



The Kristen Keegan Future Leaders Scholarship 2025

HunterNet and Business Hunter are excited to announce the opening of applications for the prestigious Kristen Keegan Future Leaders Scholarship 2025. The 10th Anniversary of the HunterNet Future Leaders Program.

"For the eighth consecutive year, HunterNet proudly continues the legacy of Kristen Keegan through the Kristen Keegan Future Leaders Program scholarship. Kristen was a distinguished leader, and this scholarship aims to foster leadership skills in the next generation, encouraging them to follow in her footsteps as devoted advocates of our region." – Ivan Waterfield, CEO HunterNet Co-operative.

As articulated by Ivan, the scholarship is designed to honour Kristen's legacy as a leader in the Hunter business community by covering tuition fees for the Future Leaders Program, scheduled to commence on Thursday, 6th March 2025.

"Although I never had the opportunity to meet Kristen, I felt incredibly privileged to receive the award named in her honour. Kristen's reputation as an advocate for businesses in the Hunter has not only help drive support for businesses in the Hunter but also inspire the next generation of leaders. Participating in the program allowed me to engage with the world-class business leaders and speakers, and the opportunity to collaborate with likeminded future leaders on a transformation project for a local business. This project gave me real-world experience in driving a transformative business strategy, skills that have already helped me in my current role.

Applying for the Kristen Keegan Scholarship was one of the best career decisions I have made, and I would encourage anyone that is eligible to apply" – Liam Power, 2024 Kristen Keegan Scholarship Recipient.

Applications for the scholarship are invited from emerging leaders (up to 30 years old) in the Hunter region who aspire to make a difference, contribute to the community, challenge the status quo, and actively participate in the HunterNet Future Leaders Program community. Applicants must submit a letter of application addressing key criteria, including the meaning of participating in the program, aspirations, past and future career goals, leadership development through overcoming challenges, and the significance of the region's heritage in promoting positive change and innovation.

Assessment Criteria:

- Emerging leader (up to 30 years old) from the Hunter region.
- Aspirations to become a future leader across any industry.



- Commitment to making a difference in the region and the community.
- Willingness to take risks and challenge the status quo.
- Commitment to hard work and active participation in the HunterNet FLP community.

Application Requirements:

- Letter of application addressing specific criteria.
- Demonstration of aspirations and how financial and moral support will contribute to education and personal development.
- Outline of past and future career goals and their impact on leadership skills and business environment.
- Discussion of past, present, and future challenges, and their role in leadership development.
- Reflection on the heritage of the region and its integration with necessary change, innovation, and progression.

Application Deadline: Applications close on Sunday, 2nd February 2025. With Interviews to commence 10th February. All applicants must be available to commence the Program the 6th of March 2025.

For all applications and inquiries, please contact Merran Wiggins, Future Leaders Program Liaison at HunterNet:

- Phone: (02) 4062 7860 or 0414 599 636
- Email: merran@hunternet.com.au