

Pariya Taherzadeh Cultural Voices Scholarship

GDRP

Guidelines - 2027

Applications open 29 June and close
17 November 2026

AFTRS

Australian Film Television
and Radio School

TALENT STUDIOS

Eligibility and application information

Who can apply?

You can apply for this scholarship if you:

- Self-identify as belonging to a cultural group or community that is underrepresented in the Australian audio industry,
- Are an applicant for a place in the 2027 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course,
- And are an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident or a New Zealand citizen.

Purpose

This scholarship, generously supported by AFTRS alum, Pariya Taherzadeh, supports a diverse and inclusive student community by recognising the strengths and perspectives that under-represented applicants bring to storytelling.

The Pariya Taherzadeh Cultural Voices Scholarship is intended to support outstanding students who bring diverse cultural perspectives to the Australian audio landscape.

Up to two scholarships, valued at \$10,000 each or one scholarship, valued at \$20,000, are offered, providing a contribution to living expenses or towards travel costs, study resources and other costs.

An optional unpaid internship at Talent Studios is offered during the latter stage of the course.

How to apply?

Firstly, apply for the course in AFTRS application portal. Then, check which scholarships you are eligible for.

You may select one or all of the scholarships recommended. Apply by providing the requested information and documents before the closing date.

All applications will be treated confidentially.

Application dates

Applications open 29 June and close on 17 November 2026.

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

Application tasks

Please upload the following:

1. A personal statement, in approx. 500 words, that addresses:
 - a. Who you are – introduce yourself and share anything about your background, lived experience or community that has shaped who you are as a storyteller,
 - b. Your creative interests and aspirations,
 - c. Provide some context about the audio or written sample you have included, and
 - d. The opportunity this scholarship would give you.

2. Produce and record an audio* segment for radio or podcast. You may submit your course application task or create a new piece. The recording should be approx. 2 minutes long.

*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.

3. A professional CV including relevant work experience and your goals in radio and podcasting (approx. 3 pages).

What we're looking for

A selection panel will review all applications and decide who will be awarded the scholarship.

The panel will consider your personal statement, your creative work from the course and scholarship application, and any additional information, such as your CV.

The panel may contact you by email to request further information or supporting documents if needed to make a final decision.

The scholarship may not be awarded if no applicant meets the eligibility criteria.

All decisions are final and cannot be reviewed or discussed.

Translation of documents

If your supporting documents are not in English, please provide 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.

Certification of documents

Most supporting documents must be certified copies with the exception of original digital files and medical documentation.

You can find AFTRS' certification requirements here:

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

General information

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.

Documents must include your legal name.

Medical documentation must include your full legal name and your health practitioner's registration number and Medicare provider number.

Screenshots are not accepted.

File names must be clear and descriptive, using only letters and numbers (no symbols).

The maximum file size is 3 GB.

We ask that you submit your own original work. This means work created in full or in part using generative AI tools should not be included.

What happens next

Notification of outcome

You will be notified by email whether your application is successful in late December 2026.

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.

Scholarship payments are based on the number of units in which you are enrolled per semester. One instalment will be paid each semester after the relevant census dates.

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

Payments will continue while you stay enrolled, meet the eligibility criteria, and follow the expectations in the Student Handbook and AFTRS Code of Conduct.

Scholarship conditions

You must have accepted an offer in the 2027 Graduate Diploma in Radio and Podcasting course.

You cannot defer the commencement of the scholarship.

AFTRS and Talent Studios may create public communications related to this scholarship. Throughout the course you may/will be asked to take part in communications, impact surveys, provide updates or attend scholarship-related events.

We will always seek your consent before using your image or quoting you in AFTRS internal or external communications.

Participation is completely optional. Choosing not to take part will not affect your scholarship.

The optional unpaid internship will take place in latter stage of the course at a mutually agreed time and delivery pattern.

Support and enquiries

If you have questions about this scholarship, your eligibility or access needs, please contact our Scholarships Team.

02 9805 6622

scholarships@aftrs.edu.au

aftrs.edu.au/scholarship

Australian Film Television and Radio School

The Entertainment Quarter
Moore Park
Sydney NSW 2021

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12011
CRICOS Provider Code: 03662D



Australian Government
AFTRS