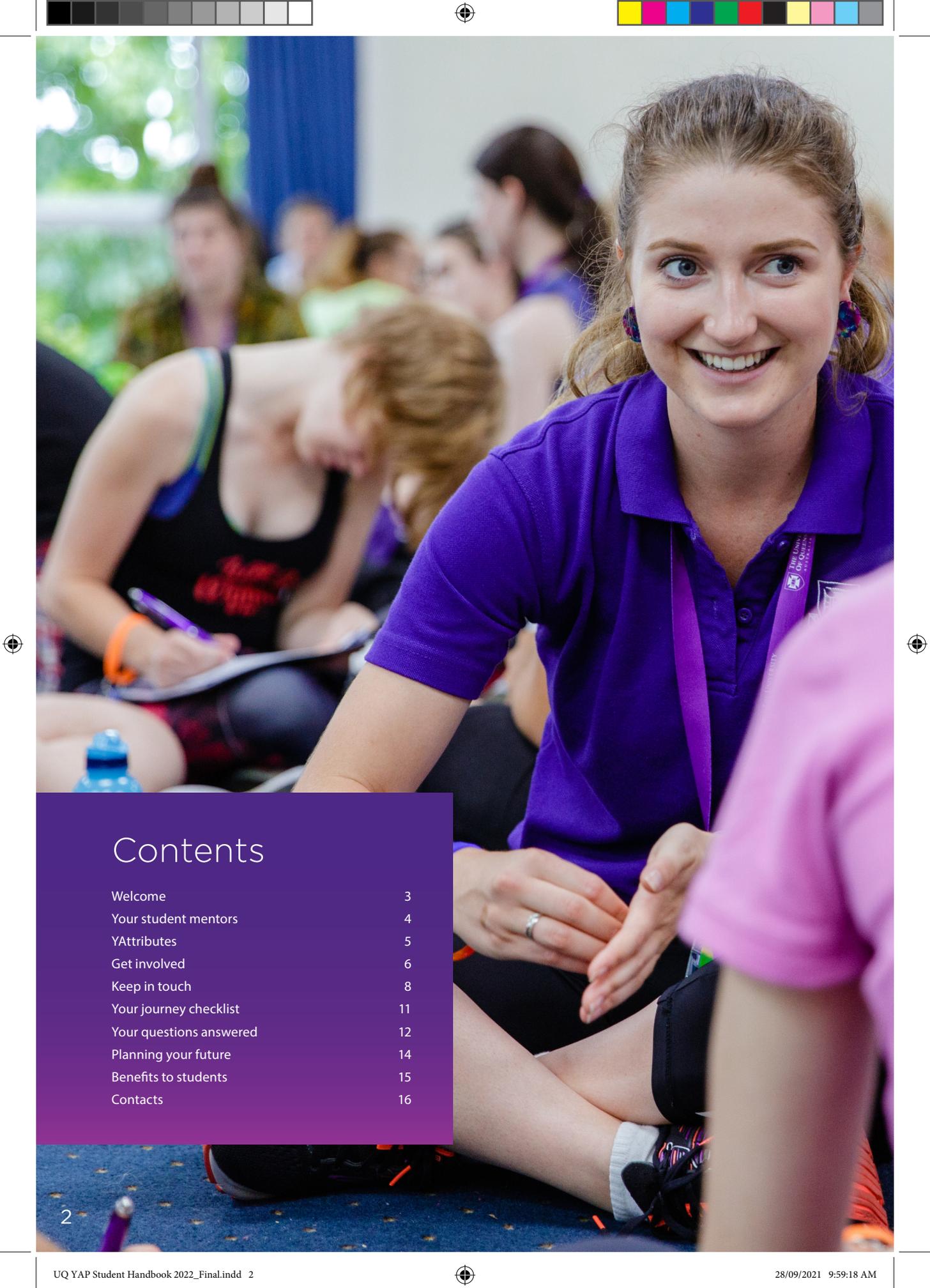


Young Achievers Program

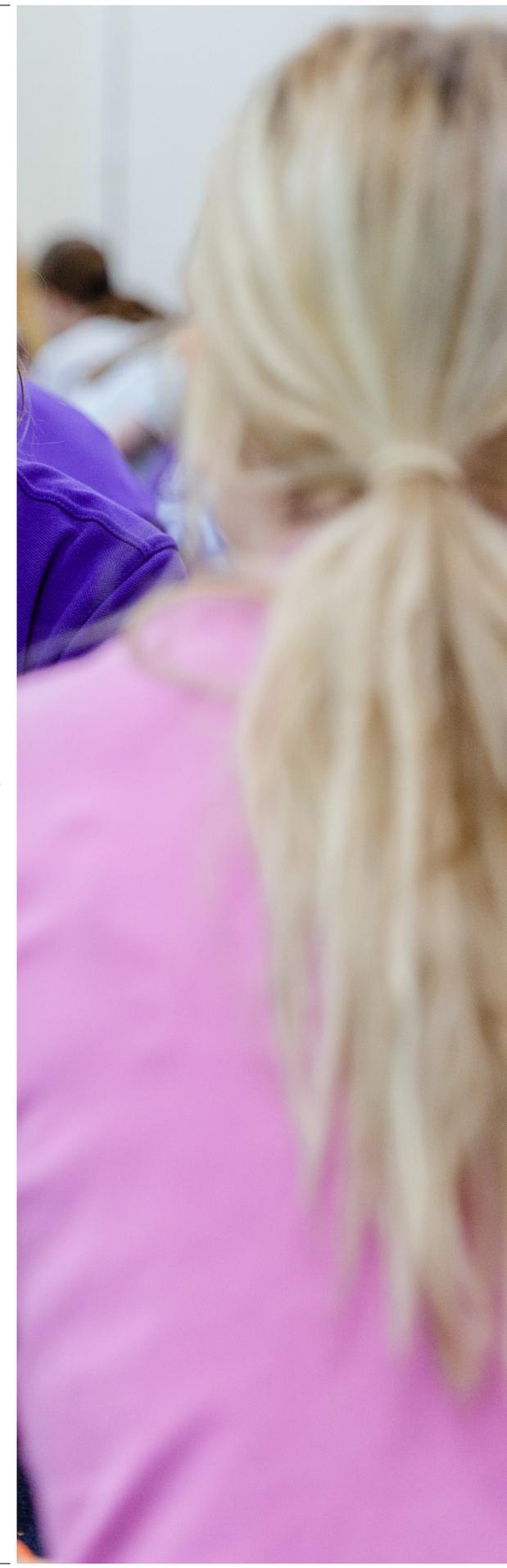
Student handbook 2022





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Welcome

Congratulations on being selected to be a part of the Young Achievers Program! The next two years will be a fun and rewarding journey for you and your family.

The Young Achievers Program (YAP) has been designed to support the tertiary study and career aspirations of talented secondary school students who might not otherwise have access to university as a post-school option. Funded by The University of Queensland and several generous donors, we share a passion for helping deserving students achieve a university education.

Developing community-minded role models who set a positive example for other students in their school is an important goal of the program. YAP provides a valuable support framework to help each student reach their full potential.

Your benefits include:

- ongoing mentoring by UQ students
- university experiences, including residential camps
- information and assistance with study and career planning
- advice on university study options, pathways and application procedures
- financial support of:
 - \$1000 per year in Years 11 and 12
 - \$7000 per year for up to four years on full-time enrolment at UQ
- access to special transition and university orientation programs
- accommodation support and access to Young Achiever grants of up to \$11,000 per year
- five adjustment factors towards study at UQ.

This handbook contains important information to help you make the most of your time as a Young Achiever.

Please read it carefully and contact program staff as soon as possible if you have any questions.

Your student mentors

Mentoring is a key component of YAP. Each year, a cohort of well-trained, passionate UQ students volunteer their time to mentor our Young Achievers.

Your UQ student mentors will be an inspiring and knowledgeable source of support throughout your senior years. Given the many benefits of mentoring, we encourage you to participate actively in this part of the program.

UQ student mentors serve as:

- friendly, helpful and accessible points of contact
- positive role models and a source of information, motivation and support
- supervisors and activity facilitators during residential camps and Open Days, providing a safe environment for you to learn and grow.

At your first residential camp, you will be introduced to two mentors, whom you will get to know well as they lead your group through a range of hands-on and interactive activities. One of your mentors will contact you on a monthly basis, primarily by telephone, to find out how you are going, answer any questions that come up, offer support, and provide helpful study tips that will come in handy throughout Years 11 and 12.

Community service and leadership

Throughout the program, we encourage Young Achievers to demonstrate service leadership and reflect on the importance of community. With this in mind, each Young Achiever undertakes a school or community volunteer project in Years 11 and 12.

We call this valuable service experience the 'Making a Difference (MAD) Challenge'. You'll learn more about it at your first residential camp.

Our past Young Achievers have done us proud over recent years, volunteering their time to support worthy causes such as Lifeline, the Royal Flying Doctor Service, Homeless Connect, The Smith Family and Landcare Australia.

Young Achievers who transition to UQ on completing secondary school are invited to contribute as a volunteer to ensure the ongoing success of the program.



“Every mentor and coordinator has inspired me to keep fighting for what I believe in; to never give up and to overcome barriers, no matter how big or small. I thank them for their persistence and their dedication to my wellbeing.”

YOUNG ACHIEVER



YAttributes

Throughout your time in the program, you will embrace the Young Achiever values and develop a unique and special set of characteristics or attributes we like to call YAttributes:



Being community-minded



Being committed to learning



Having a confident outlook



Being culturally aware

More information about these attributes will be provided at the Year 11 residential camp.

Get involved

Residential camps

Residential camps, held at UQ's St Lucia campus in Brisbane, are an important means of establishing mentoring relationships and understanding more about life as a university student. Closely supervised by UQ staff and student mentors, the camps provide a wonderful opportunity for you to make new friends, hone your leadership and communication skills, set goals for the future, learn more about your post-school study options and, of course, have fun. For these reasons, attendance at residential camps in Years 11 and 12 is a mandatory program requirement.

All costs associated with meals, board, transport and program activities during the camps are met by UQ. Students travelling from regional and remote areas will have a dedicated travel day prior to the commencement of each camp.

Residential camp dates

Year 11 Residential Camp, UQ St Lucia

Camp will commence at 5pm on Monday 17 January 2022. Camp will conclude at 8pm on Thursday 20 January 2022.

Monday 17 and Friday 21 January 2022 will be travel days for regional students.

Year 12 Residential Camp, UQ St Lucia

Camp will commence at 5pm on Monday 26 June 2023. Camp will conclude at 8pm on Thursday 29 June 2023.

Monday 26 and Friday 30 June 2023 will be travel days for regional students.

Young Achievers who do not attend the annual camp will forfeit their place in the program.



UQ Open Days

Open Days, held annually each August, are a valuable learning experience for students and their families. They are a great opportunity to catch up with fellow Young Achievers, your student mentors and university staff while exploring all that UQ has to offer. Faculty staff and students are on hand during Open Days to provide advice on the various study options you may be considering and possible careers these can lead to.

We strongly encourage you and your family to attend at least one UQ Open Day over the course of Years 11 and 12.

2022 UQ Open Day

St Lucia campus: Sunday 7 August

Gatton campus: Sunday 21 August



Year 12 parent information sessions

In Year 12, you and your family will be invited to attend a parent information session in your hometown/region.

This event will provide you with the opportunity to find out more about your post-school options and will cover topics such as university entry requirements and pathways, degree choices, financial assistance, accommodation options, student support services and much more.

Celebration event

Towards the end of Year 12, you and your family will be invited to attend a special event to celebrate the achievements of our graduating Young Achievers.

Invitations to the event in your hometown/region will be emailed in Term 3 of Year 12.

Other learning opportunities

Additional opportunities that may be valuable in helping you gain information about your options in Year 11 and 12 include:

- Careers That Shape the World University Experience Day: June
uq.edu.au/shape-your-world
- Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology (FEAST): July
science.uq.edu.au/feast
- Tertiary Studies Expo (TSXPO): July
careersevent.com/tsxpo
- Young ChangeMakers: November – December (open to Year 11 students)
uqchange-makers.uq.edu.au
- Enhanced Studies Program
esp.uq.edu.au
- Effective Thinking and Writing (WRIT1999)
esp.uq.edu.au/effective-thinking-and-writing-writ1999
- UQ Results Advice Night: December
future-students.uq.edu.au/results-advice

Further information about dates and times for these events is available on the websites listed above and will also be provided to Young Achievers and their families throughout the year.

Keep in touch

Monthly phone calls, regular email and Facebook contact will be a part of your Young Achiever experience.

Phone calls

Phone calls are a great opportunity to catch up with your mentors in between residential camps and other face-to-face events.

Your mentor/s will ring you in the evening once a month during the school term, Monday to Wednesday, during your allocated week.

Keep a lookout for the roster sent via email and Facebook to know when your phone call will take place. If you have after-school commitments, simply let your mentors know in advance what time will best suit for your phone call.

Facebook and email

YAP also has a dedicated Facebook group which, in addition to email, helps to keep you up-to-date with all of our latest information.

Email is the main form of communication for the program and it's important that you check your nominated email account regularly as well as logging onto the YAP Facebook group.

If you have not already made a request to join the Facebook group, you can do so by following this link:

facebook.com/groups/C13youngachievers

The Facebook group is a private group, which is only available to Cohort 13 Young Achievers and mentors. It is closely monitored by YAP staff.

If you don't have a Facebook account – no problem! All important YAP information will be sent to you by email as well.





“The Young Achievers Program has given me skills and encouragement, enabling me to reach my full academic potential in my senior years. I have gained so much confidence and I have already stepped into roles that I would never have considered previously, such as school captain and public speaking.”

YOUNG ACHIEVER

School reports

As well as active participation in events and activities, Young Achievers are expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress and school attendance throughout their time in the program. Students must provide the YAP office with a copy of their school report each semester throughout Years 11 and 12, within four weeks of the end of each semester. This can be done via email or post to the contacts listed at the end of this handbook.

The University reserves the right to withdraw students from the program where their academic progress, behaviour or attendance at school, and/or their commitment to the Young Achievers Program, is deemed to be less than satisfactory.

Bursary payments

Year 11 and 12 Young Achievers will receive a \$1000 annual bursary, payable in twice-yearly instalments of \$500 (in early April and early September) upon confirmation of:

- full-time enrolment (provided by your school)
- receipt/review of report cards
- receipt of relevant MAD Challenge documents.

Bursary payments will be made via electronic funds transfer to the student's nominated bank account.

It is your responsibility to advise YAP staff of any changes to bank account details well before bursary processing deadlines.

UQ's remittance advice notes will be provided upon request following payment.

Terms and conditions (overview)

To make the most of this valuable opportunity, all Young Achievers must:

- be enrolled and attending a YAP secondary school as a full-time student
- be undertaking an ATAR pathway in Years 11 and 12
- consistently demonstrate a high level of commitment to school studies, as evidenced through attendance, academic progress and behaviour
- provide UQ with their school report card within four weeks of the end of each semester
- attend all residential camps and mandatory events associated with the program
- serve as a role model by volunteering time to complete a school or community project in Years 11 and 12
- actively participate in all scheduled mentoring activities.

Students who do not meet the requirements and expectations outlined above may forfeit their place in the program. The full YAP Terms and Conditions are available on our website and were provided to you as part of your acceptance into the program.



Your journey checklist

- Attend all residential camps in Years 11 and 12
- Notify the YAP team of any changes to your details (bank, email, phone number, address, school, subjects, etc.)
- Check your emails and Facebook regularly
- Be available for your mentor phone calls each month
- Attend all YAP events
- Return forms, reply to emails, and RSVP for events on time
- Complete and submit your MAD Challenge plan and poster by the due date
- Bring your family along to enjoy a UQ Open Day
- Submit your Semester 1 and 2 Year 11 report cards within four weeks of the end of each semester
- Actively participate in scheduled mentoring activities

Your questions answered

What can I spend my bursary money on?

Our expectation is that the money will be put towards items for educational purposes. This might include textbooks, a laptop, educational experiences or other school-related items. You may also like to save up the bursary payments for when you go to university.

What if my school grades start to decline?

Satisfactory academic progress is a requirement for ongoing participation in the program. Students whose academic progress or commitment to the program is deemed to be less than satisfactory will be required to justify, in writing, why their participation in YAP should not be terminated. Unsatisfactory progress may include (but is not limited to) failing one or more subjects, receiving less than satisfactory results on the behaviour, homework and effort criteria, or poor attendance (unexplained absences) on your report card.

What if I change schools during Year 11 or 12?

If you decide to change schools during Years 11 or 12, you will need to contact YAP staff immediately as this may jeopardise your place in the program. As the program is only offered to students from a select number of schools across Queensland, your continued involvement in the program will depend on which school you move to. If you need to change schools, please discuss this with YAP staff before making the final decision so that you are aware of how your move will affect your place in the program.

What if I move interstate during Years 11 or 12?

If you decide to move interstate during Years 11 or 12, you will need to contact YAP staff immediately. The program is only offered to a select number of schools in Queensland and consequently, moving interstate will mean that you forfeit your place in the program.





What is the MAD Challenge?

Community service and leadership are highly valued and encouraged in the program. All students are required to complete a MAD Challenge in Years 11 and 12, which requires giving back to your school or community through volunteering. You'll learn more about this challenge at the residential camps.

How can I make the most of my Young Achiever experience?

To make the most of your time in the program, it is important that you:

- participate fully in all events and other opportunities that arise
- embrace the opportunity to make new friends
- be proactive
- step outside your comfort zone
- stay focused on your goals
- maintain regular contact with YAP staff and mentors
- encourage your family's involvement
- be prompt with communication (responding to emails, event invitations etc).



Planning your future

We understand how diverse and complex post-school choices and the application processes can be. Please be assured that program staff will be on hand to guide and support you. Throughout your time in the program, you will be provided with publications and other useful resources to assist with your future study and career planning.

UQ websites	Information for future students	Research UQ programs	future-students.uq.edu.au
	Accommodation	UQ accommodation services	uq.edu.au/student-services/accommodation
	Scholarships	Scholarships for school leavers	scholarships.uq.edu.au
	Information for parents	Information and advice for parents to help support your Young Achiever in the transition to university	future-students.uq.edu.au/parents
	UQ Employability	Maximise your student experience and enhance your employability	employability.uq.edu.au
Academic support	The Desk	Information and skills to cope with assessment, as well as academic advice	thedesk.org.au/about
Making a decision	My Future	Helping you discover career options and aligning them with your interests	myfuture.edu.au
	Job Guide	Information on job details, skills, training required and industry trends	education.gov.au/school-work-transitions
University options	QTAC	Information on tertiary study options and application processes	qtac.edu.au
	Tertiary Studies Expo	Information for students seeking to explore their study, training and career options	careersevent.com/event/brisbane-careers-event-2/
Financial assistance	Study Assist	Government information about HECS-HELP and Centrelink (Department of Human Services)	studyassist.gov.au
	Scholarships	An Australian website detailing a variety of scholarships	australia.gov.au/information-and-services/education-and-training/scholarships
Extra-curricular	Volunteering	Excellent opportunities to make connections and give back to the community	volunteer.com.au volunteeringqld.org.au dosomethingnearyou.com.au
	Research further opportunities to learn and extend yourself academically	UQ ChangMakers UQ Enhanced Studies Program UQ Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology Junior Physics Olympiad National Youth Science Forum YMCA Queensland Youth Parliament YWB Spark Engineering Camp	uqchange-makers.uq.edu.au esp.uq.edu.au science.uq.edu.au/feast smp.uq.edu.au/jpho nysf.edu.au ymcabrisbane.org/queensland-youth-parliament sparkengineeringcamp.ywb.com.au

Benefits to students



ON-CAMPUS

experiences
and activities



5 ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

to assist with
entry to UQ



VALUABLE family support



\$1000
Years 11 and 12
annual bursary

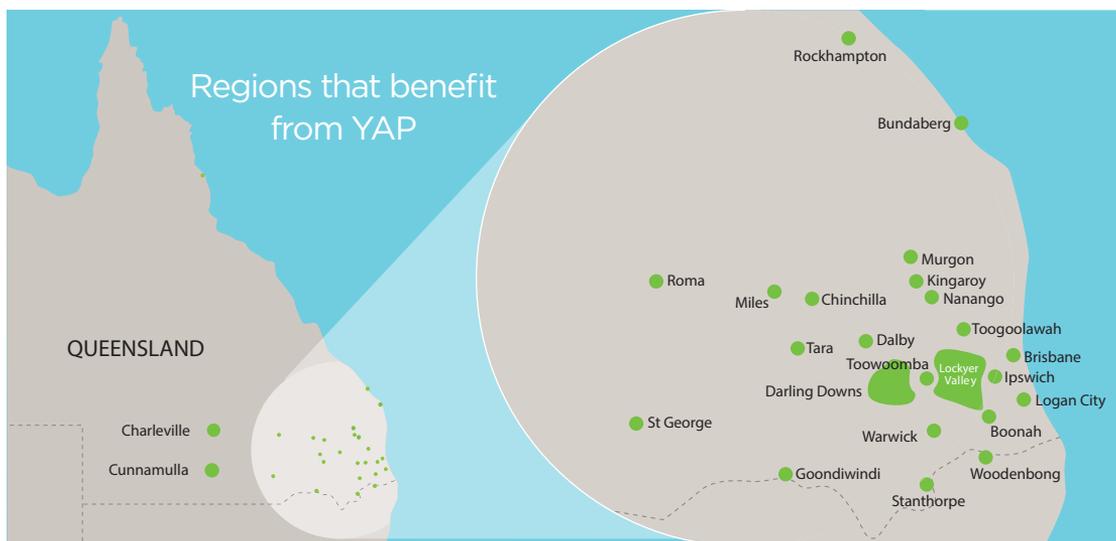
\$7000
UQ student scholarship
per year for up to 4 years



WRIT1999
effective thinking
and writing



2 YEARS OF
mentoring support
from UQ students





We're here to help

YAP staff and mentors are here to help. Please feel free to contact us by phone, email, Facebook or in person. Don't be afraid to ask!



250+
YAPpers at UQ



200+
graduates



60+
schools across
Queensland

Contact

Future Students
The University of Queensland
St Lucia QLD 4072

Phone (07) 3346 0005
Email youngachievers@uq.edu.au
Website young-achievers.uq.edu.au



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