



MEDIA RELEASE: 17 August 2026

Scholarship applications open to help local young people pursue their education

Applications for the 2027 Chances for Children scholarships will open on Monday, 17 August, giving young people across the Mallee an opportunity to access financial support to achieve their education and career goals.

Delivered by through Mallee Family Care philanthropic arm, the Chances for Children Foundation, the scholarship program provides financial assistance to eligible young people aged 24 years and under who are pursuing further education or training.

Scholarships are available across three categories – Tertiary Scholarships, Non-Tertiary Scholarships and Keeping Kids in Secondary School Scholarships – helping reduce financial barriers that can prevent young people from reaching their full potential.

Mallee Family Care CEO Teresa Jayet said the scholarships had supported thousands of local young people over the past 25 years and continued to make a meaningful difference to education outcomes across the region.

"Education has the power to change lives, but for many young people the cost of studying can be a significant barrier," Ms Jayet said.

"Every year we see the incredible impact these scholarships have, whether it's helping someone relocate to study, purchase essential equipment and textbooks, or simply easing the financial pressure so they can focus on their education."

Swan Hill student Madeline Walker received a Keeping Kids at Secondary School scholarship at the start of 2026, which has allowed her to focus on her final year of schooling at Swan Hill College.

"After graduating year 12 I wish to study medicine at Charles Sturt University and move back to Swan Hill and support the local community as a general practitioner," Madeline said.

"It would be really meaningful to be able to give back to a community that has helped and supported me throughout my education."

Meanwhile promising tennis player Nate Lawn has been able to travel interstate to compete in state level tennis competitions thanks to his Non-Tertiary scholarship.

Nate's mum Tracy Lawn acknowledged the difference the scholarship had made:



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“It’s expensive attending all the tournaments in each state capital, “Tracy said.

“As a single mother trying to get him to all these games so he can pursue his dreams is really hard. But now thanks to Chances, we can actually travel for each tournament.”

Chances for Children scholarships are made possible through the generous support of community organisations, businesses, philanthropic partners and individual donors who invest in the future of young people across the Mallee.

Eligible applicants may be studying at university, TAFE, undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship, completing accredited training, or attending secondary school, depending on the scholarship category.

Applications open on Monday, 17 August 2026, and close on Monday, 26 October 2026.

For more information or to apply from 17 August, visit tchancesforchildren.com.au or contact the team on (03) 5023 5966.

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