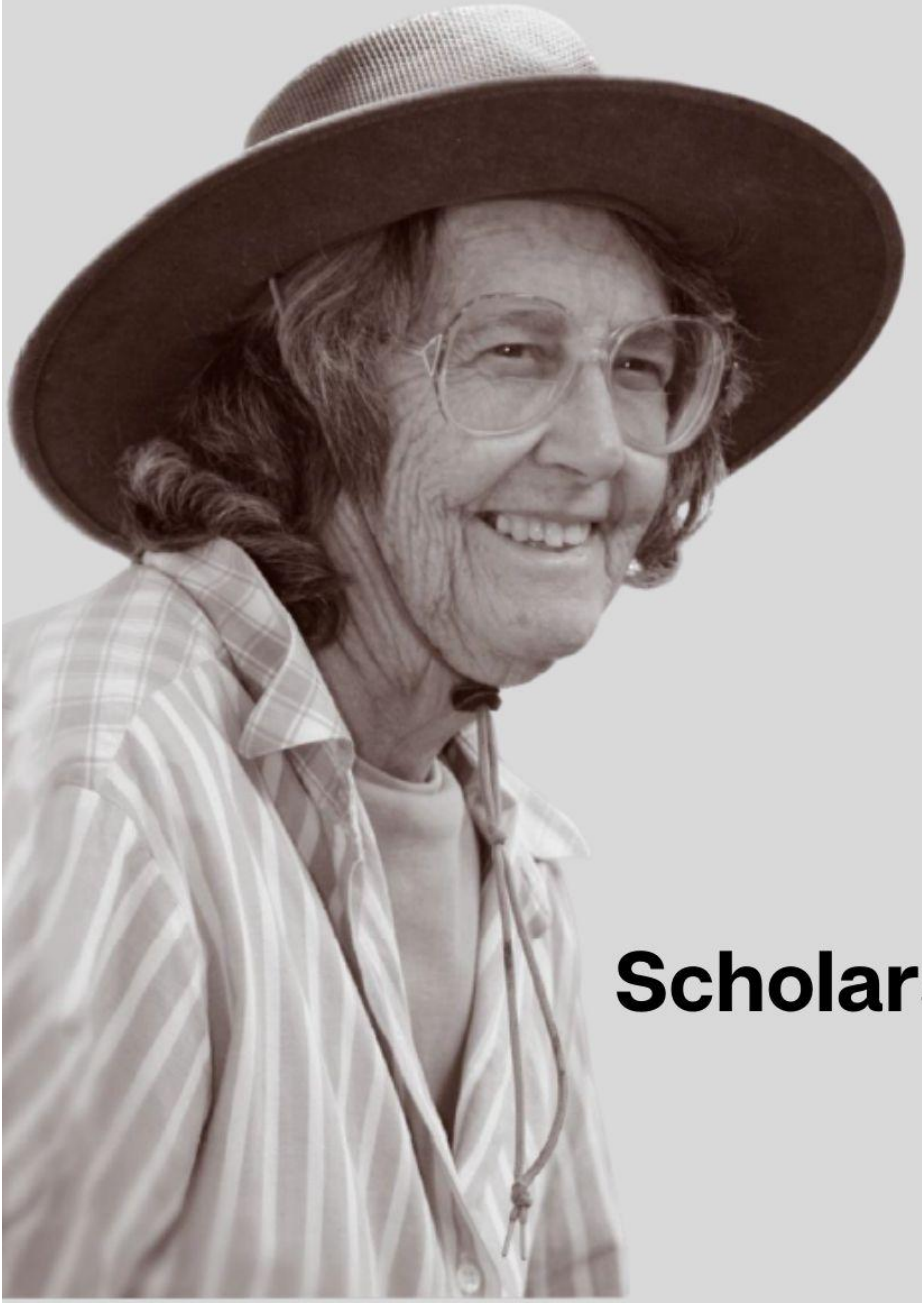
THE BETTY BROWN SCHOLARSHIP



Scholarship Guidelines

BETTY BROWN SCHOLARSHIP

Betty Edith Brown 1926 - 2016

A leader in the local agricultural industry Betty Edith Brown was a quiet, unassuming woman remembered as much for her kindness as her philanthropy. Betty was born in 1926 and grew up on her family's farm 'Riverview' between Darkan and Arthur River. Betty completed her education by correspondence before attending Perth College an all-girls boarding school in Perth.

After boarding school, Betty returned and commenced working on the farm. Betty was passionate about sheep and wool. She learnt the skills from her father and gained a wool classing ticket. She was also passionate about education and in the late 60's ran a private kindergarten for four year olds, which was later recognised as part of the Darkan District High School.

With her father passing in 1969, Betty was confronted with a defining moment in her life. She made the decision to continue the family farm and employed locals to help her carry out farming duties. Betty loved shearing time, lambing and mustering.

Betty and her family were known in the district as kind, welcoming and generous. They willingly helped neighbours during dry periods and in her later years Betty gifted substantial funds to the Darkan Museum honouring pioneering women in agriculture and the town's pool. Since her death in 2015 the Betty Brown Scholarship fund has been established from her family's estate to assist girls and women in the district pursue studies in agriculture, medicine and dentistry.

Betty Brown was a remarkable woman, forging pathways for women in agriculture and leaving a legacy for future girls and women to benefit from.

PURPOSE

To provide past female students of the Darkan, Kojonup and Wagin schools with access to financial assistance to pursue studies in agriculture, medicine or dentistry.

MISSION

A scholarship for aspirant girls and women to pursue opportunities in agriculture or medicine and dentistry with the intent to use their skills in rural communities.

VISION

Improving lives through education.

1. INTENT OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

An annual scholarship that **inspires girls and women to pursue education in the fields of firstly agriculture, secondary medicine or dentistry.**

Barriers are removed for girls and women in their education and advancement.

The scholarship **builds the capacity and career advancement** of girls and women who studied at schools in Darkan, Kojonup and Wagin.

Successful recipients of the scholarship seriously consider and intend to **practice their skills in rural communities of Western Australia.**

2. WHAT THE SCHOLARSHIP WILL FUND

Applications can be made for costs associated with undertaking recognised tertiary, higher education and training or conferences in the fields of agriculture, medicine or dentistry.

The scholarship must be for girls and women who:

- Attended one or more Department of Education WA schools in Darkan, Kojonup and Wagin for a minimum of two year, and
- Are aged a minimum of turning 18 the year of the scholarship being awarded

Successful recipients should demonstrate intent to practice or use their skills gained through the scholarship in a rural community of Western Australia.

The Board of the Betty Brown Scholarship intends to award scholarships that can provide an opportunity for a girl or woman of any age to study or train in agriculture, medicine or dentistry.

Education or training can be completed in person or online.

Interstate or international recognised education or training may be considered if the chosen study is not available in Western Australia.

3. WHAT THE SCHOLARSHIP WILL NOT FUND

The Board of the Betty Brown Scholarship will assess each application against the criteria and eligibility, as well as its alignment with the Scholarship intent and principles. The Scholarship will not fund:

- education and training in fields other than agriculture, medicine or dentistry
- education or training of a political nature or purpose

4. SCHOLARSHIP VALUE

- The value of the Scholarship will be limited to the annual income of the fund – currently the Scholarship is for $10 000.
- The Scholarship can only be used for expenses incurred in the relevant year.
- Payments will only be made following the signing of the Scholarship agreement.
- The Scholarship will be paid in instalments or lump sum, as determined by the Board upon presentation of invoices and proof of enrolment / registration / attendance.

5. CONDITIONS DURING THE SCHOLARSHIP PERIOD

The successful recipient will receive a letter of success and a Scholarship Agreement, outlining the awarded amount and any conditions that are associated with the scholarship. A signed copy of the accepted Scholarship Agreement must be returned to the Board within 28 days from the date of the letter of success.

Scholarships may be delayed, suspended, or cancelled if signed agreements are not returned by this date. Decision to delay, suspend, or cancel scholarships is at the discretion of the Board.

The Scholarship will be paid in instalments or lump sum, as determined by the Board upon presentation of invoices and proof of enrolment / registration / attendance. The Scholarship funds will be deposited into a bank account with details provided by the recipient.

If the successful applicant does not undertake the intended activities outlined in their application and in their Scholarship Agreement, all funds must be reimbursed to the Board within 14 days of notifying the Board.

Should the recipient amend their study arrangements through the duration of their scholarship, they must immediately notify the Board. Changes in study may impact the signed Scholarship Agreement and such circumstances may require a variation or cancelation of the Scholarship Agreement. If successful applicants wish to change any details on their course/training, they need to apply in writing to the board for approval to still receive the scholarship.

Successful applicants will be required to provide updates or summary reports to the board during and/or at the completion of the further education or training. This will be in a manner decided upon by the board and may be requested to be delivered in writing or in person. Content of the report may be used for Scholarship publicity and promotion purposes and includes the use of photographs and videos provided by the applicant.

Information about the successful applicant which is contained in the application form and provided to the Board during interviews and reports/updates may be used for publicity purposes, along with content of summary reports and updates. Publicity material includes, but is not limited to, media releases, newsletters, newspaper articles, annual reports, newsletters, audio interviews, website and social media accounts.

Recipients may apply for or be receiving other scholarships, but with full disclosure to the BBSF board of the details.

The decision to grant scholarships is final and no reviews or appeals will be accepted.

Additional conditions may be requested by the Board at any time.

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants must:

1. Provide documentary evidence of attendance at one or more of the Department of Education WA schools in Darkan, Kojonup and Wagin.

2. Provide documentary evidence of enrolment and / or details of the course/training from an educational institution which must be recognised by the BBSF Board.

3. Demonstrate:
    a. How student endeavour and achievement will build capacity and career advancement in field of agriculture, medicine or dentistry.

    b. AND how the scholarship achievement will contribute to a rural community. (Letters of support from relevant sources as well as extracts of current results may be included in hard copy with the application).

4. Provide at least two referees.

5. If successful, permission to use general details (no personal information) and a head and shoulder digital colour photograph for use in publicity and marketing.

7. EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

If in any one year, no female student is awarded the scholarship, it can be awarded to an eligible male student.