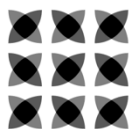




GOVERNANCE FOR SOCIAL IMPACT SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

Centre for Social Impact



CENTRE
for **SOCIAL**
IMPACT



INTRODUCTION

About Centre For Social Impact

The Centre for Social Impact is a collaboration between the Business Schools of four leading Australian universities: University of New South Wales, The University of Western Australia, Swinburne University of Technology and Flinders University.

Stronger as one, we are united in our purpose to ignite positive, lasting social change for people and communities through education, research and engagement with not-for-profits, businesses, philanthropy and government.

Scholarship Opportunity

Thanks to a multi-year partnership between the Centre for Social Impact, Paul Ramsay Foundation and Minderoo Foundation, 189 fully funded scholarships are available for current charity board directors to undertake the Governance for Social Impact short course in 2027.

WHAT IS AVAILABLE

- A fully funded place in one Governance for Social Impact course, valued at \$2,310 (including GST).
- Four live 90-minute virtual sessions facilitated by for-purpose governance experts.
- Self-paced learning between sessions, including curated readings, case studies and guided reflection.
- A carefully sized cohort designed to support candid peer exchange on governance practice under Chatham House Rule.

The scholarship covers course fees only.

PRIORITY FOCUS AREA

- Board directors and decision-makers from for-purpose organisations supporting people and communities experiencing disadvantage, particularly those working to create positive life paths for children and young people, advance First Nations peoples and communities, enable connected and community-led places, or strengthen the conditions and capabilities that support people and communities to thrive.
- Applicants seeking to strengthen purpose-led, beneficiary-centred and systems-informed governance that supports more effective, collaborative and impactful services and outcomes.
- Board directors of large or extra-large charities, or applicants who demonstrate strong potential to apply and share the learning to strengthen governance across their organisation, sector or community.
- Applicants with the capacity to use stronger governance and systems approaches to address complex challenges affecting their sectors and communities.

CHECK YOUR ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply, applicants must:

- Currently serve on the board of an Australian charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- Be available to attend all live sessions for the course cohort allocated if awarded a scholarship.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Below we have provided some supporting information relating to the three key questions in the application form. We encourage you to refer to this table to guide you in completing your application.

Question	Things to consider in your response
Motivation and readiness: Why is now the right time for you to undertake Governance for Social Impact? Please describe where you are in your board journey and why this course is relevant to you at this point. You may wish to describe a current governance challenge, opportunity or decision where the learning would help you contribute more effectively.	Use a specific example rather than a general statement. Briefly explain the length and breadth of board experience, including not-for-profit boards, the challenge, opportunity or transition you are facing, and why the course is timely now. Show that you are ready to reflect, participate and apply the learning.
Learning goals: How do you hope the course will strengthen your contribution as a board director? Please identify one or two areas of your governance practice you would like to develop and explain why these are important for you, your board or your organisation.	Choose one or two specific governance capabilities, such as strategy, risk, oversight, accountability, board dynamics, stakeholder engagement or decision-making. Explain why these areas matter in your context and how strengthening them would improve your contribution as a director. Keep the goals realistic and clearly connected to the course.
Sphere of influence and potential impact: If awarded a scholarship, in addition to contributing to your own development, how could the learning from Governance for Social Impact benefit others? Please describe the opportunities you have to influence governance practice within your board, organisation, sector or community, and how you expect to share or apply the learning through these relationships or networks.	Identify the people, groups or networks you can realistically influence through your board, committees, organisation, sector or community. Give practical examples of how you would apply or share the learning. Focus on credible opportunities within your own context rather than broad promises or guaranteed outcomes.

Before you begin, have ready:

- Evidence of your role as a board member, this maybe include your organisation's [ACNC link](#) showing you listed on the Responsibility People section, or alternative evidence such as board minutes or a letter or email from the Chair, CEO or Company Secretary confirming your appointment.
- The details of all [2027 course dates](#) you are available to attend
- Information about your organisation, including its ABN, annual revenue and primary issue or beneficiary group your organisation supports. You can find this on the [ACNC website](#).
- Your responses to the key questions outlined in the application information table that support your application (ie what are your motivation and readiness, learning goals, and sphere of influence and potential impact).

It will take approximately 25 minutes to complete the application.

OVERVIEW OF THE PROCESS

1	Applications open	20 October 2026
2	Applications close	10 November 2026
3	Assessment and selection	November to December 2026
4	Notification of application outcome	By mid-December 2026
5	Course allocation and enrolment	December 2026 – January 2027

IF YOU ARE SELECTED AS A SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Successful scholarship recipients must:

- Accept their scholarship by the stated deadline in the offer letter. Scholarships not accepted by this date may be offered to another applicant.
- Attend all live sessions for the allocated course and actively engage in the program.
- Complete all required online course work, self-paced learning and course activities.
- Participate in evaluation and reporting activities, including completing a post-course survey.

Successful applicants will be allocated to a virtual course based on their stated preferences, availability and overall cohort capacity. While every effort will be made to allocate your preferred course, this cannot be guaranteed.

Cancellation and transfer policy

If you are no longer able to attend your course, please notify the program team as soon as possible.

Requests to transfer to a different course or intake may be considered where possible but cannot be guaranteed and will be subject to availability. Scholarships cannot be transferred to another person and are only valid for courses taking place in 2027.

If we cannot accommodate a transfer to a different date we may allocate your scholarship to another applicant.

Late cancellations or non-attendance without prior notice may be taken into consideration for future scholarship opportunities.

HOW TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted through the online application form between 20 October and 10 November 2026.

Before applying, read these Scholarship Guidelines and prepare the eligibility evidence, organisation details, course availability and written responses outlined above.

Applications submitted by email or after the closing date will not be accepted.

[Click here to apply](#)

If you require reasonable adjustments or accessibility support, or have questions about eligibility, application requirements, supporting documents or submitting your application, contact csinational@unsw.edu.au.

To ensure fairness, the program team cannot review draft responses, provide feedback on application answers or advise on the likelihood of receiving a scholarship.