



The SFC Indigenous Flight Training Scholarship

**SCHOFIELDS FLYING CLUB LIMITED
ACN 000 950 943 RTO 90866**

Scholarship Description and Terms and Conditions

Introduction

Schofields Flying Club Ltd (“SFC”) is one of the largest flying clubs in New South Wales. The club has had a proud history of flying operations over 50 years, with flight training as one of its core propositions.

SFC wish to improve our commitment to the attraction, recruitment and retention of indigenous Australians, and this begins with the attraction of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to our Commercial Pilot Licence training courses.

With this outcome in mind, SFC has created **The SFC Indigenous Flight Training Scholarship** “THE SCHOLARSHIP”.

Objectives

The objectives of THE SCHOLARSHIP are to (i) encourage indigenous persons to consider a career as a pilot and (ii) to improve the affordability of training towards this career goal.

Background and context

SFC delivers the AVI50219 Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence - Aeroplane) course (“THE COURSE”) which is intended for students with little, or no, aviation experience. THE COURSE commences approximately four times per year at SFC’s Bankstown Airport campus in NSW.

THE COURSE is funded under the Australian Government’s VET Student Loan scheme for eligible applicants. The VET Student Loan is subject to a cap which is index-linked. In the 2021 calendar year the loan cap is \$80,388.

SFC charges a fee for THE COURSE which is above the VSL loan cap. At the time of writing SFC charge \$93,900 for this course, resulting in a gap payment of \$13,512 payable by the student. This gap is payable through instalments across numerous ‘census dates’ throughout THE COURSE.

The gap fee payable may vary with each course intake as both the loan cap, and/or SFC’s course fee, change over time.

THE SCHOLARSHIP

SFC will award one scholarship (THE SCHOLARSHIP) for THE COURSE commencing 18th October 2021. The value of THE SCHOLARSHIP to the recipient is equal to the applicable gap payment between the SFC course fee and the VSL loan cap for THE COURSE. At the time of writing this is \$13,512 and is subject to change as either the loan cap and/or SFC's course fee change over time.

Prerequisites

To be eligible for THE SCHOLARSHIP an applicant must:

- Be an Australian Citizen
- Identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Not hold any powered flight pilot licence or certificate (includes but is not limited to RPC, RPL, PPL) or their equivalents in other countries
- Meet all of SFC's prerequisites for THE COURSE
- Be recommended for THE COURSE following a final screening interview conducted by SFC
- Be able to meet all of the training requirements for the course including those of adequate time commitment and an ability to get to Bankstown Airport, NSW, for flight and ground theory training throughout the duration of THE COURSE
- Continue to meet all ground and flight training competencies, including passes in the required CASA aeronautical ground theory examinations, throughout THE COURSE duration
- Be able to self-fund any additional (3rd party) costs as required by THE COURSE
- Qualify for a full VET Student Loan up to the relevant course cap
- Submit to SFC, at the final course screening interview, a personal statement of up to 500 words describing their interest in aviation and why they believe they are a worthy recipient of THE SCHOLARSHIP

Application process

All applicants for THE SCHOLARSHIP must commence the application process and gathering of prerequisites for THE COURSE commencing 18th October 2021 in order to apply.

At the final screening interview, prior to course commencement, the personal statement must be submitted to the interview panel.

After all candidates for THE COURSE have conducted their final screening interview, all applicants for THE SCHOLARSHIP will be considered by the SFC Chief Executive Officer and the SFC Head of Operations (Chief Pilot) and a decision will be made on the recipient of the THE SCHOLARSHIP.

The criteria for awarding THE SCHOLARSHIP will include

- Performance in THE COURSE prerequisites including the SFC numeracy assessment and Flight Experience Package/Check Flight
- The strength of the personal statement submitted
- Performance in the final screening interview

Discontinuation

SFC reserve the right to rescind THE SCHOLARSHIP if the recipient:

- Is unable to commence THE COURSE on 18th October 2021
- Is unable to continue training on THE COURSE. This includes, but is not limited to, suspension or termination on performance, medical or character grounds
- Fails to meet minimum attendance requirements as detailed in THE COURSE student handbook
- Does not meet the required competencies during THE COURSE, including but not limited to CASA aeronautical knowledge examinations and flight training competencies as assessed by SFC or external examiners
- Is unable to access the required VET Student Loan for THE COURSE
- Is found in breach of any policy as detailed in the student handbook for THE COURSE

Payment process

Payment of THE SCHOLARSHIP is achieved by the removal of the gap payment between THE COURSE fee and THE COURSE VET Student Loan cap.

At the time of writing:

- A student completing THE COURSE without a scholarship is liable for a \$13,512 gap fee payment, payable in instalments throughout THE COURSE
- The recipient of the THE SCHOLARSHIP will be liable for no gap fee payments throughout THE COURSE

Compliance

Schofields Flying Club Limited is committed to the upmost compliance with each of the regulatory bodies by which we are governed.

Section 61 of the VET Student Loans Act 2016 states that *“the offering of bursaries, scholarships, or other forms of tuition fee discounts or subsidies to students studying approved courses is not prohibited. However, their offering must not be reasonably likely to induce a prospective student to apply for a VET student loan for a course”*.

To remain compliant with this guidance, a prospective student should not apply for THE SCHOLARSHIP unless they are willing and able to fund THE COURSE in the absence of being awarded THE SCHOLARSHIP. A statement of intent to participate in THE COURSE irrespective of the outcome of THE SCHOLARSHIP application will be required during the final screening interview.

Schofields Flying Club Limited will not accept an application to join THE COURSE from a student who we reasonably believe would not make such an application in the absence of THE SCHOLARSHIP.

Minimum student numbers

Schofields Flying Club Limited reserves the right not to offer THE SCHOLARSHIP should minimum student numbers not be reached for THE COURSE.

The minimum number of enrolments required to offer THE SCHOLARSHIP is ten (10).

Exclusions

Employees of Schofields Flying Club Limited are not eligible to receive THE SCHOLARSHIP

Disputes

Should a dispute arise between a scholarship recipient and Schofields Flying Club Limited, decisions made by Schofields Flying Club Limited shall be final.