



SIENA
COLLEGE
CAMBERWELL

General Excellence Scholarships



A CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN THE DOMINICAN TRADITION



About Siena College

Siena College is an independent school for young women in the Dominican Tradition. We are energised and inspired by each other, finding joy in our work, our learning and our community. Students and staff are encouraged and supported to aim high, to pursue their dreams and to excel in all that they do.

At Siena, the diversity and unique gifts of the young people in our care are acknowledged and celebrated. Students are encouraged to engage in critical reflection on the world, develop a love of learning, an appreciation of culture and beauty and a spirit of freedom and responsibility.

General Excellence Scholarships

Siena College offers several scholarships to students who demonstrate general excellence across their studies, involvement in community life and cocurricular activities, leadership and character. As a Catholic, Dominican school, Siena College is committed to educating the whole person, promoting a lifelong love of learning in a setting that allows students to flourish into empowered global citizens.

As a Dominican College we value study. Study enables us to search out and discern the truth of our times. Dominicans have been thinkers and leaders across many disciplines throughout the ages. That emphasis on study continues today as Siena students engage in the study of religion, philosophy and all disciplines to empower them to take their place in the world.

All students applying for a Siena College General Excellence Scholarship must sit the scholarship test.

Eligibility: Current, or new Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 2026 students

Applications for 2026 General Excellence Scholarships close on Friday, 14 February 2025.



How to Apply

Applications for General Excellence Scholarships are accepted every year from current and prospective students. To submit an application for a General Excellence Scholarships please read the following information, FAQs and complete the steps below:

STEP 1:

A) Submit an online General Excellence Scholarship Application by Friday, 14 February 2025

- **Click here** to submit your application for a 2026 General Excellence Scholarship
- Please note: A non refundable Application Fee of \$150 must be paid at time of application

B) Submit a Scholarship Portfolio to Siena College by Friday, 14 February 2025

- At least one week prior to Academic Testing Day, please submit a Scholarship Portfolio and supporting documents to: scholarships@siena.vic.edu.au
- Scholarship Portfolios must include the following documents:
 1. A letter from the student to our Principal outlining why they would like to attend Siena College
 2. Copy of the student's Birth Certificate.
If the student was born overseas, please also provide a copy of the student's Australian Passport, Australian Citizenship Certificate or Permanent Resident Visa.
 3. Copy of the student's two most recent School Reports
 4. Copy of the student's most recent NAPLAN summary, if available
 5. Any supporting certificates, awards, photos of trophies, or examples of outstanding work that you feel would be relevant to uphold the application for scholarship

STEP 2: Attend Academic Testing Day

- In 2025, Academic Testing Day will be held on **Saturday, 22 February from 8.30am to 12.00pm**
- Please refer to further information on the following pages

STEP 3: Scholarship Interview

- Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend an interview with College Principal, Elizabeth Hanney and a member of our Leadership Team
- If the student is not currently enrolled at Siena College, you will be invited to submit an Application for Enrolment at this point to confirm your attendance at the interview

Academic Testing Day for General Excellence Scholarships

When and Where

Academic Testing Day 2025: Saturday, 22 February from 8.30am to 12.00pm

Academic Testing will be held at:

Siena College | 815 Riversdale Road, Camberwell 3124

Testing will be held in the Siena College Hall. Please enter the College via the main gate on Riversdale Road and sign-in at the registration desk on arrival.

- 8.30am** Registration
- 8.45am** Presentation
- 9.00am** Testing commences
- 12.00pm** Students available for collection

Please note that we are unable to host waiting families during the testing. There are many local coffee shops in walking distance which we recommend, including Dish and Spoon and Our Little Secret.

What to Bring

Students will be provided with water, popcorn and a fruit snack.

Students must bring the following items in a clear, plastic packet or sleeve (no pencil cases are permitted):

- 2B or HB pencil
- Eraser and sharpener
- Blue or black pen

No phones, iPads or smart/digital watches (or similar) are permitted.

Students must also bring **one** of the following forms of identification:

- Student card (issued by current school)
- Recent Class photo with student name clearly shown
- Current School Report (with photo)
- Passport (current / recent)
- Current library card (with photo)
- Current student travel card (with photo)

Please ensure that staff are aware of any medical concerns and receive copies of relevant asthma and/or anaphylaxis action plans. The student should bring along any required medication to the testing day. The College Nurse will be in attendance on the day.

Review Process for General Excellence Scholarships

Siena College receives results from EduTest approximately two weeks after the testing, but please note that sometimes this can vary. Shortlisted candidates will then be contacted and invited for an interview with the Principal.

Siena College will endeavour to notify all candidates, in writing, of the outcome of their application at the conclusion of the Scholarship Review Process (approximately six weeks after testing day). We thank you in advance for your patience during this time period.

Please note that Siena College will not share any scholarship testing results or feedback with participating families due to the competitive nature of this process.



Accepting a General Excellence Scholarship

Following a successful interview with our Principal and member of the Leadership Team, Siena College may be in the position to provide you with a General Excellence Scholarship Offer. We request that you be prepared to accept this offer within two business days. All scholarship holders, together with their parents/guardians will be required to accept and sign a Scholarship Agreement that will detail the concession conditions. This will include committing to the Siena College values, program and expectations.

The Scholarship Agreement will also include details of the annual performance review.

To accept the Scholarship Offer, families who are not yet enrolled will be asked to make payment of a \$1,000 non refundable Confirmation of Enrolment Fee. Please note that should the student not take up their place, all application, enrolment and holding fees are non refundable and non transferable. Current Siena College students will not be required to pay the \$1,000 Confirmation of Enrolment Fee or the \$220 Siena College Application Fee.

Siena College requires receipt of the signed Scholarship Acceptance, in addition to all required documents as part of a standard enrolment:

- A copy of the student's Birth Certificate if they are an Australian Citizen or a copy of the student's Birth Certificate/ Passport/Visa (including Permanent Residency) if the student is not an Australian Citizen
- Copies of School Reports for the last two years (if applicable)
- NAPLAN results (if applicable)
- Current medical reports / Action Plans (i.e. allergies, asthma etc.)
- Any court or parenting orders that exist relating to the guardianship arrangements for the student
- The \$220 (inc GST) application fee

The scholarship covers a part remission on tuition fees only. The Principal will determine the fee remission at time of offer. Parents/guardians are expected to cover all additional and associated costs pertaining to student's education, which will be charged as per the schedule of fees.

Please note that Siena College does not offer 100% scholarships at any level. The Scholarship offer is not negotiable and the final decision on awarding a Scholarship is at the Principal's discretion.

We expect all scholarship recipients to demonstrate a strong and abiding commitment to Siena College. In the event a scholar departs the College prior to completing their education, the family will be required to pay the equivalent of tuition fees that have been discounted for the period enrolled under the Scholarship arrangement

The terms and conditions of the scholarship should remain confidential and any breach of confidentiality may result in the scholarship being revoked.

Refer to our General Excellence Scholarship Agreement on the College website.



Frequently Asked Questions

Does Siena College have a set number of General Excellence Scholarships to award every year?

The number of General Excellence scholarships on offer varies from year to year. The Principal will determine each year, in their absolute and sole discretion, the year levels in which the General Excellence Scholarship will be offered.

Does Siena College award a certain amount or percentage for their Scholarships?

Siena College may award from 25% to 50% of the tuition fee, and this amount can vary from student to student. Please note Siena College does not offer any full scholarships of 100% and any other levies or charges may be applicable.

If I have accepted a Scholarship Offer, but later change my mind, what happens?

Any fees paid are non refundable, and subsequently are forfeit. Please read our Scholarship Policy carefully.

Are the General Excellence Scholarship Academic Tests run by an external organisation?

Siena College engages the services of [EduTest](#) for all academic assessments. This company manages all applications and the examination process (including results).

What can students expect at the General Excellence Scholarship Academic Testing?

There are typically five sections to the assessment:

- Verbal Reasoning
- Numerical Reasoning
- Reading Comprehension
- Mathematics
- Written Expression

Do you have practice tests that students can use to prepare for the Academic Testing?

[EduTest](#) has some [practice assessments available](#) online. Please note that online tests are designed to make students feel comfortable with the style and format of the questions they are likely to encounter in a scholarship examination, and do not entirely duplicate the examination material.

Does Siena College provide any feedback following the General Excellence Scholarship Testing and/or is it possible to obtain a copy of the testing results?

Due to the competitive nature of the Scholarship process, Siena College will not share feedback or results with participants.

Am I eligible to apply for a Siena College Scholarship as an International Student?

Full fee paying overseas students (on a 500 Visa or similar) are not eligible for Siena College scholarships.

Mission

Siena College, a Catholic secondary school in the Dominican tradition, engages young women in a challenging education that empowers them with the personal resources to make a difference in the world, by searching for truth through a culture of lifelong learning.

Vision

As a vibrant, faith-filled Catholic community with a commitment to justice, truth, reconciliation and compassion, we honour the sacred dignity of each person.

We aspire to provide exemplary and innovative education that will challenge young women to achieve their personal best and to embrace the future with hope, courage and confidence.

In the spirit of St Catherine of Siena, by word and action, we encourage young women to identify their strengths, enhance their sense of self-worth and be open to new ideas.

Values

We live the Dominican values through:

Prayer by nurturing spirituality and celebrating joyfully as a community of Faith;

Study by striving for personal excellence, thinking critically and seeking truth through research, creativity and innovation;

Justice by empowering young women to embrace diversity, respect human dignity and actively engage in the gospel imperative of responding to local and global injustice;

Community by recognising that a sense of belonging and connectedness is the foundation for fostering good relationships and service to others.





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A CATHOLIC COLLEGE FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN
THE DOMINICAN TRADITION, YEARS 7 TO 12

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