



**ELEVATE**

**ATSE**

Scholarship  
guidelines



Scholarship opening date	Friday 29 July 2022
Closing date and time	To be included in the assessment round for 2023 scholarships, applications must be submitted by 11:59pm on 30 September 2022.  Applications submitted from 1 October 2022 will be included for consideration for scholarships for 2024.
Administering entity	Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering
Enquiries	elevate@atse.org.au
Guideline version	2022 Version 1.0



Australian Academy of  
Technological Sciences  
& Engineering

[atse.org.au/elevate](https://atse.org.au/elevate)

Elevate is administered on behalf of DISR by ATSE, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences & Engineering

ATSE acknowledges the following valuable partners





**ELEVATE**

**ATSE**

## Boosting women in STEM

# Scholarship guidelines

### Introduction

These guidelines contain information related to:

- (a) The process of selecting Elevate scholars for the 2023 round of scholarships for the Elevate: Boosting Women in STEM program ('Elevate'); and
- (b) The conditions of the award for the Elevate scholarships.

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It is recommended that Applicants read these guidelines before filling out an application. The Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) will ensure the grant opportunity process is fair, in accordance with these published guidelines. ATSE may update these Guidelines as required. When this happens, the revised Guidelines will be published at: [Elevate | ATSE](#).

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This document sets out:

- (a) the Elevate Program and scholarship opportunities;
- (b) the eligibility requirements and selection criteria;
- (c) the process of and timeline for application consideration;
- (d) the expectations of scholars engaging in the program.

## The Elevate program and scholarship opportunities

ATSE's Elevate: Boosting women in STEM program ("Elevate") will foster industry-academia collaborations in applied research and business, extend qualifications and skills in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) and business, and propel women into senior leadership by awarding up to 500 undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships to women in STEM.

### Strategic objectives

The strategic objectives of Elevate are:

- Encourage women to pursue education and careers in STEM
- Foster industry-academia collaborations in applied research and business
- Extend qualifications and professional skills in STEM and business
- Propel women into senior leadership
- Award up to 500 undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships to women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) over six (6) years.

The program aims to address gender inequities in STEM by fostering more women-led industry-academia collaborations in applied research and business, growing professional skills of women in STEM and by propelling women into senior leadership.

### Core principles and values of the program

The core principles of the Elevate program will be led by ATSE's values, including:

- Integrity and transparency
- Inclusion and accessibility
- Collaboration and impact
- Excellence and independence
- Sustainability
- Professional excellence

Elevate is funded by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) as part of the Australian Government's 7-year \$41.2 million "Boosting the Next Generation of Women in STEM" fund.

### Number of Scholarships

The number of scholarships given out each year may vary and is at the discretion of program management.

There will be a total of up to 500 scholarships given out over the six (6) years of the program (2023-28), across the three scholarship types. In total over the six years, there will be up to 80 undergraduate, 370 postgraduate and 50 leadership scholarships, for study at a university located in Australia to gain, extend, or build on STEM education and qualifications.

Scholars who have received one Elevate scholarship are not eligible to be considered for a second Elevate scholarship.



## Eligibility requirements and selection criteria

### Eligibility

To be considered, all applicants for any scholarship must meet these three eligibility criteria:

#### 1. Be a domestic student

Domestic students, as defined by the Department of Education are:

- an Australian Citizen; or
- a person entitled to stay in Australia, or enter and stay in Australia, without any limitation as to time (including holders of an Australian permanent visa); or
- a New Zealand citizen; or
- a diplomatic or consular representative of New Zealand, a member of the staff of such a representative, or a spouse, de facto partner or dependent relative.

#### 2. Identify as a woman

- Any applicant who identifies as a woman.
- For the purpose of this program, the definition of woman is that provided by DISR.
- According to DISR, the term women (including girls for minors) encompasses cisgender (personal gender identity corresponds with sex assigned at birth), transgender, non-binary and intersex persons who identify as women (girls). This is available at: <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/advancing-women-in-stem-strategy/conclusion/definitions>

#### 3. Be planning to undertake a STEM degree or Master of Business Administration (MBA) at an Australian University

- Applicants who are planning to study at any Australian University, as defined by Study Australia.
- Applicants who are planning to study in any science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) discipline, or a Master of Business Administration (MBA).
- Applicants who are planning to commence study in 2023.

Applicants currently studying are ineligible for their current degree, however the Elevate Team would be delighted to receive their applications in the future, if the applicant chooses to undertake postgraduate studies or further study to elevate their leadership skills

Further additional criteria apply, dependent on the type of scholarship selected.



## Scholarship categories

### Undergraduate Scholarship

To receive an undergraduate scholarship applicants must either have an offer from an Australian university for a STEM course or intention to study a STEM course at an Australian university. Those who are selected for an Elevate scholarship while awaiting the outcome of their university application will be awarded the scholarship conditional on receiving an offer and providing evidence of acceptance to the Elevate team. Scholars must commence university in the year for which their scholarship commences.

### Postgraduate Scholarship

If applying for a postgraduate scholarship, prospective applicants must have identified or plan to identify a research project in an applied domain in a research team at an Australian University. They must have accepted an offer to study at an Australian University or if they are selected for an Elevate scholarship and are awaiting the outcome of their university application, will be awarded the scholarship conditional on receiving an offer and providing evidence of university acceptance to the Elevate team. Scholars must commence studying in the year in which their scholarship commences.

### Leadership Scholarship

If applying for a leadership scholarship, prospective applicants must have an offer from a university for either studies in start-ups or mature business or areas of high job growth that address nationally important industry STEM skills gaps, or an intention to study a Masters of Business Administration at an Australian university. Applicants must have completed a prior STEM qualification. Those selected for an Elevate scholarship who are awaiting the outcome of their university application will be awarded the scholarship conditional on receiving an offer and providing evidence of acceptance to the Elevate team. Scholars must commence studying in the year in which their scholarship commences.

The nationally important industry skills gap are defined by the National Manufacturing Priorities. These are resources technology and critical minerals processing; food and beverage; medical products; recycling and clean energy; defence and space. Consultation also identified the following areas which will be taken into consideration on application: natural sciences (agriculture, environmental sciences, climate sustainability and adaption, geology and entomology) and engineering (material engineering, chemical engineering, minerals, energy, transport and circular economy).



There will also be respect for and consideration of Indigenous Knowledges in STEM when considering an applicant's STEM background across all three scholarship streams.

## University choice

All Australian universities are eligible to host an Elevate scholar. As part of the program, hosting organisations must commit to supporting gender equity, diversity and inclusion. Scholars will be supported to study at any Australian university that offers a relevant course and commits to the principles of the program. Scholarships will be awarded directly to the successful applicant: an individual. No scholarship will be awarded to an organisation.

We encourage applicants to investigate in-person study options where possible, to build a supportive community and study environment. However, we appreciate that the circumstances of some students mean online study is a more viable option.

## Discipline of study

Elevate scholarships will be open for study in all STEM disciplines. During the consultation period, however, certain disciplines were identified as priority targets for both undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships due to the underrepresentation of women in these fields. These disciplines include:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Computer science
- Engineering
- Materials engineering
- Maths
- Natural sciences
- Physical sciences
- Physics
- Robotics
- Software development
- Space science
- Spatial science

## Diversity & inclusion

Diversity and inclusion considerations, and consideration of career disruptions and achievements relative to opportunity, will be embedded into the assessment and selection process. Applicants will be given the option to share how they identify and their individual journey and circumstances. All applicants will be considered for scholarships even if they do not disclose how they identify.

Applicants will be asked if they identify with the following:

- Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- Belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community
- First in their family to attend university
- From a culturally and/or linguistically diverse background
- From a low-socioeconomic background
- From a regional, rural or remote area
- Have caring responsibilities (e.g. children, special needs, disability, medical, aged care)
- Living with disability
- Neurodiverse
- Person of colour
- Returning to education and/or work after a significant period away



No information about how an applicant identifies will be included in an offer letter or other communications from the Elevate team.

## Process and timeline for application consideration

Applications for Elevate scholars will be open year-round. Each year, ATSE will review applications for the following year.

The deadline for Elevate scholarships for 2023 is 11:59pm 30th September 2022. Any applications received after this deadline will be considered for scholarships starting in 2024.

The Elevate team highly encourages applicants to start the application process early. The portal saves progress of the application and applicants can return to their application at any time.

### Timeline for study beginning in 2023

Applications open	9:00am, 29 July 2022
Deadline for 2023 consideration	11:59pm, 30th September 2022
Assessment period	9:00am 1st October 2022
Scholarships announced	November 2022
Scholarships commence	January 2023

### Assessment of Scholarships

Eligible applications will be assessed by an expert selection committee consisting of diverse and inclusive leaders, representative of the STEM ecosystem. The panel will review the applicant's responses and discipline of study and will consider the diversity of applicants.

This panel will be responsible for recommending applicants for Elevate scholarships.

### Awarding of Scholarships

Scholarships will be awarded in November for study commencing in 2023. The duration of the scholarship will be for the maximum duration of the course, up to three years (full-time) for undergraduate and postgraduate degrees and two years (full-time) for Masters or MBAs. This will be offered pro-rata for part-time scholars.

Elevate scholars must commence study in the year in which their scholarships commence (i.e. For 2022 applicants, scholars must commence study in semester one 2023), as scholarships cannot be deferred to a future year. Scholars who choose to not take up their scholarship can apply for an Elevate scholarship in a future year, however, a scholarship offer one year does not guarantee a scholar will be found suitable in a subsequent year.

Due to the anticipated high volume of applications, individual feedback for the unsuccessful applicants will not be provided.

### Payment of Scholarship

Scholars will receive a payment in advance of the commencement of their first semester of study, after all required documentation and proof of enrolment has been received by the Elevate team. This payment is designed to help with relocation and study initiation costs.



Subsequent payments will be made quarterly, following receipt of the previous quarter's reporting requirements and that the scholar remains eligible for the scholarship.

Eligible expenditure for the Elevate scholarship includes living, study and travel related expenses. Examples could include: university fees, course fees, textbooks, living expenses, relocation expenses and other expenses the scholar feels are necessary to assist them with their studies (for example, healthcare, childcare, digital technologies, or transportation). Scholars will not be asked to acquit receipts for their spending; however, they will be requested to provide a written overview of how the funding has assisted with their studies.

It is the sole responsibility of the scholar to self assess their own tax position and seek tax advice in relation to the scholarship agreement. It is recommended scholars visit the Australian Taxation Office Website to find out more: Scholarship payments and tax | Australian Taxation Office ([ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au)).

### **Interaction with other scholarships**

Scholars may hold more than one scholarship. However, it is the responsibility of an Elevate scholar to ensure that they are eligible for any other scholarship they hold concurrently, and that the Elevate scholarship will not impact on or contradict eligibility for another scholarship.

## **Expectations of Scholars**

### **Study load**

Scholars are expected to commence a full-time study load. ATSE understands that not everyone will be able to undertake a full-time load. Part time, work/study arrangements will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and for work/study will require the written commitment and support of the scholar's employer.

For the purposes of the scholarship, the recognition of a part-time or full-time load will be determined by the eligible provider of the eligible course of study. Students who are considered eligible for part-time scholarships will receive 50% of the payment each quarter for up to six years. The amount of the scholarship will not exceed the total amount allowable for any scholarship: \$30 000 for an undergraduate scholarship, \$82 000 for a postgraduate scholarship and \$70 000 for a leadership scholarship. Students will receive payments each quarter for the time their course of study would have taken at the commencement of the program (up to a maximum of three years), even if their period of study surpasses this time frame.

Scholars wishing to make amendments to their study patterns must provide a written request of study pattern alternation in advance of any changes to study load. Part-time scholars considering a transition to full-time studies will be permitted (confirmation is required from the university in writing prior to adjusting a payment schedule) and full-time scholars looking to transfer to part-time will be considered on a case-by-case basis. If a scholar commences part-time study without prior agreement, their scholarship may be revoked, at the discretion of the Elevate team.

### **Change of degree**

If the scholar changes course of study without notice to the Elevate team, or if a scholar changes to a course that not aligned with the eligibility criteria for the scholarship, the scholar will become ineligible for their scholarship, starting from the semester in which the change of course is made.

If a scholar discontinues the course(s) that make them eligible during a semester, they will not be eligible for scholarship funding for that semester. If a scholar's course of study changes but still meets the



scholarship eligibility criteria, they will be required to provide written evidence of continuing eligibility, to continue to receive scholarship payments. The maximum three years of scholarship funding will not be extended.

#### **Failure to complete courses**

If a scholar does not successfully complete all their courses within the usual anticipated time-frame, scholars will have the opportunity to extend their courses. However, the duration of the scholarship will not be extended to account for additional periods of study. Scholars will be supported with mentoring and encouraged to access their institution's support pathways.

Scholars who do not meet the basic completion requirements of their courses for a second semester in a row may have their scholarship revoked unless evidence of extenuating circumstances can be provided. Scholars who provide evidence of extenuating circumstances and wish to continue their studies, may be supported for part-time study. This will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Withdrawal from study**

Scholars will be supported to continue their studies. Scholars who wish to withdraw from their studies, without the intent to continue after a defined period, will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Scholars who withdraw from their studies may be required to repay part of their scholarship, at the discretion of the Elevate team.

#### **Leave of absence**

Scholars wishing to suspend study for up to six months will be invited to submit a compelling case providing their intention to continue their studies and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Examples could include caring responsibilities, health requirements or cultural commitments. Information regarding Leave of Absence will be held in confidence.

The scholarship will be withheld while the study suspension is in place. If the scholar does not resume their studies after a period of suspension, the scholarship may be revoked and the withdrawal from study advice will apply.

No Elevate Scholarship can be suspended in the first semester of study of the Scholarship period.

#### **Program engagement**

Scholars are expected to engage with some of the programmatic aspects of the scholarship that are in addition to the funding, such as mentoring, internships and workshops.

After receiving a scholarship, scholars will be asked if they consent to share their photograph, biography, and social media handles as part of their participation in the program, to assist with the promotion of the scholarships. Scholars will also be asked to provide to the Elevate team previous organisational affiliations, any previous media training completed, and media experience and any videos, podcasts or information scholars wish to provide about their previous work or experience. This section is not compulsory, and prior experience is not a criterion for selection. Scholars will also be asked to commit to being a champion of the program and available for contact for two years after the conclusion of their scholarship. This information and commitments will be requested of the successful applicants on award of their scholarship.

#### **Reporting**

Scholars will be asked to provide quarterly reports and participate in relevant surveys as part of the Elevate program's evaluation and reporting. The reporting may ask for a personal reflection and/or an overview of how the scholarship money has been of assistance in achieving academic objectives.



Reports must be submitted at the end of each quarter, prior to the next allocation of scholarship funding. Participation in surveys is a requirement of the scholarship: these must be completed when requested by the Elevate team.

## Probity, privacy, confidential information

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering Ltd is committed to protecting the privacy of applicants' personal information.

The Academy is required by the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (Privacy Act) to comply with the Australian Privacy Principles (APP) (subject to other provisions of the Privacy Act). The APPs regulate the way personal information is handled throughout its life cycle, from collection to use and disclosure, storage, accessibility, and disposal.

The Academy has its Privacy Policy available on its website and can also provide a hard copy version upon request. If applicants would like more information or a hard copy of the Academy Privacy Policy, please contact ATSE's Privacy Officer on 02 6285 3240 or [info@atse.org.au](mailto:info@atse.org.au).

Or write to us:  
The Privacy Officer  
Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering  
Level 2, 28 National Circuit  
Forrest ACT 2603

ATSE's privacy policy: [ATSE Privacy Policy](#)

## ATSE Code of Conduct

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) is committed to leading a positive and ethical culture in which all persons treat each other with respect.

ATSE's Fellows, Employees, Workers and Participants agree to conduct themselves with respect, integrity, transparency, inclusion, collaboration, excellence and independence. We agree to treat each other respectfully, responsibly and ethically, and are guided in all our activities by the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When acting in relation to ATSE, Fellows, Employees, Workers and Participants are expected to behave as exemplars for the applied science, engineering and technology sectors.

ATSE's Code of Conduct: [ATSE Code of Conduct](#)

## Questions during the application process

Please direct any questions during the application period to the Elevate team and they will endeavour to respond to questions within three working days.

The Elevate team will not respond to enquires submitted after 5:00pm on 30 September 2022, until 9:00am 4 October 2022. We recommend anyone seeking guidance or advice for their applications submit their questions in advance of the deadline.

[elevate@atse.org.au](mailto:elevate@atse.org.au)



## Glossary

### **Academic transcript**

The list of subjects and academic results provided by institutions.

### **Applicant**

The person applying for an Elevate Scholarship.

### **Scholar**

A person who has been awarded an Elevate Scholarship.

### **Australian university**

A registered higher education provider for the purposes of the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011 (Cth) that is registered in an 'Australian University' category.

### **Conflict of interest**

Refers to real, apparent, or potential private or personal associations or interests (financial or non-financial) which improperly influence, or may improperly influence, a person's performance of their role and responsibilities in relation to the Elevate: Boosting Women in STEM Program.

### **Internship**

The position of a student or trainee who works in an organisation to gain work experience or satisfy requirements for a qualification.

### **Mentorship**

The relationship between a Mentor and a Mentee, with guidance provided by a Mentor, especially an experienced person in a company or educational institution.

### **Low socio-economic status**

Students who are from a low socio-economic background, as measured by the lowest quartile of the ABS Socio-Economic Index for Areas (SEIFA) Index of Education and Occupation (IEO) measured at Statistical Area 1 (SA1) level.

### **Scholarship**

A grant or payment made to support a student's education .

### **Women**

According to the Department of Industry, Science and resources (DISR), the term women (including girls for minors) encompasses cisgender (personal gender identity corresponds with sex assigned at birth), transgender, non-binary and intersex persons who identify as women (girls).

For more information visit:

<https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/advancing-women-in-stem-strategy/conclusion/definitions>





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**Australian Government**  
**Department of Industry,  
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