2028 Joint Co-operative Scholarship Information Guide

1. **Co-operative Scholarship Program**

   The Independent Girls' Schools Scholarship Co-operative is a collaboration between the following six leading Independent Girls' schools in Perth, listed in alphabetical order:

   - Methodist Ladies' College
   - Penrhos College
   - Perth College
   - Presbyterian Ladies' College
   - St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls
   - St Mary's Anglican Girls' School

   By working together, we ensure a fair, transparent, and efficient process for families while maintaining each school's unique scholarship opportunities.

   Scholarship candidates have the advantage of only having to sit the Scholarship test once, with test results shared amongst schools listed in their preferences.

2. **Eligibility**

   Each school sets their own eligibility criteria for their available scholarships and full details are available on each school's scholarship page.

3. **How the Co-operative Model Works**
   - Families may nominate **up to three schools in order of preference**.
   - Families apply for each of their preferred schools individually.
   - The scholarship **test can only be sat once**.
   - In-person scholarship tests can only be **sat at your first-preference school**.
     - Students who attend the test at an incorrect venue may be refused entry and directed to sit the test at their nominated first-preference school.
       Under no circumstances may a student sit the test more than once during the same Scholarship cycle.
   - **Results will be forwarded ONLY to schools to which a paid application has been made.**
   - Importance of **your first-preference school**:
     - It is the school where you hope your daughter will be awarded a scholarship to complete her educational journey.
     - It is the location where your daughter will sit her scholarship test.
     - It is the school that will consider your daughter during the first round of scholarship offers.
   - Each applicant's test results are shared with their nominated schools.
   - All participating schools issue their scholarship offers simultaneously, ensuring a fair and transparent process for all candidates.
   - If a first-preference offer is declined, the applicant may then be considered by their second-preference school in the next round, and so on.

- Scholarship **offers are strictly confidential**. Member schools within the co-operative will not engage in discussions to negotiate or counter scholarship offers made by another member school. Any attempt to do so will be considered a breach of confidentiality, and may result in the scholarship offer being withdrawn.

4. **Application Process**
   - Families must:
     - Familiarise themselves with each school's scholarship offerings and eligibility criteria;
       - Submit a separate application to each preferred school, ensuring that all required reports and documentation are provided in accordance with each school's specific application guidelines;
       - List their school preferences in the same order across all application forms;
       - Pay the application fee for each preference during the application process.
   - Academic Assessment Services (AAS) an independent third-party provider of scholarship tests, will follow up with families where discrepancies in preference order are identified.
   - A preference application is considered complete and finalised only when all of the following have been fulfilled:
     - All school-specific application questions have been fully completed;
     - All required supporting documents have been submitted;
     - Full payment for each application/preference has been received by AAS.
   - No preference changes will be considered or accepted after an application has been completed and fully submitted.
   - No late applications will be considered, and families are encouraged to ensure enough time to navigate any potential technical difficulties prior to the submission deadline.
   - Incomplete applications will not be considered.
   - **Results will be forwarded ONLY to schools to which a paid application has been submitted.**

     Music auditions will align with the scholarship selection rounds. First-round auditions will be conducted at the applicant's first-preference school, while second and third-round auditions, where applicable, will be held at the relevant schools as part of the corresponding offer rounds.
5. **Application Fees**
   - Each preference application attracts an application fee. Payment is made via the registration portal at the time of application.
   - Application fees cover testing and the distribution of results to nominated schools by AAS and is not received by the schools.
   - AAS will not refund any application fees.
   - First preference application fees:
     - Sitting the test at first preference school: $125.00
     - Sitting the test remotely: $250.00 (for families living more than 400km from the Perth Metro)
     - Sitting the test overseas: $350.00
   - Additional preference application fees: Each additional preference will incur an additional fee of $60.00.

6. **Testing Information**
   - **Test Provider:** Academic Assessment Services (AAS)
   - **Test Date:** See Timeline below
   - **Special Circumstances:** Applicants who are ill (with an official doctor's certificate) or unable to attend on the day due to a school camp, must notify their first-preference school immediately. Their first preference school will notify AAS, who will then provide you with information on sitting the test online at home on Wednesday 17 February 2027. Such a special circumstances online test will incur an additional application fee of $150.00
   - **Test Venue:** Students can only sit the test once. If they sit the test locally, they will sit the test at their first preference school.
   - **Test Format:** Students will sit a series of timed tests that assess how clearly a student can demonstrate higher-order critical thinking skills. More information about the nature of the scholarship tests is available here.
   - **Online practice tests:** Online practice tests are available for purchase on the AAS Scholarship practise test page.
   - **Resits:** The test can only be sat once. No resits are permitted.

7. **Timeline**
   - **Applications Open:** Monday 2 November 2026 – 9.00 am Perth time
   - **Applications Close:**
     - Wednesday 3 February 2027 – midday Perth Time
   - **Scholarship Test Date:**
     - **Thursday 11 February 2027**
       - Methodist Ladies' College
       - Perth College
       - Presbyterian Ladies' College
     - **Saturday 13 February 2027**
       - Penrhos College
       - St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls
       - St Mary's Anglican Girls' School
   - **Online test remotely:** Wednesday 17 February 2027
   - **First-Round Offers Released:** Monday 22 March 2027
   - **First-Round Offers Acceptance Deadline:** Wednesday 31 March 2027
   - **Second/Third-Round Offers (if applicable):** Tuesday 27 April 2027
   - **Scholarship process finalised:** End of May 2027

8. **Offers & Acceptance**
   - Offers are made simultaneously by all participating schools.
   - Families must either accept or decline their offer within the set timeframe.
   - Once all first-preference offers are finalised, second-preference schools may consider applicants, followed by third-preference schools.
   - Each school sets the terms and conditions of its scholarship awards.

9. **Communication**
   - Once the scholarship test is complete, no contact by co-operative schools will be entered into with applicants.

- Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted after results have been provided to the school until the completion of the entire process.
- Shortlisted/successful candidates will be contacted directly by the relevant school to advise them of the next step in their process.
- Scholarship recipients must respond in writing to the relevant Principal by no later than noon of the acceptance deadline.
    - No response by that time will indicate a non-acceptance of the offer.
- An applicant's second preference school may not contact a potential recipient until the official commencement of second round offers.
- If a family contacts any other school outside the specified time frame, it will be considered a breach of protocol and consequences, such as the offer being rescinded, may result.
- **Notification of Outcome:** Once the Scholarship process is complete, all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application.
- **Confidentiality of Results:** Schools will not release individual test scores or provide comparisons between candidates under any circumstances.

10. Next Steps

- Review the websites of your preferred schools for details of their specific scholarship offers and eligibility criteria.
- Complete your scholarship application(s) for each school you wish to list as preference before the application deadline.
- Sit the test at your first-preference school, regionally (if you live more than 400km from the Perth Metro) or overseas, as per your application.
    - NB: Ensure to apply on the relevant application link if the test will be sat either remotely or overseas.
- Await communication of outcomes according to the timeline outlined above.