

# 2026 Pariya Taherzadeh Radio & Podcasting Scholarship

Guidelines

Applications open 18 June 2025 and 17  
November 2025

**AFTRS**

Australian Film Television  
and Radio School

# Pariya Taherzadeh Radio & Podcasting Scholarship

## Who can apply?

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Have experienced barriers to accessing higher education
- Be an applicant for a position in the Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course in 2026
- Be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen

## Purpose

This scholarship is made available by Pariya Taherzadeh who graduated from AFTRS Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting in 2018.

The purpose of this scholarship is to expand and enrich the school's student community by recognising and supporting an outstanding Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting student.

AFTRS encourages applicants who are often under-represented in higher education including but not limited to individuals from refugee backgrounds or from culturally and racially marginalised communities, individuals who are gender diverse or living with a disability and individuals from low socio-economic backgrounds.

Up to two scholarships are offered, providing a contribution to living expenses or towards relocation costs, study resources and other costs. One applicant may be awarded a maximum of \$20,000 or two applicants may be awarded a maximum of \$10,000 each. An optional unpaid internship at talent@pariya is offered during the course of study.

## Application form

Scholarships will only be awarded to those who have been offered a place in the 2026 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting so it is important that you apply for the course as well as apply for the scholarship.

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/s 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/s.

The successful applicant/s must have accepted an offer in the 2026 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course.

The recipient/s cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

## Application tasks

1. Please submit the following two audio recordings:
  - a) Tell us about yourself and 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.

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.

2. A personal statement (max. 1000 words) that addresses the following:
  - a) Your background and what under-represented group you identify as belonging to
  - b) Why you want to tell stories
  - c) The opportunity this scholarship would give you and or your community
  - d) Your career ambitions.
3. Please provide a 1-2 page resume or CV, including all relevant work experience. This should include date ranges for your experiences and the contact details of a reference who may be contacted to verify any details. Do not include your own contact details on the document.

Your CV should be submitted as a PDF file.

## Demonstrating barriers

Demonstrate the barriers that apply to your situation, 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;
- Financial disadvantage
- a visa holder under Australia's humanitarian visa program; or
- you may reside in a regional or remote location.

You should provide documentation that attests to your experience in the relevant area.

## What we're looking for

The selection panel will consider the applicant's creative excellence through their radio and podcasting segments and the impact on the applicant's education through their personal statement, CV and supporting documentation. AFTRS and Pariya Taherzadeh will determine which, if any, applicants 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 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.

## Payments

The maximum value of this scholarship is \$20,000, which may be paid to one recipient or split equally for two recipients and is 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/s 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/s 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/](http://www.aftrs.edu.au/students/future-students/how-to-apply/)

- An English translation of the document by an accredited translator. Do not send original supporting documents.

# Further information

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## 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 the 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](mailto:scholarships@aftrs.edu.au)

[aftrs.edu.au/scholarships](https://aftrs.edu.au/scholarships)

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