Applications are still being accepted for Northern Territory Government Scholarships, Minister for Employment, Education and Training Syd Stirling said today.

Mr Stirling said the scholarships aimed to encourage school leavers to undertake tertiary studies and to commence employment in the Northern Territory.

"I urge young Territorians who finished secondary school last year and have been permanent residents of the NT for the past two years to apply," Mr Stirling said.

Forty Higher Education scholarships worth $3500 per annum will be awarded to students undertaking a bachelor degree at NTU.

Ten scholarships of $1750 per annum are available to school leavers for study in Vocational Education and Training.

"These scholarships reflect the importance the Government places on the youth of the Territory and the future growth and prosperity of our region," Mr Stirling said.

VET scholarships close 31 January 2003 while Higher Education scholarships close on 7 February 2003.

Scholarship winners will be announced by the Minister on 12 March 2003.