1. **Background**
   
a. This Scholarship is funded by Dr W.M. Strong of Port Moresby who, by his will in 1946, bequeathed his residuary estate amounting to £35,000 to the University of Sydney with the aim of encouraging education and research in subjects relevant to the particular needs of the then territory of Papua.

b. This Scholarship provides financial assistance to graduate students from Papua New Guinea (PNG) who are undertaking a Master by Coursework program in Agriculture, Education and Social Work, or Public Health, which are areas relevant to the particular needs of PNG.

2. **Eligibility**
   
a. Applicants must be citizens of Papua New Guinea.

b. Applicants must have an unconditional offer of admission to the University of Sydney in one of the following postgraduate courses: Master of Agriculture, Master of Public Health Master of International Public Health, Master of Education or Master of Social Work, whose CRICOS codes are as advertised on the website at the time.

c. Applicants must have applied for admission in Semester 1, in the immediate following year and must have received an unconditional offer of admission by 31 October.

d. Applicants must have completed the equivalent of an Australian Bachelor Degree qualification with outstanding results based on the Australian grading system, as deemed by the University of Sydney.

3. **Selection Criteria**
   
a. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship strictly on the basis of academic merit.

b. The successful applicant will be awarded the Scholarship by the Chair of the Higher Degree by Research Scholarship Sub-Committee of the Academic Board based on rankings compiled by and recommendations of the Admission Office.

4. **Value and Duration**
   
a. The Scholarship is tenable for CRICOS registered duration of a recipient’s coursework program of study, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

b. The Scholarship will provide a fortnightly stipend allowance as per the [Research Training Program rate](https://www.sydney.edu.au/), indexed for the course duration.
WALTER MERSH STRONG SCHOLARSHIP

c. Academic course fees, Student Services Amenities fee (SSAF), Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC), visa application fee (student only) and one return economy airfare between Port Moresby and Sydney are also provided for the course duration.

d. Other benefits include Advanced Skills for Academic Success Program (ASAS) (compulsory four-week program) and a book allowance of $350 per semester for two semesters only.

e. No other amount is payable.

f. The Scholarship will be offered subject to the availability of funding.

5. Eligibility for Progression

a. To continue receipt of the Scholarship, the recipient must maintain a minimum Semester Average Mark (SAM) of 60 each semester.

6. Termination

a. The Scholarship will be terminated if the recipient:

   I. withdraws from an eligible course or fails to enrol,
   II. commences part-time study without prior approval,
   III. does not maintain satisfactory academic performance,
   IV. is determined by the University to be guilty of serious misconduct, including, but not limited to, having provided false or misleading information as part of their Scholarship application,
   V. is awarded an alternative scholarship valued at $6,000 per annum or more that provides a living allowance. In such circumstances this scholarship will be terminated in favour of the alternative scholarship for the same purpose where the alternative scholarship is of higher value,
   VI. does not resume study at the end of a period of approved leave, or
   VII. any other provision as indicated in these terms that would lead to termination.

b. Once the Scholarship has been terminated, it will not be reinstated unless due to University error.

c. Where a student is found guilty of serious misconduct or withdraws from the relevant course, the University reserves the right to request that any Scholarship funds paid to the Scholarship recipient be reimbursed.