



Curtin University

Curtin Careers

NCP Scholarship Application Guidance

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Acknowledgement of Country

Curtin University would like to pay our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which the Perth campus is located, the Whadjuk people of the Nyungar nation

Curtin Careers

- One to one career conversations
- Applications support
- Resume Reviews
- UniHub Resource Library

curtin.edu/careers



Learning Outcomes

- How to prepare for your application.
- Importance of understanding and developing your personal brand.
- Look at the focus of your CV and the components required.
- Review Assessment Criteria and how to address it.

Preparing for your application

Do your Research

- What are the assessors looking for, what will they value?
- Reflect on how this matches your goals and experiences.
- Determine how and what you can contribute.

Brainstorm and Refine

- List your relevant achievements, skills and experience
- Take each point, determine its relevance.
- What value does it demonstrate?
- *What are your powerful stories?*

Tailored and Targeted not Autobiography



Who will you be as an NCP recipient?

Your personal brand is the unique combination of qualities, values, strengths, and experiences that distinguish you. It's how you present yourself to the world—and the impression you leave.

Imagine you've just arrived in their host country as an NCP scholar

- Which country?
- What are you hoping to achieve?
- What are you getting involved with?
- How do you want your NCP community to describe you?



The importance of your personal brand

Unique Skills and Experiences: What are your key skills or areas of expertise? What unique experiences or qualifications do you bring to the table?

Core Values and Interests: How do your values and interests influence the way you approach challenges and opportunities?

Impact and Contributions: How do you contribute positively to your academic community, workplace, or extracurricular activities?

Future Goals and Aspirations: How do you envision yourself making a difference in your chosen field or industry?

Personal Brand

Values Exercise

- <https://www.think2perform.com/values/>



Which values are important for you an NCP scholar and global citizen?"



DFAT: CV Advice to applicants,

Why is a CV required as part of the NCP scholarship application?

A CV allows the applicant to provide more details of their achievements, beyond their responses to assessment criteria, by highlighting their academic achievements/awards, work experience, community engagement and extra-curricular interests. The CV enables assessors to gain a fuller picture of the applicant's achievements over time (for example, the length of volunteering and community engagement)



Resume / CV

Start with our **Resume Workbook** in UniHub Resources.

Sign in using your Curtin student email



CV - Compelling Personal Statement

- Who you are, what you offer, and what sets you apart.
- Outline your personal aspirations / goals.
- Explain your 'Why'.

Opportunity to demonstrate why you are a strong candidate and how you can contribute to achieving scholarship goals & objectives

CV Content

Academic Achievements

- Awards – detail personal attributes which lead to these awards.
- Initiatives you may have instigated – study groups / clubs.
- Achievements which demonstrate innovation, critical thinking and world view.

Community Engagement

- What and the Why. Demonstrate initiative, collaboration and impact.
- How this experience shaped your values and your learning.

CV Content

Work Experience

- Outline your work experience and key employability skills.
- Employability skills might include problem solving, teamwork, initiative, adaptability, leadership.

Extra-curricular interests

- How do you spend your spare time / interests and motivation.
- What do you choose to do? (Can you tie back to values /skills)

Assessment Criteria

- Develop your own individual responses. (Don't rely on ChatGPT)
- Be authentic– include evidence-based statements linked to scholarship goals.
- One or two examples per criteria.
- Demonstrate your motivation and your vision.
- Strong sentences start with action verbs (Adapted..., Focused..., Developed..., Initiated..., Motivated....)



Assessment Criteria - Example

Over the past 3 years I have volunteered at a local Animal Rescue Centre, this supports my strong motivation for meaningful community impact. Recently I was promoted to Team Lead, coordinating a project, to improve the housing and shelter for the dogs in our care. Utilising my marketing and business engagement skills I was particularly proud of the relationship I developed with a local Building Company, who provided off cuts, recycled materials and building expertise to support our project. With a strong sustainable focus, my team of volunteers made effective use of the materials and guidance, building safer and secure kennels and shelter, with our limited budget. Through this experience I saw the benefits of strong collaboration and community engagement. As a Supervisor I adapted to daily challenges and was motivated by the team's focus and engagement, meeting project outcomes, while retaining a sustainable focus.

Assessment Criteria – Story Telling

- The hero's journey is a powerful storytelling structure that traces the path of a protagonist as they embark on an adventure, face challenges, and undergo transformation (popularized by Joseph Campbell)
- There is a call to adventure, meeting with mentors, overcoming trials, and ultimately achieving victory.
- Detail the adventure, challenges and outcome
- Be the Hero in your story!

Assessment Criteria – Story Telling

STAR / SCAR Story telling

Situation - Context: your position & responsibilities

Task / **C**hallenge - The problem or opportunity

Action - Your personal actions and contribution

Result - Achievements, outcome, feedback & learning



Assessment Criteria

Storytelling Activity

- Think of a significant achievement or experience. It can be academic, extracurricular, volunteer or work, that demonstrates one of your values.
- Develop a brief story about this experience, focusing on being the hero, what were the challenges, how did you overcome them, what were the outcomes and the learning.
- How does this relate to your personal brand?



Application Hints

- Choose a tone and style that reflects your personality and the impression you want to leave on the reader.
- Be authentic, confident, and professional, but show your personality
- Seek feedback, revise and refine your responses, ensure they are clear, engaging, and well-supported. Proofread Carefully
- Follow Application Guidelines. Pay attention to word limits, formatting instructions, and submission deadlines



Curtin Careers

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Thank you. Any questions?

curtin.edu/careers

Feedback

Today's learning outcomes:

- preparing your application.
- Developing your personal brand.
- CV / Assessment Criteria



forms.office.com
/r/jjD6G5mWjy

NCP Scholarship

Community Impact

Purpose: Reflect on how you've contributed to your community

Identify moments where you felt you made a positive difference — *volunteering, mentoring, advocacy, leadership, helping a peer, etc.*

- What motivated you in those moments?
- What values stand out
- How could you bring that same contribution to an Indo-Pacific context?

Debrief Prompt:

“What kind of community do you want to build or be part of while