

About Recreational Aviation Australia Scholarships

RAAus actively supports the future of aviation in Australia with scholarships being just one of the ways we support people in the aviation industry.

Applying for a Scholarship

Please ensure that you read this form carefully before submitting your application. Incomplete applications will not progress.

Scholarship categories

Instructor scholarships are offered to members who hold a current Pilot Certificate and meet the minimum requirements of the Instructor Rating section of the RAAus Flight Operations Manual. The number of scholarships awarded is dependent on available funds. Applicants may only nominate in one category in any scholarship year, including flying and maintainer scholarships.

Applicants must be a full financial flying member of Recreational Aviation Australia.

Submitting your application

Applications can be submitted either electronically to scholarships@raaus.com.au (bearing the subject line "Scholarship Application"), or by post to Scholarships, Recreational Aviation Australia, PO Box 1265, FYSHWICK ACT 2609.

To assist us in correctly assessing each application please ensure that the application is complete before submitting it to our office. If for any reason requested information is not applicable, please mark the form accordingly.

Applications must be received no later than 5pm on 31 March 2026.

Availability of scholarship funds

If you are a successful applicant, funds will be made available from 1 July 2026. Payment for flights and landing fees before 1 July 2026 remain the responsibility of the applicant. Applicants must complete their training within **12 months** of receipt of scholarship funds. However, in exceptional circumstances, students who require more time can apply to the panel for an extension.

Ineligible Applicants

1. Previous recipients of an RAAus scholarship
2. Close relatives of current RAAus Board or staff members
3. Applicants with foreknowledge that they may, for scholarship purposes, have to undergo instruction or testing by a relative

Application Evaluation Process

Applications will be assessed by an independent panel and will be graded solely on the basis of the selection criteria. All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing. The panel's gradings will remain confidential, applicants are welcome to request feedback.

If pre-qualifying criteria are not held prior to application for the Instructor scholarship, the criteria must be completed prior to commencing training using scholarship funds.

Personal details		
RAAus Membership Number	Date of birth	Age
Last name	Title Mr / Mrs / Ms / Miss / Mx / No title / Other:	
Given names	Gender M ☐ F ☐ Non-Binary ☐ Prefer not to say ☐	
Residential address		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Postal address (if different)		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Phone (M)	Phone (H)	
Email		
Previous scholarship applicant Yes ☐ No ☐		

Flight Training School where intended training is to be conducted			
Applicant Logbook Hours	Solo: RAAus	Solo: Other	Dual
Scholarship type	☐ Instructor		
Please select aircraft type for instructor scholarship	☐ 3 Axis	☐ Weightshift Microlight	☐ Powered Parachute

Application Requirements and Selection Criteria

- ☐ I am a full flying financial member of Recreational Aviation Australia.
- Provide a self-authored essay (limit of 1,000 words) on why you wish to become an instructor and how you propose to use the experience (or qualification) when it is gained. (Attach additional page if required)

3. Provide insight, in your own words (limit of 500 words) as to your need for financial assistance.

4. ☐ Member must hold a current Pilot Certificate and meet a minimum of 80% of the required hours as per the relevant Instructor Rating Section of the RAAus Flight Operations Manual at the time of application.
NOTE: Member will be required to meet all requirements and MUST provide a copy of logbook evidence by the end of May to ensure equal consideration.

5. Provide a written recommendation from your CFI as to your potential aptitude for instructing as well as a copy of your previous training records.

☐ Recommendation and training records attached.

6. Two additional references (limit of 500 words) from non-family members (e.g. instructor, licensed pilot who has taken you flying, school teacher, community leader etc.).

CFI recommendation letter NOT included.

☐ Two additional references attached.

7. Be able to demonstrate a sustained commitment to aviation in general. Evidence of this could take the form of ongoing organisation membership (e.g. Air Cadets), member of an RAAus club, hobbies or school/ education subject selections. Please provide details below.

8. ☐ Provide a copy of the relevant medical certificate required for the instructor rating.

Expectations

RAAus and Airservices expect that scholarship recipients will:

1. Use scholarship funds exclusively for the purposes of covering costs associated with RAAus aircraft hire, flying instruction, and landing fees within an RAAus Flight Training School
2. Inform RAAus (preferably, in advance) of extenuating circumstances that have (or could) delay or prevent their training progression
3. Possess the necessary English language skills and general aptitude to facilitate their education
4. Scholarship winners will also agree to participate in ongoing surveys and evaluation activities after completion of your scholarship.

☐ I have read and acknowledge the above expectations.



Scholarship Application Form 2026

Instructor

Applicant Declaration

I, [Your Full Name]_____, understand that Recreational Aviation Australia (RAAus) will accept no liability during any phase of my scholarship training. In the event of my application being successful, I consent to RAAus publishing my name, age, town, photograph, and training progression details for related promotional and reporting purposes.

- ☐ I have read the disclaimer in the attached information sheet.
- ☐ Should your application be incomplete, and if you fail to submit all the necessary documents, your application will not be advanced.

Signature _____

Date _____



Recreational Aviation Australia and AirServices Australia Scholarships Information Sheet

Background

From 2010 AirServices Australia (ASA) generously donated funds to allow ten scholarship candidates each year to have their RAAus flying training subsidised. Due to the generosity of Recreational Aviation Australia (RAAus) members we are also able to fund additional scholarships, with the total number of scholarships and dollar amount of financial support for each candidate based on member donations.

Aims

The aims of Airservices - RAAus Scholarship programs are to:

- Assist people to complete their flying training at reduced cost.
- Support advancement into any career in aviation.
- Retain people who have commenced RAAus flight training.
- Encourage people to become active long-term members of the aviation community.

The scholarship is a support program for people with a demonstrated interest in aviation who are considering an aviation career. The program is particularly focussed on young people who have commenced flight training but who may, due to financial limitations, find it difficult to fly regularly. RAAus also offers scholarships for people over 25 years of age, to complete training for issue of an instructor rating and for people to complete training for Maintenance.

Scholarship Categories

Flying scholarships are offered in two categories.

Airservices Flying scholarship – provides 10 scholarships at \$2,500. The scholarships are awarded to students who are 15 years of age by 1st January of the year they commence training and who will not have reached 21 years of age by 31st December of that year.

RAAus Flying, Instructor rating and Maintainer scholarship – are open to all ages. The number of scholarships awarded is dependent on the available funds.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must:

1. Submit a completed scholarship application form.
2. Be a full flying financial member of RAAus.
3. Provide a self-authored essay (limit of 1,000 words) on why they wish to learn to fly and how they propose to use the experience (or qualification) when it is gained.
4. Provide insight, in their own words (limit of 500 words) as to their need for financial assistance.
5. Have undergone at least **three hours** of formal flight training in an RAAus aircraft for the flying scholarship.
6. Provide a written recommendation from their CFI from an RAAus approved Flight Training School, accompanied by a copy of their student progress records or logbook.
7. Submit two additional references (with a maximum of 500 words each) from individuals who are not family members, such as an instructor, licensed pilot who has flown with them, or a school teacher. Community leader etc.) **The CFI recommendation is mandatory and is not counted among the two reference letters.**
8. Be able to demonstrate a sustained commitment to aviation in general. Evidence of this could take the form of ongoing organisation membership (e.g. Air Cadets, member of an RAAus club, hobbies or school/education subject selections)
9. If individuals are under the age of 18 years, the consent section on the application form must be signed by a parent or guardian to authorise their participation in RAAus flying training.
10. If the applicant does not possess a driver's license, they should submit a written and signed confirmation (from a parent or guardian if under 18) affirming that they fulfill the medical criteria for obtaining a motor vehicle driver's license.
11. Should not have received a pilot certificate from RAAus, unless applying for an instructor rating or maintainer scholarship.
12. Reside within a feasible distance of their training airfield and possess transportation to and from the airfield.

Note. Instructor scholarships are offered to members who hold current Pilot Certificates and meet the minimum requirements of the RAAus Instructor Rating Section of the Flight Operations Manual at the time of application.

Expectations

RAAus and Airservices expect that scholarship recipients will:

1. Use scholarship funds exclusively for the purposes of covering costs associated with RAAus aircraft hire, flying instruction, and landing fees within an RAAus Flight Training School.
2. Inform RAAus (preferably, in advance) of extenuating circumstances that have (or could) delay or prevent their training progression.
3. Possess the necessary English language skills and general aptitude to facilitate their education.
4. Agree to participate in ongoing surveys and evaluation activities after completion of your scholarship.
5. Consent to ASA and RAAus publishing their name, age, state, photograph and training progression details for related promotional and reporting purposes.

Ineligible Applicants

- Previous scholarship recipients
- Close relatives of current RAAus Board members or staff
- Individuals related to flying instructors who might receive instruction or testing from a family member.
- Incomplete applications will not be progressed

Where to send Application Forms

Applications can be submitted either electronically to scholarships@raaus.com.au (bearing the subject line "Scholarship Application"), or by post to Scholarship, Recreational Aviation Australia, PO Box 1265 Fyshwick ACT 2609.

Please be advised that if you have not completed or submitted all required documentation, or if you are not a financial member, your application will not be considered. Furthermore, you will not be contacted by RAAus to provide any missing information. It is your responsibility to ensure that all necessary documents are provided and that your membership status is up-to-date. RAAus reserves the right to reject incomplete applications or those that do not meet the specified requirements.

How will applications be processed?

Applications will be assessed by an independent panel and will be graded solely based on selection criteria.

The panel will:

- Validate all applications.
- Prepare a confidential list of all candidates.

- Prepare a list of graded applications for Airservices Australia to make their recommendations.
- Upon Airservices Australia and RAAus recommendation, advise successful applicants of the outcome and scholarship support in terms of monetary value.
- Advise unsuccessful applicants and thank them for their participation. The panel's gradings will remain confidential, however applicants are welcome to request feedback.

Terms and Conditions

- Scholarships are valid from 1 July to 30 June of the following year
- Applications open at the beginning of March for 4 weeks.
- Applicants are to complete their training and acquit the scholarship funds within twelve months of receiving the scholarship. However, in exceptional circumstances, students who require more time can apply to the panel for an extension of time.
- Should your application be incomplete, and if you fail to submit all the necessary documents, your application will not be advanced.
- Scholarship funding is paid direct to the RAAus Flight Training School and must be accompanied with:
 - a. an invoice made out to Recreational Aviation Australia with the current date of issue from the flying school (invoices can be paid in full or instalments); and
 - b. a copy of their pilot logbook (for the period of the invoice) signed or authenticated by the CFI; and
 - c. a copy of their student pilot training records (for the period of the invoice) signed or authenticated by the CFI.

RAAus Expectation of Scholarship Recipients

RAAus expects that scholarship recipients will:

- Utilise the flying hours wisely to gain a Recreational Pilot Certificate.
- If scholarship funds permit, continue to train for the issue of additional Endorsements.
- Enhance career entry opportunities in the broader aviation industry, including Air Traffic Services.

Disclaimer

By participating in the scholarship application process, you hereby acknowledge and agree that your personal information may be shared with Airservices Australia, OzRunways, and GoFly Online, collectively referred to as "the Scholarship Entities," for the purpose of evaluating and processing your scholarship application.

1. **Purpose of Personal Information Sharing:** The Scholarship Entities require access to certain personal information provided by applicants to effectively evaluate and administer the scholarship program. This information includes but is not limited to your name, contact details, aviation background, flying records, and any other relevant details required for scholarship assessment.
2. **Information Handling and Confidentiality:** The Scholarship Entities are committed to maintaining the confidentiality, integrity, and security of your personal information. They will handle your personal data in accordance with applicable data protection laws and regulations. Your information will be used solely for the purpose of evaluating your scholarship application and contacting you regarding the scholarship process.
3. **Information Sharing:** By submitting your scholarship application, you expressly authorise the Scholarship Entities to share your personal information amongst themselves for the purposes outlined above. This may include the transfer of your personal information between Airservices Australia, OzRunways, and GoFly Online.
4. **Data Retention:** The Scholarship Entities will retain your personal information for as long as necessary to fulfill the scholarship evaluation process and to comply with legal obligations. Upon completion of the scholarship process, your personal information will be securely destroyed or anonymised, as required by applicable laws and regulations.
5. **Consent and Withdrawal:** By participating in the scholarship application process, you give your explicit consent to the sharing and processing of your personal information as described in this disclaimer. If you wish to withdraw your consent or have any concerns regarding the handling of your personal information, please contact the relevant Scholarship Entity using the contact information provided in the scholarship application guidelines.

Please carefully review this disclaimer before submitting your scholarship application. If you do not agree with any part of this disclaimer, refrain from participating in the scholarship application process.

By proceeding with the scholarship application, you confirm that you have read, understood, and agreed to the terms outlined in this disclaimer.