

2026 CRA Regional Radio Scholarship

Guidelines

Applications open 18 June 2025 and close 17
November 2025

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School

CRA
COMMERCIAL RADIO & AUDIO

CRA Regional Radio Scholarship

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Reside outside the metropolitan areas of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane
- Be an applicant for a position in the Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course in 2025
- Be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen

Purpose

Commercial Radio and Audio (CRA) is the peak industry body representing the interests of Australia's commercial radio broadcasters.

The CRA Regional Radio Scholarship provides \$10,000 to enable a student to study the AFTRS Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting. The scholarship is intended to support students who reside in regional Australia and are passionate about working for a radio station where they live, by providing a contribution to living expenses and study costs.

Furthermore, a 2-week paid internship with a commercial radio station and or podcasting division (at a location to be agreed with CRA) is offered.

Application form

Firstly, apply for the 2026 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting, 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 18 June 2025 and close 17 November 2025.

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

Conditions

AFTRS may produce public communications in connection with the scholarship. The recipient will 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 AFTRS and CRA's internal and external communications. Participation is at the discretion of the recipient.

The successful applicant must have accepted an offer in the 2026 Graduate Diploma in Radio & Podcasting course and will be asked to supply evidence of residing outside the metropolitan capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane.

The recipient will be required to enter into an employment agreement with the broadcaster hosting the paid internship.

The recipient cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

Application tasks

Please submit the following:

1. Why regional radio? (audio recording, 2 minutes max.)*

Tell us why you think regional radio is important. You should include why it is important to you as an individual, to your local community, or to Australian society more broadly.

2. Personal statement, tell us your story and what this scholarship would mean to you. (audio recording, 2 minutes max.)*

You might include:

- What makes you unique, your career ambitions, your interests or hobbies, about your family background, types of stories you'd like to tell, or anything else you want us to know about you; and
- What studying at AFTRS means to you and how receiving this scholarship would affect you, your community and your career.

*Audio can be recorded on any device/s including smart phones. We are not assessing your technical skills or access to equipment. Recordings must be submitted as MP3 files.

3. Your preferred regional work placement

Tell us which commercial radio stations would be your preferred work placement locations. List at least three. Please only nominate towns and regional centres where a commercial radio station exists.

What we're looking for

The selection panel will consider the applicant's understanding and appreciation of regional radio, their motivation for a career in the radio and podcasting industries and the scholarship impact through the scholarship application tasks.

AFTRS will determine which, if any, applicant will be awarded the scholarship.

If the selection panel 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.

Further information

Other information

In assessing your application, the selection committee may request you provide additional supporting documents to enable them to make a final decision.

The successful applicant will be asked to submit evidence of residing outside the metropolitan capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth such as a bank statement, Centrelink correspondence, utilities bill, rent receipt, property lease or drivers' license.

You will be contacted via email to request specified documents if required.

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

Payments

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$10,000, payable over the duration of the course. Payments are based on the number of enrolled units per semester. One instalment will be paid to the recipient each semester following the applicable census dates.

Study must commence in the academic year for which you are applying.

Payments and the internship offer 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.

Certification of documents

Any documents you provide as support material must be certified copies. AFTRS' certification requirements are available at:

www.aftrs.edu.au/students/future-students/how-to-apply/

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.

Additional information - notes on submission of materials

- Do not exceed the total maximum word count – additional materials will not be reviewed.
- 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.
- File names should be clear and descriptive and only include alphanumeric characters (not symbols).
- Do not include your contact details in any documents.
- You are not permitted to submit any work that has been created in part or whole by a generative AI tool such as ChatGPT and claim it as your own. If you are using any work that is not yours it must be referenced – this is essential to ethical creative practice and academic integrity. Failure to reference is also considered plagiarism.

Learn more

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

1300 223 877

scholarships@aftrs.edu.au

aftrs.edu.au/scholarships

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