Expression of Interest: Learning Support Officer to Teacher Pathway Scholarship Program

DOBCEL is excited to offer a new **Learning Support Officer (LSO) to Teacher Pathway Scholarship Program**, supporting LSOs in our schools who aspire to become qualified primary school teachers. This initiative is designed to provide financial assistance and professional growth opportunities to our valued LSOs, enabling them to transition into teaching roles while continuing their contributions to Catholic education.

About the Program

Under this scholarship program, eligible LSOs will have the opportunity to undertake an online **Bachelor of Education (Primary)** through:

• Swinburne Online University (\$4,627 per year for 4 years)

DOBCEL will fund **two-thirds** of the tuition fees, reducing the financial burden on participating LSOs and making their transition to a teaching career more accessible. The remaining costs will be the responsibility of the scholarship recipient.

A total of **15 scholarships** will be available under this program for 2025.

Key Details

• Study Mode: Online

• **Duration:** 4 years (part-time or full-time options available)

• **Intake:** July 2025

• **Scholarship Coverage:** DOBCEL covers 2/3 of tuition fees; LSO contributes the remaining 1/3

Who Should Apply?

We invite expressions of interest from LSOs who:

- Currently employed in a DOBCEL school as an Learning Support Officer
- Currently employed at 0.5 EFT or more
- Have a passion for teaching and a commitment to Catholic education
- Are willing to undertake an online Bachelor of Education (Primary) degree
- Can commit to the required study commitments

Benefits of the Program

- **Financial Support:** Substantial scholarship funding to ease the cost of obtaining a teaching qualification.
- Career Progression: A clear pathway from LSO to qualified teacher within DOBCEL schools.
- **Flexibility:** The online learning mode allows participants to continue working while studying.
- **Professional Development:** Gain valuable skills and qualifications while remaining engaged in the school community.

How to Express Your Interest

If you are interested in this opportunity, please click <u>HERE</u> to submit your **Expression of Interest (EOI)** by Sunday 30 March 2025.

LSO's who may have already commenced a Bachelor of Primary Education are encouraged to apply. If successful, DOBCEL will support already studying LSOs by covering 2/3 of their tuition fee up to the same cost as 2/3 of the tuition fee of the Swinburne online.

LSOs expressing interest in this program will be sent an application form during the week commencing 31 March and applications will close Wednesday April 30. There will be an FAQ included with the application form.

We encourage our LSOs to take advantage of this exciting opportunity to advance their careers and continue making a meaningful impact in Catholic education. We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any questions about the program prior to expressing your interest, please email these to Sarah Hanley at people.development@dobcel.catholic.edu.au.

See below for the timeline and process for this program.

