

Graduate Diploma in Radio & Podcasting

2026 Application Guidance Notes

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School

Admission Requirements

Prior Educational Requirements

Admission into the Graduate Diploma in Radio & Podcasting requires you to hold an undergraduate degree at bachelor level, or to have completed equivalent work experience and/or training.

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE

Applicants in this category must have graduated from a recognised undergraduate degree (or higher) from an Australian Higher Education Provider or equivalent overseas institution.

EVIDENCE REQUIRED: A certified copy of your testamur, academic transcript or other equivalent official document.

Alternatively, you can share your documentation securely via [My eEquals](#) to applications@aftrs.edu.au.

EQUIVALENT WORK EXPERIENCE AND/OR TRAINING

Applicants who do not hold an undergraduate degree may be eligible to apply by degree equivalence.

By completing a [Degree Equivalence Form](#), applicants must demonstrate that they have achieved corresponding learning outcomes by completing a similar volume of relevant work experience and/or training.

Examples of equivalent work experience and/or training may include:

- Year 12 completion AND a minimum of 24 months relevant experience
- A relevant Diploma/Advanced Diploma AND a minimum of 12 months relevant experience

Relevant experience may include:

- Work or volunteer experience in community and/or commercial radio
- Sustained regular podcast creation
- Media or sound recording/engineering

EVIDENCE REQUIRED: A completed degree equivalence form. This must include date ranges for your experience, and if relevant, episode listings and a brief description of your role/s.

Citizenship/Residency Requirements

Admission into the Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting is only available to domestic students.

You are considered a domestic student for application purposes if you are:

- An Australian citizen
- A New Zealand citizen
- An Australian permanent resident
- An Australian permanent humanitarian visa holder

EVIDENCE REQUIRED: A certified copy of your birth certificate or passport.

Adjustment Factors

To ensure AFTRS reflects Australian society, we support the best talent from all backgrounds into our courses and careers in the screen and audio industries.

Admission into the Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting is based on the competitiveness of your final score, which is your assessment score plus any adjustment factors you may be eligible for.

Adjustment factors are applied automatically based on the information you submit in your application. AFTRS may request documentary evidence to verify your eligibility for Adjustment Factors.

A maximum of 10 adjustment factors applies.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PERSONS Domestic applicants who identify as being of Aboriginal descent, Torres Strait Islander descent or of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent	10
CULTURALLY AND RACIALLY MARGINALISED PERSONS Applicants who have lived experience of cultural and/or racial marginalisation We use the term culturally and racially marginalised (CARM) to refer to people who are not white. This group includes people who are Black, Brown, Asian, or any other non-white group, or who face marginalisation due to their culture, race, or religion (Diversity Council Australia, 2023)	2

PERSONS WITH DISABILITY Applicants who identify as living with disability (as defined in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992)	2
REMOTENESS Domestic applicants whose Australian residential address is outside NSW and/or identified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as being in Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Regional Australia, Remote Australia or Very Remote Australia	2
SOCIO ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE Domestic applicants whose residential address is identified by the Australian Bureau of Statistics as being in the lowest 25% on the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage	4

Application Task 1: Audio Task

Submit two audio recordings.

Your recordings must be submitted as MP3 files, and must not exceed the maximum durations.

Audio can be recorded on any device/s including smart phones. We are not assessing your technical skills or access to equipment.

A) Tell Us Your Story

Tell us why you want to study at AFTRS in two minutes. You can include: what makes you unique, your career ambitions, your interests or hobbies, about your family background, the types of stories you'd like to tell, or anything else you want us to know about you.

B) Record a segment for radio or podcast

Choose a radio station or podcast, and record a one-minute segment or talk break for it. The segment can be as creative as you wish. You can also include audio elements like music, sound effects, callers or interview guests if you'd like.

Include a text document describing which radio station or podcast you have chosen, and which audience your segment would appeal to.

What We're Looking For

- We are listening for your potential to make compelling audio that can connect to your audience, not your technical skills (we can teach you those).

Selection Criteria Assessed

- Evidence of curiosity, original creative thinking and enthusiasm.
- Evidence of ability to complete complex tasks and critical thinking.
- Excellent communication skills, including for a broadcast, online or live audience.

Application Task 2: Written Task

Provide a 1-2 page resume or CV, including all your relevant experience. This should include date ranges for your experiences and the contact details of one reference who may be contacted to verify any details.

Your CV should be submitted as a PDF file.

What We're Looking For

- We want to understand what your career aspirations are. We look for your commitment to media or related fields.

Selection Criteria Assessed

- Evidence of interest in, engagement with and aspirations with radio and/or podcasting, or related industries.
- Broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.

Important Information

Certified Copies

A certified copy of an original document is one that has been verified as a true copy by an authorised person.

AFTRS can only consider certified copies as evidence that you have met the admission requirements of the course. This includes your highest educational qualification and your birth certificate or passport.

HOW TO HAVE A DOCUMENT CERTIFIED

To have a document certified you should take the original and a copy to an authorised person. The person must personally verify the copy by writing or stamping on every page of the copy:

"I have sighted the original document and certify this to be a true copy of the original."

The certifier should provide their full name, signature, date, registration number (if any) and their designation, for example, "Justice of the Peace" on every page of the certified copy.

WHO IS AUTHORISED TO CERTIFY A DOCUMENT?

Authorised persons include:

- A Justice of the Peace with a registration number. Copies verified by Justice of the Peace without a registration number will not be accepted
- An accountant – members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, or the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants, or the National Institute of Accountants, or the Association of Taxation and Management Accountants or Registered Tax Agents
- A member of the police force with the rank of sergeant or above
- A barrister, solicitor or patent attorney
- An Admissions or Student Services Officer at AFTRS
- An Admissions or Student Services Officer at any Australian university, TAFE or higher education institution
- A principal, deputy principal, assistant principal or delegate of an Australian high school, secondary college or primary school
- A bank or credit union manager
- A post office manager
- A commissioner for declarations
- A pharmacist

The Use of Generative AI Tools In Your Submission

Generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools, including platforms such as ChatGPT, Notebook LM, Descript, DALL-E, MidJourney and DeepSeek have strong benefits that can enable learning and creativity. They can also be used in ways that bypass the ability to assess an individual's specific creative, craft and communication skills, which are essential in determining if you are eligible for a program.

Applicants are not permitted to submit any work that is 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 your own, it must be acknowledged – this is essential in ethical creative practice and academic integrity.

If you have concerns or questions about the use of generative AI tools, please don't hesitate to contact our Admissions Team.

Additional Information - Notes On Submission Of Materials

- Do not exceed the (total run time) or page length – additional materials will not be reviewed.
- All work should be in English or subtitled in English.
- External links to work samples are not permitted – this prevents materials being altered after submission.
- File names should be clear and descriptive and only include alphanumeric characters (not symbols).
- Do not include your contact details in any documents.
- Documents must be in PDF format. Other file formats will not be considered.
- Keep any text submissions easy to read by using a simple layout and font e.g. Helvetica, Aptos or Times New Roman in 12 point.

Assessment Rubric

Application Task/ Selection Criteria	85-100	75-84	65-74	50-64	0-49
Audio Task (60%) Evidence of curiosity, original creative thinking and enthusiasm. Excellent communication skills, including for a broadcast, online or live audience. Evidence of ability to complete complex tasks and critical thinking.	<p>The tasks are conceptually ambitious, with very clear evidence of curiosity, originality and enthusiasm.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates exceptional communication skills with a nuanced understanding of audience/s.</p> <p>The tasks demonstrate exceptional and nuanced critical thinking and ability to complete complex tasks.</p>	<p>The tasks are conceptually strong, with clear evidence of curiosity, originality and enthusiasm.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates strong communication skills with detailed understanding of audience/s.</p> <p>The tasks demonstrate strong critical thinking and ability to complete complex tasks.</p>	<p>The tasks are conceptually solid, with some evidence of curiosity, originality and enthusiasm.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates solid communication skills with a good understanding of audience/s.</p> <p>The tasks demonstrate solid critical thinking and ability to complete complex tasks.</p>	<p>The tasks are conceptually limited, with limited evidence of curiosity, originality and enthusiasm.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates some communication skills with some understanding of audience/s.</p> <p>The tasks demonstrate some critical thinking and ability to complete complex tasks.</p>	<p>The tasks are not coherent, with limited evidence of curiosity, originality or enthusiasm.</p> <p>The applicant has demonstrated limited communication skills with limited consideration of audience/s.</p> <p>The tasks demonstrate limited critical thinking and ability to complete complex tasks.</p>
Written Task (40%) Evidence of interest in, engagement with and aspirations within Radio and/or Podcasting, or related industries. Broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.	<p>The applicant articulates exceptional engagement in the Radio/Podcasting industry, with nuanced aspirations.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates exceptional broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.</p>	<p>The applicant articulates a strong engagement in the Radio/Podcasting industry, with clearly articulated aspirations.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates strong broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.</p>	<p>The applicant articulates a solid interest and/or engagement with the Radio/Podcasting industry.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates good broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.</p>	<p>The applicant articulates a limited interest in and/or engagement with the Radio/Podcasting industry.</p> <p>The applicant demonstrates broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic or cultural knowledge.</p>	<p>The applicant has not articulated an interest in or engagement with the Radio/Podcasting industry, or any related industries.</p> <p>The applicant does not demonstrate, or demonstrates in a limited way, broad life experience, general knowledge, specialist knowledge on any topic and/or cultural knowledge.</p>

Learn more

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

afters.edu.au/ask

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TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12011
CRICOS Provider Code: 03662D



Australian Government

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