AFTRS EQUITY SCHOLARSHIPS INFORMATION FOR 2015

AFTRS Equity Scholarships are awarded to assist financially disadvantaged Bachelor of Arts (Screen) students with the costs associated with higher education.

AFTRS’ aim in providing AFTRS Equity Scholarships is to support people from low socio-economic backgrounds or otherwise under-represented in higher education to study at AFTRS. Up to 20 AFTRS Equity Scholarships may be offered.

AFTRS Equity Scholarship funds are provided by The Kenneth Myer Fellowship Trust.

Value and duration

Each scholarship is valued at $5,000 and is for one year only. $2,500 will be awarded each semester, to be paid following the applicable census date. Payments are conditional on the recipient remaining enrolled and in good academic standing, continuing to meet the eligibility and disadvantage criteria, and complying with any scholarship conditions.

2015 application and notification dates

Applications open: Friday 19 December 2014.

Applications close: Friday 30 January 2015.

Supporting documents must be submitted to AFTRS by the closing date.

All applicants will be notified by email whether or not their application is successful by Monday 16 February 2015.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be eligible to apply for an AFTRS Equity Scholarship, you must:

1. be enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts (Screen); and
2. be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen; and
3. be financially disadvantaged, as described in this Information Sheet.

Assessment and selection process

All applicants are required to demonstrate financial disadvantage. Ways of doing so include:

• for Australian citizens and residents: through receiving a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment (such as Parenting Payment Single, Disability Support Pension, Carers Allowance, Newstart, Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance); or
• for New Zealand citizens or other people not receiving a means-tested Commonwealth income support payment: by other information demonstrating exceptional, real and enduring financial hardship.

In addition to demonstrating financial disadvantage, applicants may also demonstrate other educational disadvantage, such as one or more of the following:
• carer responsibilities
• sole parent responsibilities
• long-term medical condition/ disability or ongoing effects of abuse
• English language difficulty
• Indigenous Australian
• visa holder under Australia’s humanitarian visa program
• regional or remote disadvantage

Applications are assessed competitively on the basis of the information provided by applicants about their financial and any other disadvantages. AFTRS’ will determine which, if any, applicants will be awarded an Equity Scholarship and AFTRS’ decision is final. As there are a limited number of scholarships available, AFTRS may not be in a position to award a scholarship to everyone who demonstrates they are in need.

How to apply for an AFTRS Equity scholarship

To apply for an AFTRS Equity Scholarship, click on the link on the AFTRS’ website at http://www.aftrs.edu.au/about/student-centre/equity-scholarship, and complete the application form.

Applications require supporting documents, which you will be prompted to upload while completing the form.

Certified copies of supporting documents

Copies of supporting documents will need to be correctly certified according to AFTRS’ certification requirements, available at http://www.aftrs.edu.au/about/student-centre/certified-copies. If supporting documents are not in English, applicants are required to supply certified copies of the following:

• the document in the original language; and
• an English translation of the document by an accredited translator. Contact AFTRS’ Student Centre for more information.

Do not send original supporting documents.

Successful applicants

Successful applicants will be notified of any conditions of a scholarship with their scholarship offer. These conditions may include when a scholarship may be terminated, and an obligation to provide additional personal information at AFTRS’ request to support continuing eligibility for the scholarship.

Subsequent applications

If an AFTRS Equity Scholarship applicant is unsuccessful in 2015, they may re-apply for any AFTRS’ Equity Scholarships in the future. The applicant would then need to meet all scholarship eligibility and disadvantage criteria at that time.

Successful applicants may also reapply for any AFTRS Equity Scholarship in subsequent years, so long as they meet the eligibility and disadvantage criteria at that time.

A new application, with new supporting documents, would need to be submitted.

Further information

For further information or assistance, please contact the Student Centre on 02 9805 6444 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday or at studentinfo@aftrs.edu.au.