



# Westpac Social Change Fellowship





# Westpac Bicentennial Foundation Overview

## 100 Scholars a year, forever

Westpac Bicentennial Foundation is a scholarship fund with an exclusive focus on the education and advancement of Australians. An initial contribution of \$100 million will fund 100 scholarships and awards every year, forever. Across five categories, we will back people with ideas and passion, from all walks of life, who have the drive to shape Australia's future. The Foundation was launched as a gift to future generations of Australians to commemorate Westpac's 200th anniversary in 2017.

## Are you ready to make a difference? We'll back you.

There are people across every sector with a genuine passion to make a difference. They think about the bigger picture, beyond themselves. They are the innovators and change makers, who have the ideas and commitment to improve the lives of fellow Australians - the disadvantaged, the elderly, our youth – wherever the need may lie in their community. These are people who are serious about creating long term social change. They are the leaders we are willing to back.

If this sounds like you, and you've been working on a great idea but waiting for the right time to maximise your potential – It's now. Back yourself. We are ready to invest in you.



*“Driving social change can be a difficult path to tread, often pushing against the accepted norms. Having the freedom to invest in your own potential and gain the best in class knowledge from experts around the globe is a great*

*advantage for the next wave of change makers in Australia.*

*I know if this Fellowship was around a few years ago, I would have jumped at the chance, particularly to be a part of the Alumni program. Having lifelong access to a network of like-minded, passionate people, all with a common goal to make a difference, is something you can't put a price on.”*

**Merv Stewart, Founder, Better Together Project  
Westpac Social Change Fellowship Ambassador**

**Read Merv's story at [westpac.com.au/200years](https://westpac.com.au/200years)**

# Introducing the Westpac Social Change Fellowship

The Westpac Social Change Fellowship supports people with the vision and drive to create better lives for all Australians. Fellowships of up to \$50,000 will be awarded to individuals who have the energy and commitment to deliver a project or initiative that will improve the wellbeing of Australians at a local, state or national level.

The program is designed to give recipients time and space to develop the skills, knowledge and networks they'll need to bring their idea to life. This learning experience may involve travel, work experience, research or building stronger connections that will directly enhance their ability to lead their project. This concentrated period of learning will act as a springboard to accelerate the delivery of positive social change for the Australian community.

In 2015, 10 fellowships will be awarded. Successful recipients will become valued members of the *Westpac Scholars* Alumni program, which aims to connect an empowered network of people with the drive to unlock bold ideas to build a better future for all Australians.



# Who are we looking for?

We are looking for people from all walks of life, who are committed to making a difference and eager to build on their own capabilities so they can maximise their potential to bring their idea to life. Successful recipients will have the following:

## 1. Drive

You will have passion to tackle the tough social issues facing the future of Australia and a proven track record of success in your chosen field

## 2. An idea in development

You are currently working on an initiative or project that will have a sustainable social impact on the wellbeing of Australians at a local, state or national level

## 3. Community support

You have the support of individuals or organisations in the community that will directly benefit from your idea

## 4. Eagerness to share ideas and collaborate

You have a strong desire to connect with like-minded innovators and change makers, who share your motivation and energy to make things happen

## 5. A proposed plan for your development

Your proposed learning experience will have a direct link to developing your personal capability to progress your initiative or project.



## What are the benefits?

If your application is successful you will receive up to \$50,000. This funding will help you embark on your own experiential education, over a maximum six month period. The Fellowship could cover:

- Travel and accommodation costs (overseas and/or domestic)
- Expenses relating to the experience
- Reasonable personal expenses
- Costs for relief in current employment (depending on need)

Beyond the Fellowship, you will also have lifelong support through the *Westpac Scholars* Alumni program, where you'll gain access to invaluable networking, learning and development opportunities.

## Who can apply?

Applicants may be working in any field or sector. To be eligible you must be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

## Key dates

- June Applications open
- August Applications close
- December Fellowship recipients notified

You will be expected to complete your Fellowship by the end of the following year.

Westpac Bicentennial Foundation will follow your progress during the Fellowship term and beyond.

## How do I apply?

Applications for the Westpac Social Change Fellowship are open from June 2015.

**Find out more at [westpac.com.au/200years](http://westpac.com.au/200years)**

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