

“... because anything is possible when I’m the best that I can be.”

# The TKIS Honours Scholarship

- All Honours students (students who have earned 20 or more Merits) are automatically awarded the Honours Scholarship of 10% off all eligible school fees.
- A family can apply for a higher Scholarship value (discounts) of up to 80% off all eligible school fees. The final Scholarship amount depends on your household income.
- Fees eligible for Scholarship discounts include all Tuition Fees, all compulsory excursion fees, a majority of High School Mastery Fees, and more.



“Our message is that private schooling should be as much about a child’s commitment to **being the best that they can be** as it is about a parent’s ability to pay private school fees. With this in mind, our Honours Scholarships are designed...

**...to make TKIS more affordable for the children who can benefit most from private schooling.”**

## FAQs on Honours Scholarships for TKIS parents

### 1. What IS a TKIS Honours Scholarship?

In today’s tough economic climate, many good families in our region are battling to juggle private school fees with the high cost of living. The Honours Scholarship is a program developed by the school which recognises the amazing financial sacrifices that parents make to give their children the benefits of a private school education (which include higher standards of dress and behaviour, smaller class sizes and a safer learning environment).

The objective of the Scholarship program is to provide much-needed financial assistance and an incentive to the families of remarkable young Queensland children to come to and remain at TKIS.

“Part of our school’s mission is to attract and retain the best students in the state. We want the decision to attend TKIS to be a commitment to high standards and our children being the best that they can be... not simply because parents can afford it.” Geoff Mills – Principal TKIS.

With that in mind, every Honours Student (every student who has worked hard to reach 20 or more Merits within the school’s Honours System) will be awarded an Honours Scholarship that will take the form of discounts or rebates on their school fees. The exact level of discount will depend on several factors.

Parents/carers of scholarship recipients will have the option of simply accepting a standard ten percent (10%) rebate/discount on eligible fees or they can opt for a Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate/Discount Rate (financial data required) which could potentially earn them significantly greater rebates/discounts... up to eighty percent (80%). According to Bureau of Statistics data, *most families in the Scenic Rim region will qualify for rebate/discount rates of 30% or more* based on the means-tested formula the school uses.

### 2. My child is already an Honours student. Do I have to apply for an Honours Scholarship or will my child automatically be awarded one?

If one or more of your children are Honours Students, you will receive an Honours Scholarship Acceptance Form via your TKIS Online Parent Portal (and via email) at the end of the current term.

For students who are still working towards their Honours Badge, the process is: at the end of each term, students who have earned 20 Merits or more will be presented with their Honours Badge. After the presentation, the school will send parents the Acceptance Form for the Honours Scholarship via the Parent Portal Notices and email. If you require a printed form, or if you have not received one by the end of the term, please contact the school’s Admin on Ph: 5544 5500.

- The Acceptance Form is a simple document that allows you to indicate to the school whether you wish to accept the Standard (Non-means-tested) Scholarship Rebate of a 10% discount on all eligible fees and charges associated with your Honours Student child(ren) or whether you wish to volunteer your financial data and opt for a Means-Tested Rebate Rate which could offer you greater discounts (up to 80%) based on your household’s taxable income from the previous financial year.
- The Acceptance Form will explain the process for the Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate/Discount and the type of information the school will require to be able to calculate your eligibility and discount levels.
- Once you have submitted your Honours Scholarship Acceptance Form, your rebates/discounts from the Scholarship will be calculated and will commence the following term. A written advice will also be sent to you via the Parent Portal Notices and via email.

### 3. What discount will we receive if we opt for the Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate?

The default value (the Standard Rebate) of an Honours Scholarship is a 10% discount on all eligible TKIS fees and charges. However, families can elect to opt for a Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate/Discount by providing their verifiable Household Income evidence to the school, and in so doing, can potentially earn greater rebates/discounts of up to 80%. The calculation is a complicated formula (adjusted slightly each year) but, as a guide, examples in the table below show the level of rebate/discount for 2017 and 2018 that various taxable income levels would qualify for based on the 2016 Tax Assessment of all persons in that household.

Household Income	≤ \$37,015	\$40,000	\$50,000	\$60,000	\$70,000	\$80,000	\$90,000	\$100,000	\$110,000	\$120,000	≥ \$127,704
Discount on Eligible TKIS Fees	80%	78%	70%	62%	55%	47%	39%	31%	24%	16%	10%

### 4. If we choose to volunteer our financial data, how private will this information be?

You are protected by Federal and State confidentiality and privacy legislation that prohibits the school from disclosing any information you submit to the public or any third party. Only the Principal, the Bursar and one or two school admin staff who are required to enter data, will ever have access to any financial information you volunteer. All school staff who are authorised to deal with this type of information are required to sign official confidentiality agreements. Only the resultant rebate/discount rate that your children receive through the scholarship program will appear on your private school statements.

### 5. Do we HAVE to provide our household financial data to the school to obtain fee discounts?

No. The parents/carers of every Honours Student will automatically be offered the standard 10% rebate/discount rate, even if you choose to NOT provide your financial information. Providing financial data is optional and is only required if you wish to apply for the Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate/Discount Rate (i.e. greater than 10%).

### 6. Sometimes you use the word Rebate and other times Discount. What's the difference?

They pretty much mean the same thing, except a discount is offered in advance and a rebate is offered afterwards. So, the year your child qualifies for the Honours Scholarship, you're technically being offered a rebate on the remaining terms' fees for the year, but next year, you'll be offered a discount off the upcoming year's fees.

### 7. Which fees are eligible for the Scholarship discount and which aren't?

**ELIGIBLE:** All Tuition Fees, all High School Mastery Fees (except for Aviation Mastery and Equestrian Mastery), all second-hand uniforms purchased through the school's uniform shop and even a proportion of Boarding Fees are eligible for the Scholarship discount. Class Excursion Fees, Field Trips, etc. (if they're defined by the school as compulsory) WILL be eligible for Scholarship discounts.

**NOT ELIGIBLE:** Bus fares are currently NOT eligible for Honours Scholarship discounts. The \$400 per family per year Capital Works Levy is compulsory and unfortunately not eligible for discount. Items that attract GST (e.g. uniforms, equipment, etc.) cannot be discounted. Things that you would normally have to pay for at a government school (textbooks, uniforms, stationery etc.) won't be eligible for discount.

### 8. How long is the Scholarship Discount Valid for?

Once awarded, the Scholarship discount is valid until the end of the following school year. If your child has 20 merits or more at the end of either Term 3 or Term 4, the Scholarship discount will be automatically rolled-over into the following year, but to remain eligible for discounts greater than 10%, Tax Assessment data must be submitted and reassessed annually.

### 9. Are Honours Scholarship discounts retroactive? Can they be applied to past debts?

No. Honours Scholarships are only applicable to current fees and are not retroactive, e.g. if a student is offered an Honours Scholarship in Term 2, their Honours Scholarship discounts will commence at the beginning of the following term, in this case, Term 3.

- If a family is suffering from financial difficulty with TKIS debts pertaining to previous years, they should contact the school's Principal separately and immediately.

### 10. Are Boarding Fees included in the Honours Scholarship?

Yes. A portion of the boarding fees are included. However, there are certain aspects of boarding that attract GST which make them ineligible for discounts (food and catering for example). Generally speaking, Honours Scholarship discounts only work on about 70% of boarding fees, and the remaining 30% of boarding fees have to be paid in full. Also, note that Boarding Students are themselves subject to the Honours System after school hours. Merits and Demerits will be issued to boarders at all times while they're living on campus, so a Boarding Student will need to be maintain Honours Student behaviour while at school and while boarding at the school.

**NOTE:** Families who qualify for financial assistance from the Government's Living Away From Home Allowance Scheme and the Assistance for Isolated Children Scheme will still qualify for the school's Honours Scholarship program. However, families must declare to the government the level of discount they received from the school in subsequent LAFHS or AICS applications.

### 11. What happens if my child loses their Scholarship eligibility?

If a student ceases to be a TKIS Honours Student, they cease to be eligible for the Scholarship and the parent/guardian loses their fee discount eligibility for that child as of the next year.

### 12. What if some of my children qualify for an Honours Scholarship but others don't?

Honours Scholarships are student-based. Children who are TKIS Honours Students win an Honours Scholarship and their parents/carers qualify for fee discounts. Those who are not Honours Scholarship holders do not qualify for fee discounts. All TKIS Fees that are eligible for Honours Scholarship discounts are 'student-based' fees... e.g. tuition, High School Mastery, second-hand uniforms purchased for a specific child, class excursions, etc.

### 13. Does the school offer any other form of Scholarship for academic achievement or state sporting representation, etc?

No. However, parents of new and prospective students can apply to the school for a Provisional Honours Scholarship. The Equestrian Mastery program (excluded from the Honours Scholarship), will continue to offer its traditional 50% fee discount for the year following any student who represents the State at National Competitions.

### 14. There are people living in our household who do not contribute in any way to my child's school fees. Do their taxable income need to be included if we opt for the Voluntary Means-Tested Rebate/Discount Rate?

No. Only the adults listed as parents, guardians, carers or persons responsible financially for your child (as listed in their school Enrolment Form) need to volunteer income information.

### 15. Why are the Honours Scholarships means-tested?

Technically, they're not. It's only the level of rebate/discount that families receive that is optionally means-tested. The reason that we have to means-test the rebates/discounts offered is because all non-government schools are required by legislation to prove to the Non-State Schools Accreditation Board that the school's families are contributing as much as possible to the operating and capital costs of their school.