Communities and Justice Scholarships Program.

"Education supports young people to reach their full potential and the scholarship reduces the financial burden that could be getting in the way of students trying to finish school or undertake their studies," Ms Preston said.

"I would encourage all eligible students in Hawkesbury to apply now and ask a teacher to assist with their application today."

Scholarships are available to students in Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or TAFE equivalent.

They are also open to young people completing a school-based apprenticeship or traineeship, or studying a VET subject at school in 2021.

To be eligible students must either be a social housing tenant, a social housing applicant, be living in crisis or supported accommodation, or living in out-of-home care.

Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services Gareth Ward said the program is about giving young people the opportunity to achieve their education goals so that they can break the cycle of disadvantage

"Students can use the funds for educational expenses such as text books, laptops, tutoring and course costs, to help ease the financial burden," Mr Ward said.

"The scholarships help remove some of the barriers vulnerable students may face, so they can focus their attention on the classroom instead."

The deadline for applications is 19 February 2021. Successful students will be announced in Term 2, 2021.

For more information, or to apply, visit [www.facs.nsw.gov.au/families/support-programs/all-families/dcj-scholarships](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/families/support-programs/all-families/dcj-scholarships).