

2026 Women in Cinematography Scholarship

sponsored by Sony

Guidelines

Applications open 19 November 2025 and
close 17 December 2025

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School

SONY

Women in Cinematography

Scholarship sponsored by Sony

Who can apply?

This scholarship is open to continuing students.

To be eligible to apply, you must:

- Be a female or gender diverse student currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts Screen: Production course
- Be successfully enrolled in the 2026 Cinematography elective in Semester 1 or Semester 2 for the Bachelor of Arts Screen: Production Year 3
- Successfully complete all subjects with at least 80% attendance for the Bachelor of Arts Screen Production Year 2 in 2025
- Be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen

Purpose

There still exists pronounced gender inequality in the cinematography craft area of the film industry. The ACS's A Wider Lens report released in July 2022 lays out the challenges for women and diverse practitioners including their under-representation in the Australian camera workforce.

Despite improvement in recent years, female students may be underrepresented in the Year 3 Cinematography elective and as cinematographers in third year productions.

This scholarship is offered to encourage women and gender diverse students in Year 3 of the Bachelor of Arts Screen: Production to nominate as cinematographers in an assessable role for POC and graduation productions, having completed the Cinematography elective.

Up to two scholarships will be offered. Each scholarship has a maximum value of \$3,000. The scholarship is intended to support students by providing a financial contribution to either living expenses or study resources.

Application form

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 19 November 2025 and close 17 December 2025.

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

Conditions

The successful applicants must be enrolled in the Cinematography elective in 2026.

The recipient cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

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.

Application tasks

Please submit the following:

1. Nominate a piece of original moving image work for which you were the cinematographer that demonstrates your creativity.

Max. video file size 3GB.

2. Personal Statement (max. 500 words) that addresses the following;
 - a. Why you want to study the cinematography elective;
 - b. The opportunity this scholarship would provide to assist you as a cinematographer to shoot a POC and/or Graduation Project; and
 - c. How you see your cinematography practice contributing to employability and career development.

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.

What we're looking for

This scholarship is intended to recognise creative excellence and applications will be assessed on those grounds.

The selection panel will determine creative excellence on the basis of the selection process applied to all applicants enrolled in the Year 3 Cinematography elective in 2026.

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

Payments

The scholarship is valued at \$3,000. Up to two scholarships will be offered. Study must commence in the academic year for which you are applying.

Payments will be made to the recipient in the semester they study the elective, following the applicable census dates.

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.

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 Scholarships Team.

1300 223 877

scholarships@aftrs.edu.au

aftrs.edu.au/scholarships

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