

2026 First Nations Scholarships

Supported by the Kenneth Myer
Fellowship Trust

Guidelines – Semester 2

Applications open 16 March 2026 and close 9
June 2026

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School

2026 First Nations Scholarships

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be an applicant or have accepted a place in Master of Arts Screen: Business (2026 mid-year intake)
- Identify as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and be accepted as such within your community.
- Show you are in need of financial support to meet the costs associated with studying at AFTRS OR show significant creative excellence and how your career aspirations would benefit.
- Show how this scholarship would support you to complete the course.
- Be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen.

Purpose

AFTRS First Nations Scholarships, generously supported by the Kenneth Myer Fellowship Trust, are awarded on the basis of creative excellence or equity.

The scholarships are intended to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with the costs associated with higher education at AFTRS.

Each scholarship may contribute towards a range of purposes associated with the course such as relocation costs, study resources and other costs, at the school's discretion.

Application form

First, apply online for the Master of Arts Screen: Business course.

Then, complete the online scholarship application form and provide any documentation requested by the closing date.

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Application Dates

Applications open 16 March 2026 and close 9 June 2026.

Dates are subject to change. Please check AFTRS website for updates.

Applications may, however, be accepted outside these dates. If you wish to do this, you are encouraged to contact the Student Centre.

Conditions

The successful applicant must have accepted an offer in Master of Arts Screen: Business. The recipient cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

The recipient may be asked to provide AFTRS with updates and to complete an annual survey which will be used to demonstrate the impact of scholarships.

AFTRS may produce public communications in connection with the scholarship. The recipient may be asked for their consent to provide AFTRS with an irrevocable royalty free license to use and reproduce their image and story solely for the purposes of internal and external communications.

Participation is at the discretion of the recipient.

How to apply

1. Submit:

- a) A confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent form executed by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation with a common seal.
- b) A personal statement describing the opportunity the scholarship would give you.
- c) A statement declaring any other financial assistance you are receiving to study in 2026 including Centrelink payments such as ABSTUDY.
- d) If applying on the basis of financial need and/or other educational disadvantage: proof of real and enduring financial need. This may be proof you receive or will receive a means tested Australian government income support payment like Centrelink ABSTUDY. You may also give proof of other circumstances that may affect your education such as

any carer responsibilities, sole parent responsibilities, long-term medical condition or disability or ongoing effects of abuse, or regional or remote disadvantage.

e) If applying on the basis of significant creative excellence and career aspirations: Provide works of distinctive and creative storytelling for assessment and a letter of support from a screen or broadcast industry stakeholder or an experienced screen or broadcast practitioner

What we're looking for

The selection panel will consider either the applicant's creative excellence or equity based on the supporting documents in their application.

AFTRS will determine which, if any, applicant will be awarded the scholarship. There are limited funds for scholarships, so AFTRS may not be able to support everyone who applies.

If the selection committee finds that no applicant meets the eligibility criteria, the scholarship will not be awarded.

AFTRS' decision is final and no correspondence about decisions will be entered into.

Other information

In assessing your application, the selection committee may request you provide additional supporting documents to enable them to make a final decision. You will be contacted via email to request specified documents if required.

You will be notified by email whether your application is successful.

Further information

Payment and duration

The amount of support may vary, with up to \$6,250 for a Master of Arts Screen: Business student, depending on individual circumstances. This amount applies if the recipient is consistently enrolled in four subjects in Semester 2, 2026.

For a recipient enrolled in fewer than four subjects at any time, payment will be adjusted proportionally according to actual study load. One instalment will be paid to the recipient following the applicable census date.

The scholarship is for one semester only and will not rollover or be extended beyond 2026.

In exceptional circumstances, higher financial support may be given.

Payments are conditional on the recipient remaining enrolled, in good academic standing, and continuing to meet the eligibility criteria, and maintain the standards set out in the Student Handbook and AFTRS Code of Conduct.

Translation of documents

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. Do not send original supporting documents.

Certification of documents

Supporting documents must be certified in line with AFTRS's certification requirements (see: <https://www.aftrs.edu.au/students/future-students/how-to-apply/>).

Please note:

- Documents must include your legal name.
- Original digital files do not need to be certified.
- Medical documentation does not need to be certified, but it must:
 - include your full legal name, and
 - include the health practitioner's registration number and Medicare provider number.
- Screenshots are not acceptable.
- File names must be clear and descriptive, using only letters and numbers (no symbols).

Additional information - notes on submission of materials

- You do not have to complete your application in one sitting. Save your application and log back in at any time prior to the closing date to pick up where you left off.
- Work that has been created in part or whole by a generative AI tool such as ChatGPT must not be submitted.

Submission checklist

Before you submit your application, please make sure you have included:

- A confirmation of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent form executed by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation with a common seal

- A personal statement

- If applying on the basis of financial need and/or other educational disadvantage,
 - You have completed the financial breakdown and selected any other educational barriers that apply to you
 - At least one document that demonstrates your financial circumstances, such as Centrelink statement, bank statement or other financial document

- If applying on the basis of creative excellence, a creative work and a letter of support

Learn more

If you haven't found the information you need,
or need support with your application, contact our
Scholarships Team.

1300 223 877

scholarships@aftrs.edu.au

Alternatively, you can contact the First Nations and
Outreach team at fno@aftrs.edu.au

aftrs.edu.au/scholarships

Australian Film Television and Radio School

The Entertainment Quarter
Moore Park
Sydney NSW 2021

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12011
CRICOS Provider Code: 03662D



Australian Government
AFTRS