



**REACH**

# 2020 JIM STYNES SCHOLARSHIP



The Jim Stynes Scholarship is named after Jim Stynes, in recognition of his outstanding efforts not only as a professional Australian Rules Football player & administrator, but also as a philanthropist, charity worker & writer.

During his 264-game career with Melbourne Football Club in the Australian Football League (AFL) between 1987 & 1998, Stynes became the only non-Australian born VFL/AFL player to win the prestigious Brownlow Medal, which he achieved in 1991. In 2003 he was inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame.



# JIM STYNES




Born in Dublin, Ireland, where he was a promising Gaelic footballer, Stynes made an ambitious move to Australia at the age of 18 following his side's win in the 1984 All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. He debuted in the AFL in 1987 and played a league record 244 consecutive games between 1987 and 1998. In addition to his Brownlow Medal, his Australian Football achievements include the Leigh Matthews Trophy, two-time All-Australian team selection, a night and day Grand Final and four best and fairest awards at Melbourne. He also represented Victoria in interstate football matches and both Australia and Ireland in the International Rules Series.

Following his football career, Stynes focused on youth work using his profile to launch the Reach Foundation, which he co-founded in 1994. As a result of his work with young people in Victoria he was named Victorian of the Year twice, and with the expanded profile of Reach nationally, he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2007.


Stynes also served as president of Melbourne Football Club from 2008 and was involved in fundraising efforts which brought the club out of debt. In 2009, he was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma and continued to work during his treatment for brain metastasis. He died in March, 2012.

## TESTIMONIALS



The Jim Stynes Scholarship gave me the opportunity to focus on my football career & goal of being drafted, as well as helping my family support me in my dream of one day playing AFL.

**Mabior Chol, drafted to Richmond FC in 2016**



I have always been aspirational and this scholarship has allowed me the means to chase my dreams of being a successful AFL player.

**Shaleise Law, drafted to Brisbane Lions in 2016**

## THE SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of the Jim Stynes Scholarship is to assist in providing a pathway to employment & a pathway to nurture/develop skills &/or talents unique in youth (13-19 years) from:

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities;
- Multicultural backgrounds; &/or
- Socially isolated/excluded communities



## CRITERIA

### Who is eligible for a scholarship?

Scholarships are available to young people aged 13 and no older than 19 as at 31 October in the relevant year.

- Potential recipients may be nominated by the president/coach of their sporting club/team, an authorised officer of a not for profit community organisation, an employee of the AFL / AFL State body, or a board member, staff member or crew member of The Reach Foundation.
- Groups and projects are also eligible for a scholarship providing they target youth who meet the above criteria.

### What does the scholarship cover?

- Appropriate accredited education costs, including course fees for either year 11 and 12, TAFE or undergraduate studies.
- Incidental study costs (text books and/or equipment).
- Equipment needed to support a trade/skill.
- Travel allowance and costs to compete in competitions and/or relevant leadership/ education experiences.
- Additional assistance in coaching/talent development/school or career support (e.g. tuition or mentoring).
- Project Costs for 'recognised organisations' to deliver proposed initiatives that target youth who meet the above criteria.

### What doesn't the scholarship cover?

- Fees covered by HECS/HELP.  
Note: TAFE course fees that are designed to go on to an undergraduate degree are covered by FEE HELP.

## Terms and conditions

- Scholarships will be for a one year period (1 November–31 October).
- The funding a recipient receives will be determined exclusively by the panel.
- Decisions made by the panel are final and no correspondence shall be entered into regarding any decision made by the panel.
- The panel reserves the right at all times to end a scholarship of a recipient, where:
  - the recipient fails to observe any of the specified criteria items of the scholarship; or
  - the recipient engages in conduct which in the reasonable opinion of the committee is unbecoming of a scholarship holder or adversely affects the standing or reputation of the scholarship fund.
- The funds allocated must be used to assist the recipient directly.
- All nominees must give their permission to be nominated and nominations must be received by end of September.
- All nominees should be prepared to undertake any promotional role deemed appropriate by the AFL and/or The Reach Foundation.
- All nominees should be aware that details of their scholarships will be made available to the Federal Government in a bi-yearly report.

## GENERAL INFORMATION & FAQs

**Q:** Does the scholarship fund cover a young person who is doing a TAFE VET course but is only in year 10?

**A:** The scholarship will assess individual cases

**Example:**

- If a TAFE VET course is to be completed while a student is in year 10, but the grades for this course will go towards the young person's final year 11 and 12 score, the fund will consider, on application, funding this course

**Q:** Can scholarship funds be used for things like bicycles, new shoes and other purchases not directly related to study?

**A:** In some instances these purchases are fine. Examples of approved purchases:

- young person intends to use the bicycle to travel to and from school
- young person requires running shoes to participate in a sporting activity

\*Approval in this instance is required via the AFL &/or State Manager.

**Q:** What does the scholarship cover?

**A:** We are very flexible, as long as it is educationally related or directly assisting education, sporting or leadership outcomes such as:

- Text books
- School fees (not funded by government deferred payment programs)
- Project costs for 'recognised organisations' to deliver proposed initiatives that target youth who meet the above criteria
- We cater for year 10, 11 and 12. Any recognised job training education may also be accepted

# SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- Applicants informed of application closing date
- Local sporting clubs and community agencies are notified by email of application closing date and website address
- Notification is a minimum of one-month prior to closing date.
- Nominations by sporting clubs and community agencies to be submitted online
- Scholarship applications received.



## For new applicants:

Individual applicant interviews – in person (if possible) or by phone.

## Discuss:

- Scholarship process and requirements (reporting, mentor option)
- Requirements of the scholarship recipient is made clear

## Reporting required from recipients:

One of two options are given to the applicant:

1. Bi-yearly feedback report
2. Bi-yearly phone catchup on progress with AFL / State Manager or Talent Manager

The Jim Stynes Scholarship panel will meet not more than six (6) weeks after the closing date for applications. A quorum is one person from the four representative bodies (below).

The main responsibilities of the panel will be:

1. administer the Fund in accordance with the funding agreement between the Commonwealth and the AFL;
2. assess scholarship nominations;
3. select the scholarship recipients
4. ensure the reporting requirements with the Federal Government are met

## Panel:

INDIVIDUAL	REPRESENTING
Andrew Dillon	AFL
Rob Auld	AFL
Mike McShane	The Reach Foundation
Chris Naish	The Reach Foundation

## Acceptance/Rejection Letters

- Letters (via email) of acceptance or rejection will be sent to applicants within 4 weeks of panel ruling
- Full details of funding outlined in letter
- Acceptance letters include a Terms and Conditions form to be signed and returned



Nakia Cockatoo, past Jim Stynes Scholarship recipient, drafted to Geelong FC in 2014

