



**TOCAL**  
COLLEGE

**LEADER IN AGRICULTURAL TRAINING**



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## TOCAL COLLEGE

### Tocal College Staff

**Principal**  
Cameron Archer

**Deputy Principal**  
Bill Kinsey

**College Manager**  
Basil Gijssbers

**Continuing Education Manager**  
Darren Bayley

**Registrar**  
Wayne Courtney



### Address

**Tocal College**  
Tocal Road, Paterson NSW 2421  
Australia

**Phone:** 1800 025 520

**Fax:** 02 4938 5549

**Email:** info@tocal.com

**Website:** www.tocal.com

## TOCAL HISTORY

After the 1822 European settlement of the property, Tocal was developed into one of Australia's best known beef cattle and thoroughbred stud farms. The name Tocal is an Aboriginal word meaning 'plenty or big'.

For about 90 years Tocal was run by the Reynolds family.

The Alexander family purchased Tocal in 1926. When Charles Alexander died in 1947, he bequeathed his estate to be used to train orphaned and destitute children for agricultural jobs.

Tocal College was opened by the Presbyterian Church in 1965, and in the same year the buildings won the Sulman and Blakett Awards for Architecture.

In 1970, the College came under the umbrella of the NSW Government.

In January, 2005 Tocal College and Murrumbidgee College of Agriculture were consolidated into one college with two campuses - the CB Alexander Campus at Paterson and Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre near Leeton.

The CB Alexander campus contains a 2,200 hectare farm that includes rolling hills, picturesque creeks, rainforests, wetlands, dry sclerophyll forests and good grazing land and river flats suitable for cropping.

The CB Alexander campus provides high quality educational activities using its large commercial farms and the Tocal Homestead offers a unique tourist destination.

## ABOUT TOCAL

Tocal College provides agricultural training and practical experience for school leavers and other people who are interested in a range of careers in agriculture.

Its training is grounded in the great outdoors and the college provides a caring environment that promotes individual and team learning.

Tocal offers practical training on its commercial farms for students, develops skills for primary industries, and provides experience in general agriculture, beef cattle, dairying, horse husbandry, rural business management, sheep production, cropping, conservation and land management.

Renowned as a high quality training provider, Tocal offers part-time and full-time agricultural courses, short courses, distance and flexible learning for Year 10, 11 or 12 school leavers and adults interested in careers in agriculture or in gaining credit towards a university degree.

The college is part of the Tocal Agricultural Centre – a Centre of Excellence within The Department of Industry and Investment, NSW. It consists of the CB Alexander Campus of Tocal College, Advisory and Regulatory Services, Tocal Field Days and Tocal Homestead.

## COMMERCIAL FARMS

CB Alexander Campus, Tocal operates commercial farms that provide ideal practical training for students.

These farms run:

- Up to 1,200 beef cattle
- 100 Australian stock horses
- 220 dairy cows
- Up to 300 sheep for prime lamb and wool production
- Five poultry sheds producing more than one million chickens per year

A network of farmers from NSW, QLD, other states and New Zealand support Tocal students in gaining practical farm work experience.

The Tocal farm is managed under the same conditions as other commercial farming enterprises. It has built a reputation for excellence in farm management for livestock, pastures, cropping, poultry and sustainable land use.





## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry requirements for full-time courses include the completion of year 10 or equivalent (many students have done year 11 or 12), a strong interest in agriculture or horse husbandry and the ability to live and learn independently in a residential situation.

Applicants need to complete the enrolment form (see page 21), arrange an interview at the college and provide a copy of recent school results. Applicants for the Horse Husbandry course need to provide a short video or DVD demonstrating their riding ability and the names of 2 referees.

Students with substantial practical farm experience who have completed Year 12 or worked full time for a period may gain direct entry to the Certificate IV in Agriculture.

Total access and equity policies ensure that all students can gain course entry on an impartial basis including students with disabilities, students from non-English speaking backgrounds, Indigenous Australians and rural and remote students.

Applicants are assessed on their ability to safely carry out practical farm tasks and need minimum literacy and numeracy standards.

## WHERE STUDENTS COME FROM

Total students come from throughout New South Wales, especially the Greater Sydney Region, Illawarra, the Hunter Region, North Coast, South Coast, Central Coast, Southern Tablelands, New England and Western regions of NSW. Some students also come from interstate.

## SKILLS RECOGNITION

Total students may gain credit for skills or knowledge gained at school, on farms, through TAFE or other educational providers.

This 'Recognition of Prior Learning' means applicants do not have to complete units of a course if they already know the work. These students can use the time to gain additional skills and experience.



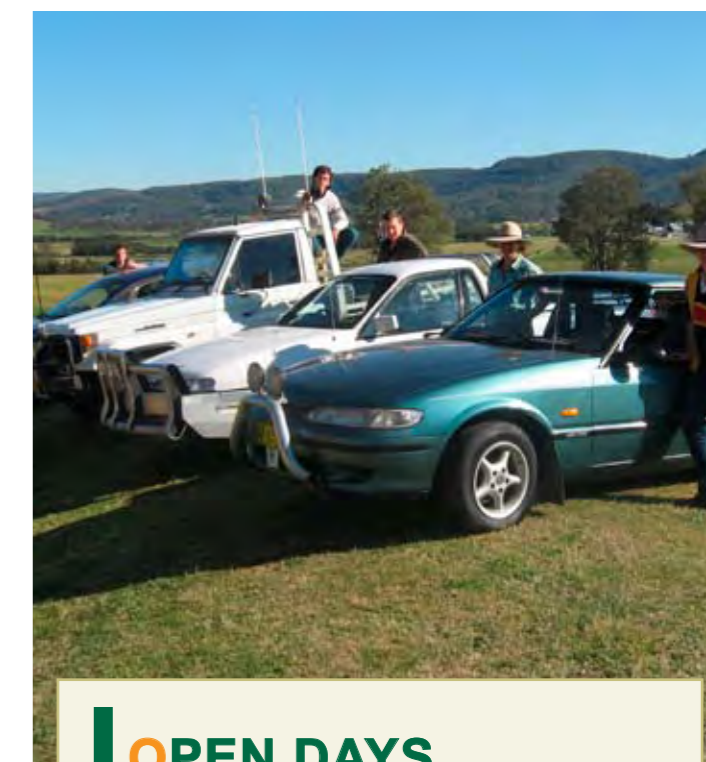
## UNIVERSITY ARTICULATION

Arrangements are in place for Total graduates to receive credit at most NSW universities that offer agriculture or related courses. In many cases, these articulation arrangements involve a certain amount of credit towards a degree. This credit shortens the time and reduces the cost of university studies.

## CAREER PATHS

Total graduates get jobs! They are in demand by employers because they receive a firm foundation in practical agriculture, industry experience and good interpersonal skills.

Graduates enter careers on farms and rural businesses, in management, education, research, business or environmental areas. A Total course prepares graduates to adapt to change, gain promotion and explore new career options.



## OPEN DAYS

Open days provide an ideal forum to visit the college and get a feel for what life as a student is really like. During open days students get the opportunity to chat to teaching staff, receive an overview of courses, and take a tour of the college and its commercial farms. These open days are held every Friday during the July and October School Holidays.

## STUDENT SERVICES



### College Life

Students can enjoy an exciting and varied social life and sporting activities organised by the Student Association and participate in numerous college events and activities.

The CB Alexander campus is close to the thriving city of Maitland and the world-famous Hunter Vineyards, the beaches of Newcastle and Port Stephens and the Barrington Tops National Park.

### College Accommodation

Single room accommodation is provided for students who want to live on campus. Rooms contain a bed and desk, lockable cupboards for storage, heaters and fans.

Shared bathroom facilities are provided in the main residences. Glendarra accommodation has ensuite bathrooms for mature age students.

Students often make lifelong friends who have similar interests and goals. The peer support provided by fellow students and the personal development opportunities are the strengths of the residential experience.

During their time at the college, students develop independence and maturity and the ability to work and live cooperatively with others.

### Student Support

Total staff are committed to providing support to help students succeed in their chosen courses.

At the beginning of the year students are allocated staff tutors who act as mentors. Students can gain assistance with literacy and numeracy and other support through their tutors.

Counselling and other support services can be arranged for students who need these.

First aid treatment is available from qualified staff and assistance with medical appointments is provided when required.

### Career Support

Total runs a variety of programs to give students a headstart in job planning and placement. These services include one-on-one advice, work experience programs, local and overseas tours, employer days, information on occupations, and award conditions and job vacancy information.

Students are shown how to prepare their resumes in a professional and appealing style and are given training to assist them with job interviews.



### Financial Support

There are a wide range of scholarships and government grants to help students meet college fees and accommodation costs. Most Total students receive at least one scholarship. Any student from the Western Division or Riverina/Murray regions is automatically awarded a \$2000 scholarship.

### Internet

During their course, students can use the college internet facilities to access information on a wide variety of topics. The computer room is available during the day and after hours to allow students to keep in touch with family and friends.

Wireless internet services can be accessed by students with their own laptops or PCs. Students should check with their internet provider to ensure there is suitable coverage at the college.

### Student Recreation

A range of recreational facilities are available on campus. These include a large hall for indoor sports and social activities, student common rooms, internet facilities, wide-screen television and DVD player, tennis courts and a swimming pool.

There are good spots for fishing and water activities on campus and in the local area. Most sports are catered for in Maitland and the Lower Hunter and staff can assist with contacts to join local clubs. The college regularly organises trips for shopping, movies, bowling and other activities.

Many students get involved in local shows, rodeos and other events and have the opportunity to work at the Royal Easter Show in Sydney and the annual Total Field Days that are held on the first weekend in May.

## JOBS FOR TOTAL GRADUATES

A Total education prepares graduates for a wide variety of agricultural and horse industry positions and encourages life-long learning.

### Farm Manager

Graduates who aspire to become farm managers usually complete a Certificate IV and/or Diploma of Agriculture. A farm manager needs managerial skills to organise and operate a business, plan and manage various enterprises, keep records and supervise staff.

### Farmhand/Stationhand

A farmhand/stationhand is employed by farmers and graziers to grow crops, manage livestock and carry out the wide range of tasks required to operate a commercial farm.

### Horsebreaker/Horsetrainer

Good horsebreakers are in strong demand. They are involved in training horses to ride, work cattle and compete in a range of competitions including camp drafting, stockhorse events, equestrian competitions and thoroughbred racing.

### Jackaroo or Jillaroo

Jackaroos (male) and Jillaros (female) are station employees who perform a wide range of outdoor activities on cattle and sheep stations. Usually they live in shared accommodation on the property.



### Stock & Station Agent

Stock and station agents provide advice and act for farmers and graziers in business deals including buying and selling of livestock, wool, fertiliser, farming and grazing land, stock and equipment.

### Vet Nurse

A vet nurse provides health care for hospitalised animals, gives medication or injections, helps vets during examinations and operations and carries out laboratory tests.

### Equine Dentist

An equine dentist is a specialist who carries out periodic checks on horses' mouths to help maximise their riding and stamina. Horse owners consult dentists to check horses' teeth and gums about once a year.

### Equine Chiropractor

An equine chiropractor has studied to be a chiropractic doctor with a veterinary specialty. Spinal adjustment techniques for horses are different and often the chiropractor uses the horse's own movements to facilitate spinal adjustment.

### Horse Massage Therapist

A horse massage therapist helps to ease muscle fatigue and spasms that reduce the risk of the horse pulling or tearing muscles. This facilitates horse movement and flexibility by improving blood circulation and reducing inflammation in joints and muscles.



### Woolclasser

A woolclasser classifies fleeces, according to length and quality, straight after shearing and prepares the clip for sale. Many wool classers travel round Australia from shed to shed; others class their employer's woolclip or do it as a sideline to make extra money during the shearing season.

## TOCAL EX-STUDENTS



### Mick Fetch

Novocastrian-born Mick Fetch loved music from an early age and was influenced by the music styles of Slim Dusty, Roy Orbison, Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley. He came to Tocal and then worked in agriculture for a number of years. Now, he has a flourishing solo musical career in the Hunter.



### David Gibson

David Gibson is the manager of both 'Kelvin Park' and 'Rainbow Valley' near Dorrigo on the NSW North Coast. He runs a leading, mixed-farming operation breeding and backgrounding Angus cattle and a fodder conservation business. In 2009, David was a runner-up in the NSW Young Farmer of the Year Awards.



### Rebecca Wicks

After graduating from Tocal, Rebecca embarked on a variety of careers that included; 1 year as a vet nurse, 7 years with the NSW Police and 7 years as a flight attendant with Qantaslink. She is now a Mum with two boys, working casually at Horseland and riding and showing horses.

### Megan Mosely

Megan Mosely and her husband Andrew manage 'Etiwanda' and 'Manuka' Stations in Western NSW that support a diverse livestock mix, including a white Dorper sheep stud, Santa Gertrudis Shorthorn Cross cattle and Boer Cross does. They strive to achieve an environmentally regenerative, low input, red-meat production enterprise. In 2009, Megan and Andrew were runners-up in the NSW Farmer of the Year Awards.



### Tim Chaffey

After Tim used his Tocal Diploma to complete a Degree in Rural Business Management, he said; "I never thought I would go to Uni, but my time at Tocal showed me I could handle the theory and gave me a taste for further study." He enjoys marketing, farm management and his goal is to work in the grains industry.



### Jamie Curl

Jamie left Tocal in 1998 and worked on 'Cowl Cowl' Station at Hillston. 'Cowl Cowl' runs up to 20,000 sheep and 3,000 cashmere goats. In 2001, he took a job in Dubbo with 'Mirambie Feedlot'. Then he worked on a large cattle station about 400km North East of Alice Springs. In 2004, he returned home to Scone to work in rural merchandise sales with Dairy Farmers stores. In Dec 2007, he was promoted to branch manager with Elders in Scone.



## TOCAL COURSES

The aim of Tocal courses is to provide industry relevant skills and knowledge, to prepare students for positions on farms, horse properties and in other rural businesses.

Whether students decide to complete a full time, part time or short course, a Tocal course is a memorable learning experience in the great outdoors.

Tocal is the main provider of agricultural training programs in NSW.

### Full Time Courses

Tocal full time courses lead to exciting farming or farm related jobs or to higher education.



### Certificate III in Agriculture

A practical one-year certificate, this course gives students who have completed Year 10, 11 or 12 an opportunity to enter a variety of career paths in agriculture.

#### Practical Work

A large proportion of this course involves practical training in commercial farming including beef cattle, horses, farm machinery, sheep, cropping, dairy cattle, fencing, and general farm skills. Students gain work experience on the College farms and other commercial farms throughout the Hunter Valley. Training in a wide range of practical farm skills ensures that students are in strong demand by employers.

#### Group Work

Learning together is part of the Tocal experience. Students improve their team skills by working in small groups to examine issues relevant to farmers. They also improve their knowledge by participating in tours, lectures and demonstrations.

#### Individual Work

Through self-paced learning, students explore areas of individual interest to gain a firm grounding for chosen careers. They complete practical projects that help develop skills and knowledge in selected fields.





### Certificate III in Horse Husbandry

The Certificate III in Horse Husbandry is a practical one-year course that gives students who have completed Year 10, 11 or 12 an opportunity to get practical training in the horse industry.

#### Practical Work

More than 50% of this course is allocated to practical training in horse breeding, hoof care and dentition, broodmare management, horse husbandry, horse training and stock work. Work experience is available on the Tocal commercial farms and Hunter horse properties.

#### Horse Riding/ Training

Students spend a lot of their time developing their riding and horse training skills. Most students have the opportunity to break in and train young stockhorses. A 'Stockhorse Challenge' held at the end of the course allows students to demonstrate the skills they have learnt during the year.

#### Individual Work

Individual projects help students develop skills and knowledge relating to selected fields in horse husbandry.



### Certificate IV in Agriculture

This one-year advanced course is open to students with substantial farm experience or graduates of the Certificate III in Agriculture or similar courses.

#### Practical Work

About eight weeks of this course are devoted to providing students with practical experience on commercial farms in NSW, QLD, NT or New Zealand. Many students opt to work on large pastoral properties in Northern Australia that provide valuable work experience for those interested in the livestock industries. Others work on cropping properties or for rural businesses such as stock and station agents.

#### Electives

Students can choose from a range of elective units including beef cattle, feedlot, show preparation, sheep production, crops, irrigation, livestock nutrition, pasture management, farm machinery, organic farming, shearing, and wool classing. These units often include practical work on College farms or visits to other commercial farms in the Hunter and Western NSW.

#### Group Work

During most units, students work in small groups and experience a range of learning activities including group discussions, internet research, practical demonstrations, guest speakers and farm visits.





### Diploma of Agriculture

The Diploma of Agriculture is open to students who are enrolled in the Certificate IV. Students undertake extra units in their spare time with staff support. This course is particularly appropriate for those students who have completed Year 12.

The Diploma focuses on farm business management, planning and management of livestock, pastures, irrigation and financial and physical resources.

Total graduates with a Diploma of Agriculture receive credit at an increasing number of universities including Western Sydney, New England, Charles Sturt, Newcastle and the University of Queensland (Gatton).



These credits towards university degrees allow students to gain university entrance and can shorten the time students take to finish a degree.

The Diploma is also available as an external study course.

### Part Time Courses

#### Traineeships

This course is for trainees who are employed on farms throughout NSW. Farms can be dairy, beef, sheep, horse or mixed farming operations. Trainees come to Tocal for blocks of training throughout the year. Traineeships can be 1, 2 or 3 year duration and lead to a qualification at the end of each year.

Farmers who employ trainees may qualify for financial support from the NSW Government.

College training includes visits to commercial farms in NSW, and at least one tour to another state or New Zealand.



## External Study Courses

### Diploma of Conservation and Land Management

This course is designed for those interested in environmental conservation and land management. Students can enrol at any time and study at their own pace.

### Diploma of Agriculture

Aimed at people with experience in agriculture and farm management, this course provides for substantial credit towards a degree qualification. Credit is also available for previous training and on-the-job experience.

### Individual Units

Units from the external courses can be purchased without having to enrol in the course. They have been developed using the expertise of Tocal staff and other industry experts. They are easy to read and suitable for farmers and others interested in agriculture and conservation and land management.

### Profarm Short Courses

Each year, a large number of practical one and two day courses are held at Tocal and in other locations around the state. These are extremely popular with farmers and newcomers to agriculture. Included in the numerous courses are Improved Pastures, Farm Chemicals, Horsecare and Handling, Native Pastures, Beef Care and Handling, Beekeeping, Permaculture, Livestock Assessment, Fencing, Chainsaws and Safe Tractor Operation and Maintenance.



## A GUIDE TO COLLEGE FEES

Industry & Investment NSW (DII) sets fees prior to the start of the courses. Tocal offers students several fee payment options and the college can supply details of these fee plans prior to enrolment. A deposit is required by mid January to secure a place in their selected course.

Tocal students may qualify for financial help, in the form of Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY/AUSTUDY or from a large range of scholarships that are offered to Tocal applicants. Most students receive scholarships to help them meet the costs of fees.

The scholarships are listed in this publication and applications for these need to be submitted by the end of November. Successful applicants are notified in December.

Please note that applicants need to be enrolled to do a Tocal course prior to applying for a scholarship.

Application forms for course entry and scholarships can be accessed at the back of this prospectus or through our website [www.tocal.com](http://www.tocal.com)

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO ATTEND Tocal

**Gill Family Memorial Scholarship** (\$1,000)  
Provided by descendants of William and Sussanah Gill

**Hunt Family Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
Provided by David and Judy Hunt.

**Gardiner Family Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
Commenced in 2004, from a fund set up by John and Bruce Gardiner

**George and Jenny Hammond Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
Commenced in 2005, from a fund set up by G and J Hammond

**Cnh Case/Ih Scholarships** (\$2,500 each)  
2 scholarships provided by the Case/IH Machinery Company

**DII Scholarships** (\$2,000 each)  
3 scholarships sponsored by DII NSW

**Western Division/Riverina Scholarships** (\$2,000 each)  
For students from the Western Division/Riverina/Murray regions

**Tocal Ex-students Association Scholarships**  
Provided by ex-students of the College

**Friends of Tocal Scholarship** (\$2,000 each)  
2 scholarships to cover College tuition fees

**Tocal Students Association Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
1 scholarship provided by current students

**C B Alexander Foundation Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
For a second year student in Certificate IV in Agriculture

**The University of Newcastle Scholarship** (\$2,000)  
For students interested in attending university after Tocal

## SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE TO ATTEND TOCAL

### Paspaley Pearls Properties Scholarship (\$2,000)

Funded by Paspaley Pearls which owns large farming operations in NSW and employs college graduates

### Australian Stockhorse Society Scholarship

(\$2000) For a student in the Cert III in Horse Husbandry

### Bill Bannister Scholarships (\$2,000 each)

3 Scholarships - Preference is given to students from the south-west of NSW

### Jeff Stevenson Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000)

Established in 2005, from a fund set up by Mrs Barbara Stevenson

### Rosemary Dunlop Memorial Scholarship

(\$2,000) Established in 2005, from a fund set up by Mr Ian Dunlop

### Sandy & Amanda Brooks Scholarship (\$2,000)

Provided by an ex-member of the College Advisory Council

### Holiday Coast Credit Union Scholarship

(\$1,000 each) 2 scholarships for students who live in the area serviced by the Credit Union (Coffs Harbour to Maitland)

### Widden Thoroughbred Stud Scholarships

(\$2,000 each) 2 scholarships available

### Hunter Water (\$1,000-\$2,000 each)

3 scholarships available

### Big Brother Movement (BBM Ltd) Scholarships

(\$1,000-\$3,000 each) A number of scholarships may be available. Applications are accepted from current students when funds become available during the year

### Country Education Foundation

Awarded to students from regional areas of NSW

### Australian Wool Education Trust

(\$3,000 each) 3 scholarships available - awarded to students interested in sheep and wool production

### Sydney Rotary Club (Soukup Awards)

(\$3,000-\$4,000 each) Support for disadvantaged students with a preference for those from indigenous backgrounds

### NSW Farmers' Association Scholarship

(About \$5,000) For students whose parents are members of NSW Farmers' Association (Applications available from the NSW Farmers')

### GRDC (\$3,000 each)

A number of scholarships are available each year from the Grains Research and Development Corporation

### North Australian Pastoral Company (NAPCo)

(\$2,000) For a Certificate IV student wanting to work in the northern cattle industry

For further information visit [www.tocal.com](http://www.tocal.com)



## APPLICATION FORM - FULL-TIME COURSES & TRAINEESHIPS

Please note: • You need to enrol in the college prior to being considered for a scholarship

• Please use capital letters (upper case) to complete this form

### Your personal information

Surname: ..... Given names: .....

Preferred name: ..... Date of birth: ...../...../.....

Home address: .....

City/town: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....

Home phone: ( ) ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

Gender: (Please tick)  Male  Female

### Your parent guardian employer (Please tick the one the below information refers to)

Surname: ..... Given names: .....

Company name: (trainees only).....

Address: .....

City/town: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....

Home phone: ( ) ..... Business: ( ) .....

Relationship to applicant: .....

### Parent 2

Surname: ..... Given names: .....

Address: .....

City/town: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....

Home phone: ( ) ..... Business: ( ) .....

Relationship to applicant: .....

### Who is responsible for your fees?

Surname: ..... Given names: .....

Company name: (trainees only).....

Address: .....

City/Town: ..... State: ..... Postcode: .....

Home phone: ( ) ..... Business: ( ) .....

Relationship to applicant: .....

Signature: .....

### Your education

Your highest secondary education (Please tick one only):  Year 9  Year 10  Year 11  Year 12

Last year at school: .....

Year 10 results: English ..... Maths ..... Agriculture .....

Year 12 results: Universities Admission Index (UAI).....



**Financial Information**

Taxable income last financial year: (This information remains confidential to the college selection panel)

Applicant income \$ ..... Type of Work: .....  
 Parents' income (Father) \$ ..... Position: .....  
 (Mother) \$ ..... Position: .....

Brothers/sisters still living at home:

Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....  
 Name: ..... Year at school: .....

Others who live in your house and their relationship to you:

Name: ..... Relationship: .....  
 Name: ..... Relationship: .....  
 Name: ..... Relationship: .....

Do you receive ABSTUDY/Austudy or Youth Allowance? (Please tick one only)  Yes  No

Amount per fortnight \$ .....

Do you expect to receive this at Tocal? (Please tick)  Yes  No

Have you submitted your application to attend Tocal? (Please tick)  Yes  No

Have you been to the college for an interview? (Please tick)  Yes  No

References: (State names and phone numbers of two people who are prepared to act as referees)

.....  
 .....

**Declaration**

I declare that the information provided on this form and its attachments are correct. I have attached a letter and copies of recent tax returns.

Signature: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

Witness' Name: ..... Signature: .....

Occupation: .....

(Justice of the Peace, teacher, accountant or solicitor who can confirm the details on this application are true and correct)

Allocation of scholarships is based on an assessment of the student's potential to do well in the course and his/her family's financial position with respect to paying college fees. **Please attach copies of a recent tax return** (This year's or last year's or a statement by an accountant for you and your parents stating the taxable income for your household).

**Please complete this form and return to:** The Principal, Tocal College, Tocal Road, Paterson NSW 2421





### Tocal College Campuses

- **Tocal CB Alexander Campus**, near Paterson, Hunter Valley is located about 180km north of Sydney
- **Murrumbidgee Rural Studies Centre, Yanco** near Leeton, is located about 600km southwest of Sydney

**TOCAL**  
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CB Alexander Campus  
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Australia

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