2026 Alumni and Industry Scholarship

Guidelines

Applications open 18 June 2025 and close 21 October 2025



Alumni and Industry Scholarship

Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be able to demonstrate financial need
- Identify as a person from an underrepresented group in the Australian screen industry
- Be an applicant for a position in the Master of Arts Screen in 2026
- Be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen

Purpose

The purpose of this scholarship is to expand and enrich the school's student community by recognising and supporting an outstanding Master of Arts Screen student who can benefit from assistance to study. The successful applicant will be selected on the basis of creative excellence, financial need and the impact that this scholarship would have on their education.

The Alumni and Industry Scholarship is intended to support and develop the career of a gifted storyteller who may not be able to afford to study in Sydney, with a particular focus on under-represented groups in the Australian screen industry. This includes but is not limited to individuals from refugee backgrounds or from culturally and racially marginalised communities, individuals who are gender diverse, people living with a disability and people from low socio economic backgrounds.

One scholarship valued at \$25,000 is offered to provide assistance towards living expenses, relocation costs, study resources or other costs.

How to apply

Firstly, apply for the course.

Then, course applicants should complete the online scholarship application and provide any documentation requested before the closing date.

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Application Dates

Applications open 18 June 2025 and close 21 October 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 internal and external communications. Participation is at the discretion of the recipient.

The successful applicant must have accepted an offer in the 2026 Master of Arts Screen course.

The recipient cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

Application task

Please submit a personal statement, in no more than 1000 words or max. 3 minute video, that addresses the following:

- a. Your background and what under-represented group you identify as belonging to;
- b. Why you want to tell stories; and
- c. The opportunity this scholarship would give you and/or your community.

Demonstrating Need

The application will ask you to provide a statement about your socio-economic circumstances. In addition, you may want to include any other contextual information about your situation that provides an insight into your needs.

Ways of doing this can include:

- Provide information demonstrating exceptional, real and enduring financial need using the Financial Information fields.
- If you receive a means-tested

Commonwealth income support payment (such as Parenting Payment Single, Disability Support Pension, Carers Allowance, Jobseeker, Austudy, ABSTUDY, Youth Allowance), you will be asked to provide supporting evidence.

 Provide documentation of your weekly income and expenditure such as bank statements, pay slips, rental receipts, and/or other financial documents that demonstrate your need.

What we're looking for

The selection panel will consider the applicant's financial need, creative excellence through their course application creative tasks and the impact of this scholarship on the applicant through their personal statement.

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

Other information

In assessing your application, the selection panel 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

Payments

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$25,000, 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 are conditional on the recipient remaining enrolled, in good academic standing, 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

Australian Film Television and Radio School

The Entertainment Quarter Moore Park Sydney NSW 2021

