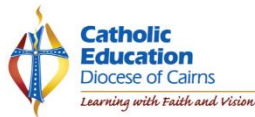
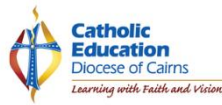
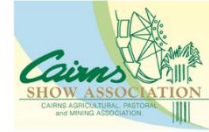


BUSINESS LIAISON ASSOCIATION **MEDICAL SCIENCE AWARD**

SPONSORED BY



2026 AWARD SPONSORS



MEDICAL SCIENCE AWARD

About the Business Liaison Association (BLA)

The Business Liaison Association (BLA) is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to building meaningful connections between education and industry across Far North Queensland – from Cardwell to the Torres Strait and west to the Tablelands and Gulf.

Each year, we empower more than 12,000 students from over 37 schools to explore diverse career pathways, engage with industry mentors, and make informed choices about their futures. By bridging the gap between the classroom and the workplace, we help young people step confidently into their next chapter – and in the process, strengthen the local workforce.

BLA embraces multicultural diversity and First Nations perspectives, fostering respect, understanding, and inclusion for all cultures and identities.

Our Mission

To inspire, inform, and empower the next generation while forging lasting partnerships between schools, business, tertiary institutions, and the community. Together, we're cultivating a skilled, sustainable regional workforce ready for the opportunities of tomorrow.

Our Medical Science Award Sponsors

Hosted by the Business Liaison Association (BLA) in partnership with local schools and community stakeholders in Cairns, North Queensland.

The Business Liaison Association extends its sincere appreciation to Catholic Education Diocese of Cairns, Rotary Cairns Sunrise, and Tong Sign Pty Ltd for their valued sponsorship of the Medical Science Award.

Through their support, we continue to strengthen pathways between education, training, and employment – empowering the next generation of medical professionals across Far North Queensland.

Overview

The Medical Sciences Awards have been established to encourage high-achieving **Year 12 students** from Far North Queensland to **pursue tertiary study in Medicine at James Cook University (JCU)**.

These awards recognise students who demonstrate exceptional academic achievement, community involvement, and a strong commitment to serving rural and remote communities. The initiative aims to support future medical practitioners who aspire to strengthen healthcare services across regional Queensland.

Each successful recipient will receive a \$1,000 bursary, payable upon confirmation of enrolment in the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) at James Cook University in 2026.

The bursary is intended to assist with study and living expenses associated with commencing tertiary education in the medical field.

Conditions of Entry

Schools may nominate **Year 12 students in Cairns and the surrounding region** who demonstrate excellence in their ATAR subjects and intend to pursue a career in **medical sciences at the tertiary level**.

To be considered for these prestigious awards, students must meet the following criteria:

- **Academic Achievement** – Students must have completed Units 3 and 4 in English, Chemistry, and Mathematical Methods, with predicted results of an A grade or higher, certified by the school.
- **ATAR Requirement** – Students must have a predicted ATAR of 89.75 or higher, verified by the School Principal.
- **University Pathway** – Students must intend to commence the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) at James Cook University in Semester 1, 2027.
- **QTAC Preference** – Students must have listed James Cook University (Cairns or Townsville campus) as their first QTAC preference.
- **Written Submission** – Students must submit a typed essay (maximum 500 words) outlining their aspiration to become a medical practitioner serving rural or remote communities in Queensland, together with a current résumé.
- **Supporting Documentation** – Students must provide supporting documentation verified by their school.

Prize & Bursaries

Medical Sciences Bursary (**3 recipients**) \$1,000 each

Bursaries will be awarded to three outstanding students.

Process

1. School-Based Submission

Applications must be submitted through the schools:

- Science Department, or Careers Department
- This ensures appropriate coordination, verification of academic records, and centralised communication with the awards coordinator.

2. Submission Requirements

- Each application must include:
- A completed Application Form
- The student's academic record
- A typed essay (maximum 500 words) outlining the student's interests and aspiration to become a medical practitioner in rural or remote communities in Queensland. This should include related achievements, extra curriculum, work experience and career aspirations.
- A current résumé
- The Application Form must be signed by the School Principal and the Head of Science Department, verifying the student's academic record and submission.
- All documents should be combined and **submitted as a single PDF file, named using the student's full name.**

3. Application Deadline

- All applications must be submitted no later than **Friday, 19 June 2026 (Week 9, Term 2)**
- Late applications will not be accepted.
- Applications and supporting documentation should be submitted electronically to:
Markus Honnef
Cairns State High School
mhonn1@eq.edu.au
- A non-refundable administration fee of \$88.00 (incl. GST) per school applies.
- The fee applies per school (not per student).
- Schools may submit multiple nominations.

4. Interviews

- An interview may be conducted following the initial application review process.
- If an interview is required, shortlisted applicants will be provided with sufficient notice regarding the date, time, and format of the interview.

5. Judging and Award Presentation

- The decision of the judging panel is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
- Successful recipients will be required to attend the Aspire Awards Presentation, where they will receive their bursary and certificate.
- Students must provide certified copies of their Confirmation of Enrolment at James Cook University before finalisation of the award.

6. **Consent and Ethical Standards**

- By entering, students and schools provide consent for photographs and video footage to be taken during interviews, awards event and used for promotional purposes by BLA and its partners.
- Entries must be the original work of the student. The use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini) is not permitted in drafting or writing the submission materials. All submissions must be the student's own original works. Submissions found to breach this condition will be disqualified.
- Students and schools are encouraged to positively promote their achievements on social media and acknowledge support from the Business Liaison Association.
- BLA reserves the right to withdraw awards, bursaries, or recognitions in instances where a recipient publicly defames, misrepresents, or undermines the values or reputation of the BLA, community stakeholders, or their affiliated partners.

Payment Information

An invoice of **\$88.00** will be issued to **each** school on the official closing date of the award.

Awards Night Presentation

Winning students will be formally recognised at the invitation-only Aspire Awards Presentation Evening, details as follows:

- Date: Thursday, 17 September 2026
- Time: 4:45 pm – 7:30 pm
- Venue: Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC)

Award Recipient Requirements

- All award recipients are required to attend the Awards Ceremony in full formal school uniform, in accordance with their school's uniform policy.
- A formal invitation will be issued to each recipient, parent, and their respective school.

Application Form

Please forward the application to both:

Markus Honnef

Cairns State High School
mhonn1@eq.edu.au

Abigail Peter

Business Liaison Association
events@bla.org.au

Please complete the details below correctly.

Student Candidate Information

Legal Name: _____ Preferred Name: _____

Mobile: _____ DOB: _____

Email: _____ Year Level: _____

Address: _____

Please note: If a student is unable to attend the Awards Night, a parent or guardian will be invited to attend and accept the award on the student's behalf.

Parent Name: _____ Parent Mobile: _____

Parent Email: _____

School Information

School Name: _____ Office Ph: _____

Teacher's Name: _____ Teacher's Mob: _____

Teachers Email: _____

Name of Subject: _____ Level of Achievement: _____

Teacher's signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

Principal to Complete

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Predicted level of Achievement

Subject	Predicted Result
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____
5 _____	_____
6 _____	_____

Additional

Please outline your intended post-school pathway, including your QTAC course preferences, Expression of Interest for a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) course, or intention to continue as a School-Based Trainee.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

As outlined above, you are required to submit confirmation of your QTAC application, including details of the institution and course you intend to undertake.

Failure to meet this requirement may result in forfeiture of the monetary component of the award. However, you will still be invited to attend the Awards Night and will receive your certificate of recognition.

Terms and Conditions

I confirm that I have read and understood the guidelines, eligibility criteria, and all information accompanying this application. I declare that the submitted work is my original work and has been completed within the past twelve (12) months. If I am selected as a winner of this Competition, I grant permission to the Business Liaison Association (BLA) to reproduce, publish, and promote my work across media platforms, including, but not limited to, television, associated websites, and social media platforms (including Facebook and similar channels). I acknowledge that my work may attract media interest on behalf of the Business Liaison Association, and I agree to make myself reasonably available for related promotional and media activities where practicable.

Student Signature

Date