



Australian Women Pilots' Association

FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP - 2026

Sponsored by Airservices Australia

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Australian Women Pilots' Association, through the sponsorship of Airservices Australia, is offering two Flight Training Scholarships up to the value of **\$10,000** each to women who wish to pursue careers in aviation as pilots. The funds are to assist with flight training costs associated with gaining any stage of flying proficiency in either fixed wing or rotary aircraft from the early stages of training through to Commercial Pilot Licence. Applicants must be training with a Part 141 or 142 flying school.

There are two categories of scholarship with one scholarship available in each category:

Category 1 is open to student pilots who have reached their first solo flight.

Category 2 have logged at least 5 hours cross country flight as PIC in their training enroute to CPL.

BACKGROUND

Airservices Australia is the national air traffic control organisation and a global leader responsible for the provision of air navigation services. It has a responsibility under the Airservices Act 1995 to 'Foster and Promote Aviation'.

Airservices Australia believes it is in the long term interests of the aviation industry to assist young people to pursue a career in aviation. To this end, it has donated funds to provide four scholarships that will be awarded on merit to successful female applicants, and each scholarship is to assist with the flight training costs of the successful candidate.

Australian Women Pilots' Association (AWPA) is a national representative body of women pilots. Its objectives include the encouragement and advancement of women pilots in career and recreational pursuits in aviation. Each scholarship provides one woman with the opportunity to advance her flying career. AWPA is particularly appreciative of the opportunities this sponsorship by Airservices Australia provides.

Women wishing to apply must use the official application form and ensure they meet the following criteria and understand the conditions of the award should they be successful.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

1. Category 1 – have achieved first solo flight in an aeroplane or helicopter; Category 2 – have logged at least 5 hours cross country flight as PIC in their training enroute to CPL.
2. Hold a current CASA Class 1 or 2 aviation medical.
3. Be a financial member of AWPAA and remain one for the duration of the scholarship term (Note that applications from non-members to join AWPAA must have been received by the Membership Secretary by **1 January 2026**).
4. Be at least 15 years of age
 - a. (Note: Where an applicant is under 18 years of age, the application must be accompanied by a letter of consent signed by a parent or guardian).

In addition, an applicant will be expected to provide:

5. Details and evidence of educational achievements where applicable.
6. A recent letter of recommendation from a flying instructor or other aviation person detailing proficiency and aptitude for aviation.
7. An essay.
8. Other background information.

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants will be considered for their ambition to pursue an aviation career as a pilot and their plan for how they intend to realise that career. Other factors that will be considered include aptitude for leadership and community involvement.

All applications will be assessed at the discretion of the selection panel whose decision will be final. No correspondence or discussion will be entered into after the announcement of scholarship recipients.

The winners will be announced by Airservices Australia at the Awards and Presentation Dinner on 9th of May 2026, in Airlie Beach QLD..

SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS and FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

The scholarship funds will be available from the date of announcement of the successful applicants on 9th May 2026 to 30 June 2027.

A short period of scholarship retrospectivity will be available to recipients. Any relevant training conducted from when applications close will be eligible to be claimed against the scholarship funds – so the practical term of the scholarship is 1 February 2026 to 30 June 2027.

The scholarship funds are to be used for **flight training only**. Funds are not to be expended on the purchase of equipment, books, apparel or flights not directly supervised as part of the training program.

Flight training must be with a Part 141 or 142 flying school.

The scholarship funds of up to \$10,000 per scholarship comprise two components:

1. \$8,000 to meet flying training costs – paid by AWPAs to the flying school after the training has occurred and once fully itemised invoices have been provided to the AWPAs National Treasurer by the school; any retrospective claims will be reimbursements to the recipient on submission of fully itemised invoices that have been paid.
2. \$2,000 available as bonus payments on attainment of certain achievement milestones as follows:
 - a. **Category 1: Student Pilot:**
 - i. \$1,000 on achievement of the proficiency level required to start navigation training as verified by the flying school
 - ii. \$1,000 on achieving PPL or equivalent as verified by CP or HOO/CFI
 - b. **Category 2: Post 5 hours cross-country flight time Pilot in Command:**
 - i. \$1,000 on passing all CPL subjects
 - ii. \$1,000 on achieving CPL.

Each recipient may also be requested to provide a photograph of themselves for use by Airservices Australia in promotion of their sponsorship.

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

These scholarships always attract a strong field of applicants. Accordingly, applicants are encouraged to attend to the details required in making a complete and thorough application.

Applications are to be submitted electronically via the website.

Should you require a paper form of the application please Email:

scholarship.coordinator@awpa.org.au

Applications close on 31 January 2026. Late applications will not be accepted.

Enquiries: scholarship.coordinator@awpa.org.au

Multiple scholarship applications will be accepted but an applicant can only be awarded one scholarship.