



# **ELITE ATHLETE PROGRAM**

The University of Melbourne, home to some of Australia's oldest sporting teams, invites student-athletes, both emerging and elite, from around the globe to continue their study and sport at one of the world's leading universities.

The University has a long and proud tradition of supporting outstanding student athletes in their sporting and academic pursuits. For more than 150 years, students have combined study and sport as part of the Melbourne Experience.

### THE ELITE ATHLETE PROGRAM INCLUDES:

#### 1. ELITE ATHLETE ENTRY SCHEME

Conditional study offers recognising the impact of high-performance sport on academic studies

## 2. SPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

Sport-specific and general scholarships providing financial support

## 3. STUDENT-ATHLETE WELLBEING SUPPORT

Support services to develop the student, the athlete, and the leader

#### 4. FLEXIBLE STUDY ASSISTANCE

Academic support to balance representative sporting commitments and study

## **5. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS**

Financial support towards the costs of national representation

The University of Melbourne's Elite Athlete Program celebrates sporting excellence. The program supports student-athletes based on their demonstrated level of sporting achievement, their aspiration for improvement and higher honours, engagement with the University's intervarsity and club programs and their commitment to completing study and becoming leaders in their field and the community.



# 1. ELITE ATHLETE ENTRY SCHEME

The University recognises the impact that high-performance sport can have on a student's academic studies and provides consideration for recognised elite athletes as part of its Elite Athlete and Artistic Performers Entry Scheme (EAAPES).

The scheme assists applicants who can demonstrate that they have undertaken high-performance competition and/or training commitments whilst preparing for entry to the University of Melbourne.

Undergraduate applicants can be considered for a conditional entry offer where they achieve pre-determined ATAR specific to key academic programs. Applications for graduate studies will be considered by the relevant Graduate School selection committee.

For the purposes of the scheme, elite athletes are broadly recognised as:

- National Sporting Organisation or SIS/SAS scholarship holders
- Professional Players' Association members as recognised by Sport Australia
- State/National team members for recognised Sport Australia sports

Search for Elite Athlete Entry Scheme on the University's website: unimelb.edu.au.

# **ACCESS MELBOURNE**

Access Melbourne is an equity scheme that takes the personal circumstances of prospective domestic students into account in their application for undergraduate studies. Access Melbourne can provide a conditional offer based on achieving a reduced ATAR, subject to meeting course prerequisites. Access Melbourne currently provides greater entry consideration than the Elite Athlete Entry Scheme and all prospective student-athletes are strongly encouraged to check eligibility.

Search Access Melbourne on the University's website: unimelb.edu.au

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## 2. SPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Sport scholarships provide elite and emerging student-athletes with financial support to assist them to reach their potential while studying at the University of Melbourne.

Sport scholarships have been made available through the philanthropic support of alumni and friends of sport and clubs at the University of Melbourne. Sport scholarships vary in levels of support with some allocated to specific sports, while others are open to applicants regardless of their chosen sport.

## Sport scholarships include:

- The Jopling Family Rowing Scholarship (up to \$25,000 pa)
- The Hall Rowing Scholarship (up to \$10,000 pa)
- The Andrew and Geraldine Buxton Athletics Scholarship (2 x \$10,000 pa)
- The Rugby Young Achiever Award (up to \$5,000 pa)
- Friends of the Sports Association Scholarship (up to 8 x \$3,000 pa)
- Hockey, Netball and Volleyball Club Scholarships

Sport scholarship recipients may also be offered additional support as part of Student-athlete Wellbeing Support (see page 7). Student-athletes may also apply for an International Travel Grant of up to \$2,000 where they have been selected to represent their country (see page 9).

Sport scholarships may be supported by the University's affiliated sporting clubs and can also provide support to represent the University at intervarsity sporting competitions.







## **SPORTING CLUBS**

Some of the University's sporting clubs are amongst the oldest in Australia. Many clubs provide a high-performance training and competition environment for student-athletes with access to quality facilities, professional management and experienced coaches and support staff. The club community and its alumni also provide a valuable network for personal support, career advice, internships and future employment opportunities and most importantly, life-long friendships.

### **INTERVARSITY**

Student-athletes have the opportunity to join an illustrious cohort of intervarsity representatives in a wide variety of regional, national and international sporting competitions including the Big Blue, the Australia Boat Race and the World Elite University Football Tournament. Our Winged Victory teams are arguably the most successful in Australia and sporting Blues, the University's highest sporting honour, are also awarded for outstanding sporting achievement in intervarsity competition.



# 3. STUDENT-ATHLETE WELLBEING SUPPORT

Student-athlete Wellbeing Support is at the core of the Elite Athlete Program and aims to develop a student-athlete's academic endeavours, high-performance sporting aspirations and leadership. Elite Athlete Program members may receive:

#### **ACADEMIC ADVICE AND ADVOCACY**

Dedicated Elite Athlete Program staff, together with academic and professional staff across the University, work with student-athletes to provide advice on study load, study skills and academic program/unit choice. Direction and advocacy may also be available to support flexible study assistance for eligible student-athletes (see 4. Flexible Study Assistance, page 9).

### MENTORING. NETWORKING AND CAREER SERVICES

Alumni from across the University and its affiliated sporting clubs provide wonderful opportunities to engage in internships, mentoring and career advice and employment prospects. The EAP Coffee Club also provides peer mentoring from senior EAP members, while female student-athletes can also be involved in the University's Strong Women program.

## **MU SPORT FACILITY ACCESS**

EAP members may receive complimentary access to the University's Beaurepaire Aquatic & Fitness Centre's High-performance Studio, cardio and pin-loaded/free weights floors and 25m indoor heated swimming pool. Access to sport-specific facilities, including group fitness studios and programs, may also be provided.

#### PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR SERIES

Nutrition, eye care, performance psychology, mental health and injury prevention are amongst the topics covered throughout the year as part of the Personal Development Seminar Series available to EAP members.

#### **PHYSIOTHERAPY**

EAP partners elite aKademy provide discounted physiotherapy services through its sports medicine clinic located in the Nona Lee Sports Centre on the Parkville campus. Complimentary physiotherapy may also be provided for Sport Scholarship recipients and other identified student-athletes.

#### SPORT PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELLING

Sport performance psychology consultations may be available to student-athletes through the EAP's network of industry professionals, while student-athlete mental health and wellbeing is supported through clinical psychology and counselling services through University faculties and departments.

#### STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING

Experienced S&C coaches can provide expert coaching to improve sport-specific fitness, leading to measurable improvements in sporting performance. S&C works in collaboration with sporting club and/or personal coaches to establish individualised programs to balance the sport-study paradigm.

#### **TUTORING AND STUDY SUPPORT**

Tutoring can be available for student-athletes across a range of academic programs/units and can often be of valuable support where sporting commitments have resulted in extended absences from classes.



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# 4. FLEXIBLE STUDY ASSISTANCE

The University of Melbourne is a member of Sport Australia's Elite Athlete Friendly University Network, and eligible student-athletes are supported with flexible study assistance. Flexible study assistance may include:

- Enrolment support including extended leave of absence and cross-institutional study
- **Timetabling support** including adapted study load to support sporting commitments
- Attendance and assessment flexibility including meeting course requirements and renegotiation of assessment deadlines
- Alternate exam arrangements including external invigilation and/or rescheduling.

Flexible study assistance is a key support pillar of the Elite Athlete Program and is offered in collaboration with the University's Stop 1 student services hub and the University's Faculties and Graduate Schools. Early application and good planning are essential for flexible study assistance to be negotiated and approved. Flexible study assistance eligibility is the same as for Elite Athlete Entry Scheme (see page 3).

# 5. INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS

Being selected in a national sporting team is a dream for many emerging student-athletes. The honour of representing one's country can also be an expensive exercise, including the journey leading up to selection.

Additional financial assistance of up to \$2,000 may be available to student-athletes selected in a national team for an international competition outside of Australia. Sporting teams must be recognised by Sport Australia (or their international equivalent for international student-athletes).





## **HOW TO APPLY**

**Elite Athlete Entry Scheme** applications for future student-athletes usually open in May each year and close in early November for undergraduate course entry. Applications received by the end of August may receive a conditional offer for the following year. Applications received between September and November will also be considered for course entry, however timing does not permit the distribution of conditional offers. Postgraduate application periods vary according to the individual courses. **Search for Elite Athlete Entry Scheme on the University's website: unimelb.edu.au.** 

**Sport Scholarship and Student-athlete Wellbeing Support** applications for prospective student-athletes usually open in early August and close in early November. Applications received during this period may receive a conditional scholarship offer and/or student-athlete wellbeing support offer — all offers are contingent on the applicant receiving and accepting an offer to study at the University of Melbourne in the following year. Applications for returning student-athletes usually open in October and close in December. The application period may be extended until the start of Semester 1 (early March) at the discretion of the program.

Applications for Sport Scholarships and Student-athlete Wellbeing Support are considered via a single application process. Applicants are considered for all scholarships relevant to their chosen sport and/or any other selection criteria. The Jopling Family Rowing Scholarship has its own unique application process.

Applications for **Flexible Study Assistance and International Travel Grants** are open year-round. Early application and good planning are essential for flexible study assistance to be negotiated and approved. International travel grants may be subject to available funds.

# **KEY DATES**

May: August:

- Elite Athlete Entry Scheme undergraduate applications open
- Access Melbourne (via VTAC) applications open
- Elite Athlete Entry Scheme undergraduate application deadline for conditional offers
- Sport Scholarships and Student-athlete Wellbeing Support applications open for prospective student-athletes

Early October: October:

- Access Melbourne (via VTAC) applications close
- Sport Scholarships and Student-athlete Wellbeing Support applications open for returning student-athletes

November: December:

- Elite Athlete Entry Scheme undergraduate applications close
- Sport Scholarships and Student-athlete Wellbeing Support applications close for returning student-athletes

**Year-round:** 

• Flexible Study Assistance and International Travel Grant applications

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# **PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS**















Buildcorp

**Andrew and Geraldine Buxton** 

**Jopling Family** 

**John Hall** 

**Hockey Club Foundation**