



The SFC Women Pilot Scholarship

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

**THE AUSTRALIAN WOMEN PILOTS' ASSOCIATION
ABN 61 009 026 279**

Scholarship Description and Terms and Conditions



Introduction

The aim of the Australian Women Pilots' Association (AWPA) is to foster closer relationships and unity among women pilots, to assist women to undertake flying in Australia and elsewhere, and to develop public interest in aviation, especially among women generally to assist in the development of aviation. The Association awards scholarships annually to members and non-members.

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 women pilots, and this begins with the attraction of female students to our Commercial Pilot Licence training courses.

With this outcome in mind SFC has partnered with AWPA to create **The SFC Women Pilot Scholarship** "THE SCHOLARSHIP".

Objectives

The objectives of THE SCHOLARSHIP are to (i) encourage more women 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 agrees to award two scholarships annually. The value of the award for each recipient is equal to the applicable gap payment between the SFC course fee and the VSL loan cap for the AVI50219 Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence - Aeroplane) course. At the time of writing this is \$13,512 per recipient, and is subject to change as both the loan cap, and SFC's course fee, change over time.

Prerequisites

To be eligible for THE SCHOLARSHIP an applicant must:

- Be female
- Be an Australian Citizen
- Be a Member (Student, Junior, Open or Associate) of the Australian Women Pilots Association (AWPA) or have submitted their AWPA membership application by 31st December 2021 prior to the 31st January 2022 scholarship deadline
- 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 AVI50219 Diploma of Aviation (Commercial Pilot Licence - Aeroplane) 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



Advertising and Application process

Key dates

- THE SCHOLARSHIP will be published in the June 2021 AWPA Air News magazine
- The application deadline is 31st January 2022
- A decision on award winners will occur by 28th February 2022
- Award winners will be notified in writing by 31st March 2022
- Award winners will have up to twelve (12) months from the date of award notification to commence THE COURSE with SFC

Each application should consist of (i) a declaration that they meet the prerequisites and (ii) a personal statement from the applicant of no more than 500 words detailing their passion for aviation and why they would be a worthy recipient of the award. After the closing date for applications SFC and AWPA will meet and jointly decide on the winning scholarship application based on (i) compliance with prerequisites and (ii) strength of personal statement in line with the timelines above. Two representatives from each organisation will make the final decision; in the case of AWPA the representatives will be the National President and National Vice-President. In case of a tie, the final decision shall rest with the CEO of Schofields Flying Club Limited.

Discontinuation

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

- Is unable to commence the course within twelve (12) months of award notification
- Is unable to continue training on THE COURSE which they have started. 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.