

# THE FRANK DOWNING SCHOLARSHIP

May 2018



**CAMBRIDGE AUSTRALIA  
SCHOLARSHIPS LTD**

# Summary

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- The Frank Downing Scholarship has been established to honour Frank Downing CBE QC, who had a long and distinguished career as a leading commercial lawyer in Western Australia.
- The Scholarship is a half-scholarship for a Masters Degree at Cambridge University.
- The Scholarship is one of the Cambridge Australia Scholarships.
- Cambridge Australia Scholarships (CAS) is the main source of scholarships for outstanding Australian graduates to undertake Masters and Ph.D studies at the University of Cambridge.

# University of Cambridge

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- Cambridge University celebrated its 800th anniversary in 2009.
- Consistently rated among the top universities in the world.
- More Nobel Prize winners (96) than any other institution.
- Leading global research institution (Microsoft, Astra Zeneca, BP, Philips, et al. have established major research laboratories in Cambridge).
- Cambridge academics and students have spawned “Silicon Fen” – the largest high technology business hub outside of Silicon Valley.
- Highly international staff and student body (especially at the postgraduate level); offers immersion in a global community.
- Collegiate structure facilitates inter-disciplinary discussion as well as non-academic activities.

# Cambridge Australia Scholarships (CAS)

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- The main source of scholarships for outstanding Australian graduates to undertake Masters and Ph.D studies at the University of Cambridge.
- In collaboration with its partners, CAS awards up to ten Ph.D scholarships and a growing number of Masters scholarships each year.
- Hundreds of scholars have been supported by CAS since its establishment (as Cambridge Australia Trust) in 1983.
- Awarded the first scholarship to an indigenous Australian to attend Cambridge, in conjunction with the Charlie Perkins Trust, in 2012.
- Relies entirely on individual and corporate donations and bequests.
- Operates via several partnerships, including with the Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust (Cambridge Trust), the Australian National University, and Ormond College at the University of Melbourne.

# Frank Downing (Early Life and Career)

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- Born in South Perth, Frank Downing attended the High School (now Hale School) from 1917 to 1924.
- Frank commenced 5-year articles in 1925 and, when the University of Western Australia Law School was founded in 1928, enrolled in eight subjects, attaining honours in each. Having been admitted to the Western Australian Bar in 1930, he returned to the University of Western Australia as a part time lecturer in law from 1934 to 1940.
- Frank served during the war and afterwards returned to practice, principally in the areas of taxation, insurance, maritime and company law, and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1952.

# Frank Downing (Later Career)

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- Frank was also a director, and in several cases, chairman, of a number of well-known local companies, including Amalgamated Collieries Ltd, Nicholsons Ltd, Swan Portland Cement Ltd, British Petroleum Co of Australia Ltd, Wigmores Ltd, Bunnings Timber Holdings Ltd, WA Chip & Pulp Co Pty Ltd, Bell Group Ltd, Bell Resources, Wesdelf Ltd and the Royal Insurance.
- Further, Frank served as a director of BP (Kwinana) for some 20 years.
- In 1982 Frank was awarded the CBE for his services and contribution to the legal profession.

# The Frank Downing Scholarship

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- Established, initially as a cash prize, to honour the career of Frank Downing CBE QC.
- In 2014 the endowment reached a point where, in a co-funding arrangement with Cambridge Australia Scholarships, we are proud to be able to award a Masters half-scholarship.
- This scholarship is awarded to assist West Australian graduates of outstanding academic merit in completing a Masters Degree at Cambridge University.
- The Frank Downing Scholarship is supported by members of the Downing Family, HWL Ebsworth (the Perth office of which was previously Downing & Downing) and members of the West Australian legal and business communities, including Mr Chris Rowe, who initiated the creation of the prize.
- The Scholarship is worth approximately \$35,000 p.a. (half-scholarship).

# Eligibility

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- Open to Australian Citizens, either born in Western Australia OR having taken a degree from a Western Australian university, with a preference for candidates wishing to study law and who meet the requirements for a place on a (non-MBA) Masters program at Cambridge (only after a conditional offer from the University has been made will a candidate be considered for a scholarship).
- Interviews are required and candidates must:
  - show proven academic excellence, supported by appropriate references
  - demonstrate achievements in other field(s) and the energy to use their talents to the full as exemplified by contribution to the community and organisations to which they belong; and
  - be of excellent character and have a commitment to ethical leadership



# Applying

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- All applications for both a place and a scholarship must be made through the Graduate Admissions Office at the University of Cambridge at <http://www.graduate.study.cam.ac.uk/>.
- Applications for study in 2019 are due at the Graduate Admissions Office no later than **early December 2018** (or the course deadline, if earlier).
- By submitting one Graduate Application Form (GAF) per course you will be considered for:
  - Admission to a course of graduate study or research by the relevant Department or Faculty at Cambridge;
  - Admission to a College by one or more of the Cambridge Colleges (all Cambridge scholars are required to be a member of one of the Cambridge Colleges); and
  - Funding offered by the Cambridge Commonwealth, European & International Trust.
- Applicants who wish to be considered for funding by CAS must complete the funding section of the graduate online application (via the Applicant Portal)

# Contacting CAS

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- Cambridge Australia Scholarships Ltd can be contacted via:

**Emily-Rose Carr, Executive Officer**

**Cambridge Australia Scholarships**

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