

Friday 30 January 2009

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Good news for students: Scholarship deadline extended

The NSW Farmers' Association has today announced an extension to the closing date of its Tertiary Scholarship Program, allowing students a further opportunity to apply until Friday 27 February 2009.

NSW Farmers' Association Rural Affairs Committee Chair Sarah Thompson says the extension will give students who are only just starting to think about university funding for this year an opportunity to apply.

"The extension grants students four extra weeks to get their applications in," Ms Thompson said.

"So while you're busy packing for university and thinking about how far you can stretch your funds this year, I would recommend taking a moment to fill in your application form.

"The rewards if you are successful are extremely worthwhile," Ms Thompson said.

There are eight scholarships, each worth \$5,000 available to Association Members or children of Members, who are full-time students studying at a recognised tertiary institution.

The applicant, their partner or their parents must have been full Members of the Association for at least the past two years to qualify for a scholarship.

"Applicants will be judged on their academic record, leadership qualities, community involvement, communication skills and their commitment to making a lasting contribution to both agriculture and rural communities," Ms Thompson said.

Scholarships are funded by the Association and the Goobang Group, and the recipients will be announced at the Association's Annual Conference in July. Applicants who are short-listed may be asked to attend an interview over the Easter period.

Ms Thompson is urging all eligible tertiary students to apply.

"It is certainly worth being in the running for your share of \$40,000," Ms Thompson said.

Application forms are available from the Association's website (www.nswfarmers.org.au) and must be received by post or fax at the Association by 5pm on the new date of Friday 27 February 2009.

**Note for Radio: An audio grab from NSW Farmers' Association Rural Affairs Committee Chair Sarah Thompson is available from the Association's website (www.nswfarmers.org.au/media_centre/audio_grabs). However, if you would prefer to conduct your own interview, please contact Ruth Redfern on the number listed below.*

Contact:

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