

Genazzano FCJ College



Scholarship and Bursary Policy

1. Rationale

Genazzano FCJ College seeks to provide a learning environment that is supportive of individual differences, encourages best effort, and is alive with enthusiasm and activity. We offer an education for life – one that values mind, body and spirit. Modelled on the Charism of the Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, Genazzano is a community of faith, aiming to instil in each student a passion for life, a love of learning and the courage and the confidence to serve others.

Genazzano offers a limited number of Academic, Music and Boarding scholarships as well as Bursaries on an annual basis. A Boarding Scholarship is also available to a student at Hopetoun Hall (Boarding House) entering Year 11. Scholarships recognise achievement and assume a commitment to the College. The number of scholarships and bursaries and their values (percentage of remission of fees) will vary from time to time and are dependent on the College's sources of support, as some scholarships are possible due to the generosity of individual donors.

Genazzano stresses the religious formation of its students and sees education as a partnership with families. Families are expected to share the philosophy, priorities and aims of the College, as set out in the College prospectus, and to support the ethos of its founding order, the Society of Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus. The College expects Scholarship recipients to show broad commitment to school life, beyond single areas of interest.

For the purposes of this policy, a scholarship is awarded to a student based upon academic or music performance and bursaries are awarded to a student based upon family circumstance.

2. Policy Statement

Scholarships are generally tenable for the student's years remaining at the College. At Year 7 scholarships are open to both prospective and current students. At Years 9 and 11 academic scholarships are open to external students only except in the area of Music where a Music Scholarship is available to a current Genazzano student entering Year 9. The Boarding Scholarship is open to students entering Year 11 at Hopetoun Hall.

All scholarships carry substantial and varying remission of fees throughout the student's time at the College. The scholarship application process is consistently over-subscribed and thus it is important that the scholarship holder is subject to annual appraisal and review. No scholarship is awarded on academic excellence alone; in other words, those who score the highest results are not necessarily the ones who receive scholarships. The school reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship in the event of unsatisfactory progress.

All Scholarships are awarded subject to continuing satisfactory behaviour and involvement. In the case of Music Scholarships, the successful student is expected to maintain her interest and involvement in the school music and to participate in music recitals and programs as requested by the Music Department. Generally students are awarded a single scholarship. As academic achievement is also taken into consideration for Music scholarship applicants, prospective candidates must also sit the academic examination except for internal applicants entering Year 9.

Musical auditions are conducted by members of College staff.

In most cases, scholarships provide for some remission of tuition fees only. Genazzano believes that families of scholarship winners should share the educational investment; therefore, in addition to the remaining tuition not covered by a scholarship, parents are required to meet the following expenses by specified due dates, such as:

- Uniforms
- Books
- Extra-curricular activities
- Capital Development Levy
- Alumnae Life Membership

Scholarship applicants are considered based on certain criteria and supporting documentation, as set out in the application form/process. Given the strong interest in scholarships, applicants may be competing against girls with wide and varying abilities and backgrounds that are factors in their possible selection, and only some applicants will be short-listed for interview.

3. Enabling Structures

The College has established guidelines for Scholarship Programs. All scholarship applications are expected to meet the following criteria:

- A commitment to embrace the philosophy of the College. Priority is given to Catholic applicants
- Acceptable performance in an academic examination according to the criteria set by the College, and for music scholarship applicants, acceptable performance in both a music audition and an academic examination
- Internal Scholarship and Prizes applications are advertised in August each year with applications from candidates sought in September and interview and advice by the Principal completed in Term 4
- Academic and Music Scholarships are advertised on-line and in the media in December each year. Scholarships examinations are held the following year in March and applicants are advised by end of April
- The final decision on awarding scholarships will be made by the Principal. All families who have been interviewed will receive notification of this decision
- The College will not enter into discussion concerning reasons for awarding or not awarding either interviews or scholarships.
- The Policy respects the confidentiality of each applicant and, as such, the College does not publicise information about scholarship recipients at any stage in the selection process. Similarly, results of scholarship examinations and music auditions are confidential and not released by the College.

3.1 Academic Scholarships

All applicants must sit an academic examination. The Examinations are administered by an external agency. The Examination process is subject to the payment of a fee. Following the examinations, shortlisted applicants will be invited for interview. The interview panel, chaired by the Principal, will select the successful candidates. Applicants will be required to bring academic transcripts, awards and documentation demonstrating academic capabilities.

3.2 Music Scholarships

Genazzano offers Music Scholarships annually for students entering Years 7, 9 and 11. Auditions take place the preceding year.

As academic achievement is also taken into consideration for Music scholarship applicants, such candidates must also sit the academic examination, except for current Genazzano students entering year 9. The Music Scholarship auditions are conducted by members of College personnel (and external specialist musicians, if applicable).

Year 7

Music Scholarships (including 50% tuition fees and 50% music tuition fees for the **student's main instrument, as charged at Genazzano**) tenable for six years to girls presently in Year 6, whether attending Genazzano FCJ College or entering from another school.

Years 9 and 11

Two Music Scholarships (including 50% tuition fees and 50% music tuition fees) **for the student's main instrument, as charged at Genazzano** at each of Years 9 and 11, tenable for four and two years respectively, to girls who are not currently attending Genazzano FCJ College. A further Music Scholarship is available for Year 8 students currently enrolled in Year 8.

The process for Music Scholarships is set out in the attached protocol.

Music Scholarship Expectations and Review

The successful music scholarship applicant is expected to take an active part in the musical life at the College. This includes attendance at lessons, classes, rehearsals and specified events/activities. Each successful applicant is expected to be part of one or more ensembles that have a specific need for their instrument. The ensemble involvement is determined by the Director of Music through the letter of offer to the successful applicant.

It is also expected that Music Scholarship recipients will participate in the elective music curriculum program at Years 9, 10 and VCE. An annual review of all scholarships will be undertaken by the Director of Music to ascertain the progress of the student.

An annual review meeting may be conducted in the *Second Semester* between the student, parent(s) and Director of Music, (a member of the College Executive staff may also attend) in order to determine the ongoing tenure of the scholarship based on the progress of instrumental study and the commitment to musical life at the College. This review will assess any objectives set by the Director of Music with the student at the beginning of each year. The Director of Music will make a recommendation to the Principal regarding the continuation of the scholarship and the Principal will advise the family of the review decision thereafter.

3.3 Bursaries

In addition to Scholarships the College offers a number of Genazzano Bursaries to existing and incoming students. Some of these are under arrangement with external groups such as Trinity College Primary School, Richmond and the Friday Night School program.

Genazzano FCJ College offers a limited number of Bursaries in order to provide assistance to financially and socially disadvantaged families. The Bursary Fund enables the College to establish places for students from a wide range of backgrounds who would otherwise not be able to attend Genazzano without financial assistance.

Bursaries can be provided to families based on financial hardship and are awarded at the discretion of the Principal. Bursaries can be offered for the duration of a student's education or for a specific year only.

Bursaries can cover part or all of a student's tuition or may only cover partial tuition and they may sometimes include uniform expenses. The nature and time period of a bursary is determined by the Principal.

To apply for a Bursary, families are required to supply the College with their financial details. This can be done by contacting the Principal or the Business Manager, who will require substantive evidence of the family's need.

Bursaries will remain confidential and reviewed by the Principal in the event a family's circumstances change.

Where a Bursary is provide no further fee discount opportunity will be available, such as the full fee payment in advance incentive.

3.4 Boarding Scholarship

Each year, the Gavin Smith Boarding Scholarship is awarded to a student from the Hopetoun Hall boarding community entering Year 11 in honour of the work of one of the early founders of Hopetoun Hall, Mr Gavin Smith. The successful applicant will have demonstrated:

- A commitment to the College, the Boarding House and the ideals of our community
- A sound academic record
- Demonstration of need

This Scholarship is available by application which is administered in Term 4 of each year.

3.5 Special Scholarships

The following Special Scholarships are awarded on an annual basis to VCE students who are deemed to have met particular criteria relating to the respective awards. These scholarships and their tuition credits are detailed below:

Sr Margaret Mary Kennedy	(75% tuition Years 11 and 12)
Dr Vin McKenna Memorial for Science	(50% tuition 11 and 12)

From time to time further special scholarships and bursaries can apply and these are awarded through the generosity of donors at the discretion of the Principal

Each year the College awards Annual Music and Book Prizes to existing students. These Prizes range in value and are presented at the final College Assembly.

4. Reporting and Review

The Policy will be subject to triennial review by the Principal and Deputy Principal, in conjunction with the Registrar and Director of Music. Recipients of Scholarships will also be reviewed to ensure they have continued to meet the respective standards and expectations of the program.

Genazzano FCJ College Music Scholarship Protocol

APPLICATION PROCESS

Each applicant for a Music Scholarship will undertake a practical audition process. Auditions are held in March/April (following the testing) and applicants will be required to register for a 20 minute audition on the day.

Applicants will perform

- Two contrasting pieces (no more than 10 minutes duration in total)
- Technical work (a study or vocalise, scales and arpeggios)
- A sight reading exercise (provided by the Director of Music)
- An aural test (pitching of notes, scale recognition, chords)
- A short aural theory test based on basic musical knowledge

Applicants who learn more than one instrument may audition in more than one instrument. Each applicant must provide her own accompanist. The use of backing tracks is NOT allowed. Applicants must provide a copy of each work to the Director of Music before the start of the audition,

Successful applicants who have auditioned on more than one instrument will only be awarded a Music Scholarship on one instrument.

Applicants for Music Scholarships should have attained the following levels at the time of application:

Year Level	Instrument	AMEB Grade or Equivalent
Year 6 into Year 7	Violin/Pianoforte Other String Instruments Woodwind Brass Percussion Harp Voice	Grade 5 Grade 4 Grade 4 Grade 4 Audition only Audition only Not available at this level
Year 8 into Year 9	Violin/Pianoforte Other String Instrument Woodwind Brass Percussion Voice Harp	Grade 7 Grade 6 Grade 6 Grade 6 Audition only Audition only Audition only
Year 10 into Year 11	Violin/Pianoforte Other String Instrument Woodwind Brass Percussion Voice Harp	Grade 8 Grade 7 Grade 7 Grade 7 Audition only Audition only Audition only