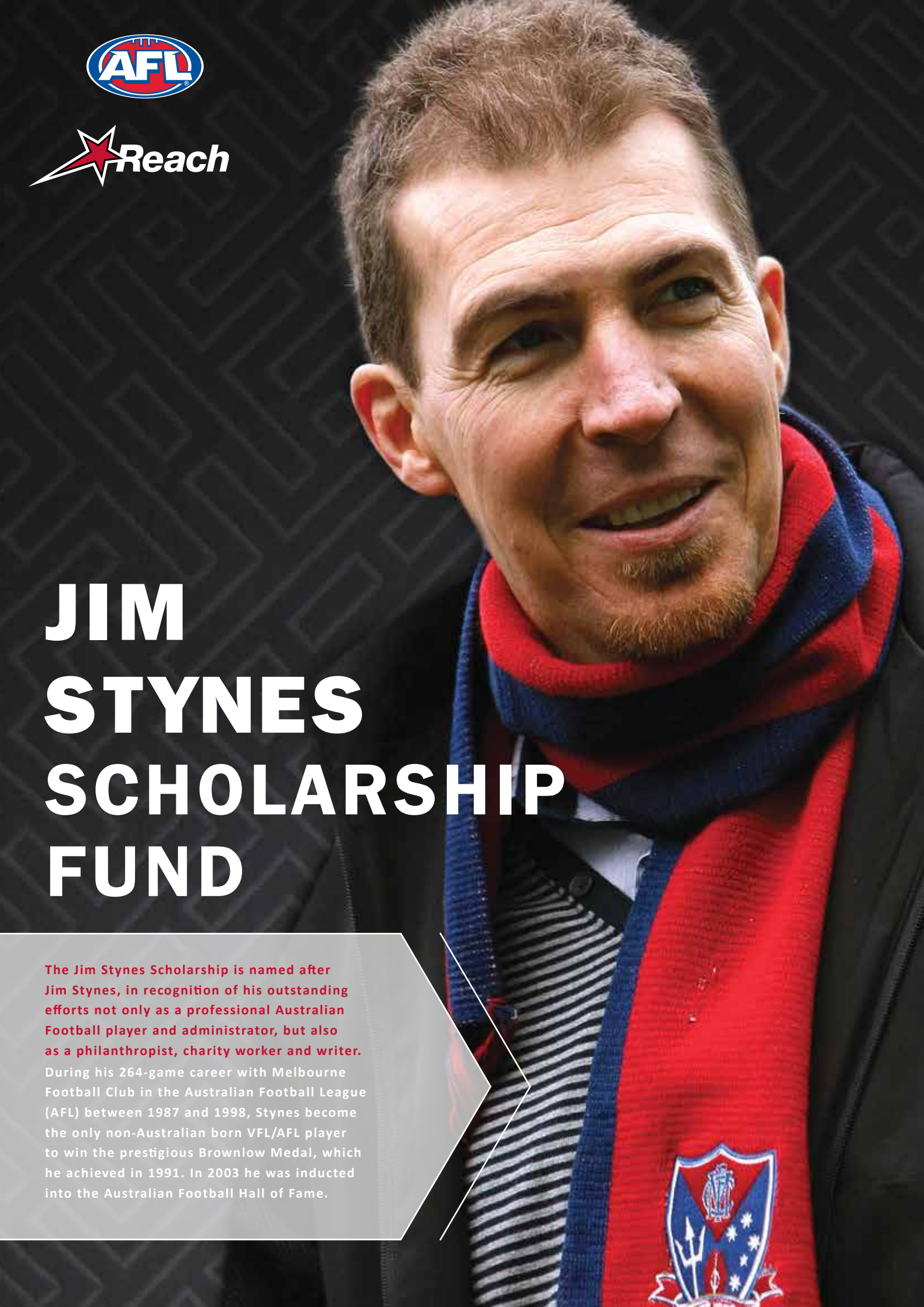

JIM STYNES SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jim Stynes Scholarship is named after Jim Stynes, in recognition of his outstanding efforts not only as a professional Australian Football player and administrator, but also as a philanthropist, charity worker and writer.

During his 264-game career with Melbourne Football Club in the Australian Football League (AFL) between 1987 and 1998, Stynes become the only non-Australian born VFL/AFL player to win the prestigious Brownlow Medal, which he achieved in 1991. In 2003 he was inducted into the Australian Football Hall of Fame.

JIM STYNES

Born in Dublin, Ireland, where he was a promising Gaelic footballer, Stynes made an ambitious move to Australia at the age of 18 following his side's win in the 1984 All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. He debuted in the AFL in 1987 and played a league record 244 consecutive games between 1987 and 1998. In addition to his Brownlow Medal, his Australian Football achievements include the Leigh Matthews Trophy (AFL Players' Association MVP), two-time All-Australian team selection, a night and day Grand Final and four best and fairest awards at Melbourne. He also represented Victoria in interstate football matches and both Australia and Ireland in the International Rules Series.

Following his football career, Stynes focused on youth work using his profile to launch the Reach Foundation, which he co-founded in 1994. As a result of his work with young people in Victoria he was named Victorian of the Year twice, in 2001 and 2003, and with the expanded profile of Reach nationally, he was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2007.

Stynes also served as president of Melbourne Football Club from 2008 and was involved in fundraising efforts which brought the club out of debt. In 2009, he was diagnosed with metastatic melanoma and continued to work during his treatment for brain metastasis. He died in March, 2012.

TESTIMONIALS

This scholarship, in honour of Jim Stynes, has provided me with the same opportunity as my peers to achieve the ultimate goal of getting drafted.

Gach Nyuon

I have always been aspirational and this scholarship has allowed me the means to chase my dreams of being a successful AFL player.

Shaleise Law

THE SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of the Jim Stynes Scholarships is to assist in providing both a pathway to employment and a pathway to nurture/develop skills and/or talents unique in youth (15-19 years) from:

- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander communities;
- Multicultural backgrounds; and/or
- Socially isolated/excluded communities

CRITERIA

Who is eligible for a scholarship?

Scholarships are available to young people aged 15 and no older than 19 as at 31 October in the relevant year.

- Potential recipients may be nominated by the president/coach of their sporting club/team, an authorised officer of a not for profit community organisation, an employee of the AFL / AFL State body, or a board member, staff member or crew member of The Reach Foundation.
- Groups and projects are also eligible for a scholarship providing they target youth who meet the above criteria.

What does the scholarship cover?

- Appropriate accredited education costs, including course fees for either year 11 and 12, TAFE or undergraduate studies.
- Incidental study costs (text books and/or equipment).
- Equipment needed to support a trade/skill.
- Travel allowance and costs to compete in competitions and/or relevant leadership/ education experiences.
- Additional assistance in coaching/talent development/school or career support (e.g. tuition or mentoring).
- Project Costs for 'recognised organisations' to deliver proposed initiatives that target youth who meet the above criteria.

What doesn't the scholarship cover?

- Fees covered by HECS/HELP.
  Note: TAFE course fees that are designed to go on to an undergraduate degree are covered by FEE HELP.

Terms and conditions

- Scholarships will be for a one year period (1 November–31 October).
- The funding a recipient receives will be determined exclusively by the panel.
- Decisions made by the panel are final and no correspondence shall be entered into regarding any decision made by the panel.
- The panel reserves the right at all times to end a scholarship of a recipient, where:

– the recipient fails to observe any of the specified criteria items of the scholarship; or

– the recipient engages in conduct which in the reasonable opinion of the committee is unbecoming of a scholarship holder or adversely affects the standing or reputation of the scholarship fund.

- The funds allocated must be used to assist the recipient directly.
- All nominees must give their permission to be nominated and nominations must be received by 16th September.
- All nominees should be prepared to undertake any promotional role deemed appropriate by the AFL and/or The Reach Foundation.
- All nominees should be aware that details of their scholarships will be made available to the Federal Government in a bi-yearly report.

GENERAL INFORMATION & FAQS

Q: Does the scholarship fund cover a young person who is doing a TAFE VET course but is only in year 10?

A: The scholarship will assess individual cases.

Example:

- If a TAFE VET course is to be completed while a student is in year 10, but the grades for this course will go towards the young person's final year 11 and 12 score, the fund will consider, on application, funding this course.

Q: Can scholarship funds be used for things like bicycles, new shoes and other purchases not directly related to study?

A: In some instances these purchases are fine. Examples of approved purchases:

- young person intends to use the bicycle to travel to and from school
- young person requires running shoes to participate in a sporting activity

*Approval in this instance is required via the AFL &/or State Manager.

Q: What does the scholarship cover?

A: We are very flexible, as long as it is educationally related or directly assisting education, sporting or leadership outcomes such as:

- Text books
- School fees (not funded by government deferred payment programs)
- Project costs for 'recognised organisations' to deliver proposed initiatives that target youth who meet the above criteria
- We cater for year 10, 11 and 12. Any recognised job training education may also be accepted

SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

- Applicants informed of application closing date.
- Local sporting clubs and community agencies are notified by email of application closing date and website address.
- Notification is a minimum of one-month prior to closing date.
- Nominations by sporting clubs and community agencies to be submitted online.

Scholarship applications received.

For new applicants:

Individual applicant interviews – in person (if possible) or by phone.

Discuss:

- Scholarship process and requirements (reporting, mentor option)
- Requirements of the scholarship recipient is made clear.

Reporting required from recipients:

One of two options are given to the applicant:

1. Bi-yearly feedback report – online or posted
2. Bi-yearly phone catchup on progress

The Jim Stynes Scholarship panel will meet not more than four (4) weeks after the closing date for applications. A quorum is one person from the four representative bodies (below)

The main responsibilities of the panel will be:

1. administer the Fund in accordance with the funding agreement between the Commonwealth and the AFL (see attached);
2. assess scholarship nominations; and
3. select the scholarship recipients.
4. ensure the reporting requirements with the Federal Government are met.

Representation:

Acceptance/Rejection letters

- Emails/letters of acceptance or rejection will be sent to applicants within 4 weeks of panel ruling.
- Full details of funding outlined in letter.
- Acceptance letters include a Terms and Conditions form to be signed and returned.

INDIVIDUAL	REPRESENTING
Andrew Dillon	AFL
Grant Williams	AFL
Mike McShane	The Reach Foundation
Chris Naish	The Reach Foundation

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

New applicants to provide the following documents:

- Signed terms and conditions form
- Supporting documentation and receipts

RECORD KEEPING

CONFIDENTIAL student files created
Files include:

- All information regarding the scholar kept in these files.
- All records of purchase (purchase orders, receipts) kept in these files.

MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS

The corpus contributed by the Federal Government and all inflows and outflows of funds will be managed by AFL under the direction of the Jim Stynes Scholarship panel and in accordance with the Funding Agreement between the Commonwealth and the AFL.

FUND DISTRIBUTION

The distribution of funds will vary, and are particular to the individual recipient, taking into account their ability and their family/carer's ability to responsibly use the scholarship.

Funds may be distributed in the following ways:

Funds will be allocated depending on the circumstances of the young person. The methods of payment options are as follows:

1. Nominating organization manages young person's money (receipts returned to AFL at end of the year)
2. AFL / States hold money and make payments to school/other directly.
   AFL purchases goods on behalf of the young person. e.g. laptop computer
3. AFL transfers funds directly to the organisation running an approved youth-focused project

PURCHASE OF GOODS:

- AFL/State to seek three quotes for goods.
- AFL/State to purchase and arrange delivery of goods to scholarship recipient's home.

If a scholarship student drops out or discontinues their study:

- No further scholarship funds shall be made available to them, and any allocated funds will be returned to the general pool for other applicants.

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL/MATERIAL SUPPORT TO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

The Jim Stynes Scholarship panel may decide to include additional support to the specified amount of scholarship fund. These may include Myki tickets, laptop. This inclusion will be made if the panel decides the young person will need additional support to what they have specified needing.

REGISTER NOW - CLICK BELOW FOR:

INDIVIDUAL SCHOLARSHIP

OR

PROJECT SCHOLARSHIP

CLOSING DATE IS 16TH SEPTEMBER!!

VIC (National Office)
152-156 Wellington Street Collingwood VIC 3066

NSW
1 Olympic Boulevard Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127

The Reach Foundation ABN 87 069 837 627

www.reach.org.au