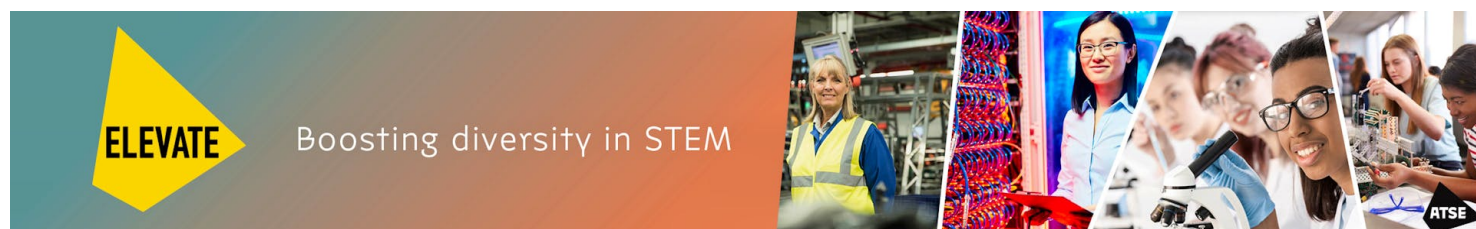


## Sample form, not for offline completion.

Visit <https://atse.grantplatform.com> to apply.



# 2026 Leadership Scholarship

Up to \$70,000 for a maximum of two years. Applicants who are more than 5 years post-graduation from a STEM degree, are working within the STEM sector and intend to commence a higher degree to improve business acumen should select this category. Applicants who demonstrate leadership capability will be prioritised in this category.

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## Program Selection

The Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) has a variety of programs. Find out more [here](#).

Applications are currently open for the [Elevate: Boosting diversity in STEM](#) program 2026 ("Elevate").

Elevate will award at least 500 undergraduate and postgraduate scholarships to women and non-binary people in STEM across the duration of the program.

The Elevate program provides:

- A scholarship
- Access to skill-building workshops
- Access to peer mentoring and networking events
- Access to 24/7 wellbeing and psychosocial support

Before completing an application for the Elevate: Boosting diversity in STEM program, please ensure that you have reviewed the [Elevate Program Guidelines](#). It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure they are eligible to apply for the program. All application questions must be answered unless (optional) appears next to the question.

The confidentiality of applicants is of paramount importance. The information included in eligible applications will be used to assess applicants for Elevate scholarships, but personal information including the name and descriptions of gender identity of the applicant will not be provided to the assessors. The information linked to the applicant's name will only be accessed by ATSE.

**Applications for the 2026 Elevate program close at 9:00am (AEST Canberra/Sydney/Melbourne) Monday 1 September 2025**

ATSE will not respond to enquiries submitted after 5:00 pm (AEST Canberra/Sydney/Melbourne) on Thursday 28 August 2025. We recommend anyone seeking guidance or advice for their applications submit their questions in advance of the deadline. Late applications cannot be accepted.

A blank application form is available for download [here](#)

## Alternative modes of submission

ATSE is committed to providing inclusive and equitable access to all potential applicants. If for any reason you are unable to submit written responses to the questions in this application form, ATSE will also accept alternative modes of submission. Applicants may prefer to create a video, either of themselves or from images or drawings that they compile. Applicants may also submit applications verbally via an interview with a member of the Elevate team. Applicants must still convey responses to questions as per the application form, as assessors are still required to score applications against key selection criteria.

To discuss your options for alternative modes of submission, please contact ATSE at [applications@atse.org.au](mailto:applications@atse.org.au) or call 02 6185 3240.

Applicant name (pre-filled)

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## Eligibility Check

Eligibility requirements for the Elevate: Boosting diversity in STEM scholarships can be found in the [Elevate Program Guidelines](#).

### **Applicants are required to meet all three eligibility criteria to proceed to the application form:**

- Identify as a woman or non-binary person
- Be enrolling as a domestic student at an Australian University
- Be planning to undertake a STEM degree or higher studies to improve business acumen (Leadership category only), commencing in 2026.

The scholarships are available to those who plan to commence study in 2026. Those who are currently studying, or plan to commence study in 2025 are ineligible to apply for their current degree.

Any additional questions regarding eligibility, please contact the ATSE team at: [applications@atse.org.au](mailto:applications@atse.org.au)

How do you describe your gender identity?

☐ Woman

☐ Non-Binary

☐ Man

☐ I use a different term (please specify)

The purpose of this grant, provided by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR) is to support individuals who identify as a woman or non-binary person in STEM. All applicants must identify as a woman or as non-binary or may refer to themselves using a different term.

While the term non-binary is regularly used to include all people who do not identify as a man or woman, ATSE acknowledges that this term may not describe your own gender identity, and therefore, you are welcome to nominate a different term. Please note that this information will not be shared with anyone outside ATSE, including assessors. Your answer to this question will only be used by ATSE to determine your eligibility for the program.

If you are unsure about your eligibility for the Elevate program with respect to your gender identity, please email [applications@atse.org.au](mailto:applications@atse.org.au) or call ATSE for a confidential discussion on 02 6185 3240.

Will you be enrolling in an Australian university as a **domestic student**?

☐ Yes

☐ No

To be eligible for the Elevate program, you must be able to enrol as a domestic student at an Australian university. Please check the requirements of the university you are applying to and determine if you are eligible to enrol as a domestic student. Generally, domestic students are either an Australian Citizen, a New Zealand Citizen or a person entitled to enter and stay in Australia without any limitation of time (such as Australian permanent resident and Australian permanent humanitarian visa holder).

A list of Australian universities is available from [Study Australia](#).

If you are unsure whether you will be considered a domestic student, please contact the university you intend to apply for to clarify.

Do you intend to commence a higher degree to improve business acumen in 2026, e.g., Master of Business Administration, having previously obtained a STEM qualification more than 5 years ago and work within the STEM sector?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Applicants intending to complete a higher degree to improve business acumen are required to have previously obtained a STEM qualification.

STEM qualifications include university degrees, VET certifications and certificates and on-the-job training.

**Once you have completed this section, please select 'Check Eligibility' to proceed.**

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## Applicant Information

Please provide your personal information and contact details.

Preferred Gender Pronouns (optional)

☐ She/Her

☐ They/Them

☐ I would like to describe my own

Please select your preferred gender pronouns. You can select as many options as you would like to. If you select 'I would like to describe my own', a new box will appear for you to do so.

Year of Birth

Please provide your year of birth.

Contact Number (optional)

Please note if you are successful in receiving an Elevate scholarship, that this phone number may be used to contact you.

Suburb

State or Territory

Australian Capital Territory  
New South Wales  
Northern Territory  
Queensland  
South Australia  
Tasmania  
Victoria  
Western Australia  
Currently residing outside of Australia

Postcode

According to the ASGS Remoteness Area Locator (2021), how is your residential address categorised?

Major City  
Inner Regional  
Outer Regional  
Remote  
Very Remote  
Currently residing outside of Australia

The [ASGS Remoteness Area Locator](#) tracks the remoteness of residential areas in Australia.

Please use the tracker to determine what category your residential address falls into.

The link will open in a separate webpage, expand the ASGS Remoteness areas menu and ensure 2021 is selected. Enter your street address at the top.

The five areas are:

Major City  
Inner Regional  
Outer Regional  
Remote  
Very Remote

Please select *Currently residing outside of Australia* if you are not currently living in Australia.

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## University Details

Please complete the below questions to identify your study plans and details. We understand that your study details may not be finalised, but we ask you to complete this section to the best of your knowledge at this time.

Please refer to the [Elevate Program Guidelines](#) for guidance on which degrees are eligible.

**Please indicate the degree you intend to commence in 2026:**

Degree

Please list the first preference for the degree that you intend to study. We understand you may not have finalised your degree or discipline of choice. If you are successful in receiving a scholarship and decide to pursue a degree in a different discipline than described in your application, approval will need to be sought, by consulting the Elevate team.

Study can be undertaken at any Australian university and changes to the university where you will study will not require additional approval.

**Please note, if you are already enrolled in this degree, you are not eligible for the program.**

Please only provide details of a degree you expect to start in 2026.

University for Degree

Australian Catholic University  
Australian National University  
Bond University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Charles Darwin University  
Charles Sturt University  
CQ University  
Curtin University  
Deakin University  
Edith Cowan University  
...

If you would like to provide any additional information about your degree or university of study, please (optional) 100 do so here: words

Have you received a letter of offer to study at an Australian university commencing in 2026 OR a letter of confirmation of deferred enrolment to commence study in 2026?

- ☐ Yes, I have an offer to commence study in 2026
- ☐ Yes, I have confirmation of deferred enrolment to commence study in 2026
- ☐ Neither of the above

We understand that not everyone will have received a letter of offer prior to applying for the Elevate program, and those that have received one may also be awaiting on an alternative offer for a different course of study.

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 ATSE.

**Successful applicants must commence study prior to 31 July 2026**

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# Application Questions

To understand which applications have previously stood out to assessors, please review [Applying to Elevate](#).

Please answer the following questions, noting the word count. You will not be able to submit your application if any of the questions are over the noted word limit. The word count will appear in red for the answers that exceed the limit.

**To ensure anonymity in the assessment process, please do not include your name in your responses.**

Please tell us your personal story.

250 words

Your story will help us understand why you are a suitable candidate for the Elevate program.

Tell us about your passion for STEM subjects and curiosity to explore the world.

Tell us about opportunities, challenges or barriers you have encountered that have impacted your aspirations to study a STEM degree and/or pursue a STEM career. What have you done to overcome these challenges?

This question will help assessors understand your context and experiences, up to 250 words.

**To ensure anonymity in the assessment process, please do not include your name in your responses**

**Assessment weighting: 10% (all scholarship categories).**

What are the benefits of your participation in the Elevate Program?

300 words

Consider the broader benefits of your participation in the program, including various program activities, beyond the financial support. This could include benefits:

- at a personal, academic and/or professional level
- for your wider community, if relevant.

Outline your reasons in up to 300 words.

**Assessment weighting: 40% Undergraduate, 25% Postgraduate, 30% Leadership.**

Why are you interested in your chosen course of study? Please answer from a personal and/or professional perspective.

300 words

How and when did you realise your particular interest in the chosen course of study? How does this course fit well with your strengths? When talking about your strengths, you may think about how your lived experience, research experience, your social networks and skills, capability and ambition would support you to successfully complete this course. Academic performance could be a strength for you, but you are not required to refer to your academic achievements. Consider how your course or discipline of study relates to the priority disciplines.

We encourage you to consult the priority disciplines for your category in the [Elevate Program Guidelines](#) when completing this question.

Outline your reasons in up to 300 words.

**Assessment weighting: 40% Undergraduate, 30% Postgraduate, 30% Leadership.**

How would an Elevate Scholarship enable you to influence and lead within the STEM sector?

300 words

How do you intend to influence and make change once you have completed your nominated degree? You may think about changes at an individual level, within your family or your own community, in the workplace, in the STEM sector or more broadly across society.

What would you do to contribute to the objectives of the Elevate program?

Are you particularly interested in influencing or addressing a specific structural barrier to leadership in STEM? Why?

Outline your reasoning in up to 300 words.

**Assessment weighting: 35% Leadership.**

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## Identity

ATSE values inclusion and applications will be reviewed using an equitable, intersectional approach. How you identify will be considered in the selection process, however this information will not be provided to assessors when assessing your application as an individual.

You will be considered for scholarships even if you do not identify with, or choose not to disclose. However, as identified through consultation with the sector, diversity is a consideration in the selection process.

Language is a powerful tool for inclusion. We have endeavoured to use inclusive language, questions and response options.

We recognise that certain labels or descriptions may not capture the breadth and depth of different groups, and that descriptions change over time. Our intention is and has always been to be inclusive of everyone. We welcome further discussions and feedback from you on how we can continue to improve.

By voluntarily providing this information, you consent to the collection and storage by the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE) of your individual identify data and will be protected in accordance with ATSE's privacy policy. Selected scholars can choose whether to identify publicly for any associated media or publications, however this is optional and is not a requirement. This information will not be publicised without the express consent of the individual.

Please share how you identify:

- ☐ Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander
- ☐ Belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community
- ☐ First in family to attend university
- ☐ From a culturally and racially marginalised background (CARM)
- ☐ From culturally and/or linguistically diverse background (CALD)
- ☐ From a low socio-economic background
- ☐ From a regional or rural or remote area
- ☐ Have caring responsibilities
- ☐ Living with disability
- ☐ Neurodiverse
- ☐ ...

Please select any of the criteria you personally would like to identify with.

**Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander:** Refers to the Indigenous peoples of Australia, including Aboriginal Australians and Torres Strait Islanders, who have distinct cultural and historical backgrounds.

**Belonging to the LGBTQIA+ community:** Describes individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, asexual, or other non-heteronormative identities.

**First in family to attend university:** Indicates individuals who are the first in their immediate family to pursue higher education at a university level.

**From a culturally and racially marginalised (CARM):** Refers to individuals or groups who experience social, economic, and political disadvantages or exclusion due to their cultural or racial identities. This marginalisation can manifest in various forms, such as limited access to resources, opportunities, rights, and representation in mainstream institutions. It often results from systemic discrimination, bias, prejudice, and historical inequalities based on cultural or racial differences. Marginalised communities may face barriers to full participation and inclusion in society, leading to disparities in areas such as education, employment, healthcare, and justice.

**From culturally and/or linguistically diverse background (CALD):** Refers to people from a range of countries and ethnic and cultural groups. It includes people of non-English speaking background as well as people born outside Australia but whose first language is English, and encompasses a wide range of experiences and needs.

**From a low socio-economic background:** Refers to individuals or families with limited financial resources and access to economic opportunities, often facing challenges related to income, education, and employment.

**From a regional, rural or remote area:** Describes individuals who currently live, or have lived for a large majority of their life, in areas outside major urban centres, typically characterised by smaller populations and different access to services and resources.

**Have caring responsibilities (e.g. children, special needs, disability, medical, aged care):** Indicates individuals who have responsibilities for the care and support of dependants, which can include children, family members with special needs, or individuals with disabilities.

**Living with disability:** Describes individuals who have a physical, cognitive, sensory, or mental health impairment that may impact their daily activities and participation in various aspects of life.

**Neurodiverse:** Refers to individuals who have neurological differences, such as autism, ADHD, dyslexia, or other neurodevelopmental conditions, highlighting the diversity of brain functioning and cognitive styles.

**Person of Colour:** Refers to individuals who do not consider themselves as white or of anglo-European Ancestry. It encompasses all non-white groups and can emphasise the common experiences of systemic racism.

**Recent or first-generation migrant to Australia including refugees:** Indicates individuals who have migrated to Australia, either as recent immigrants or as first-generation migrants, including refugees who have sought asylum due to persecution or conflict in their home countries.

**Returning to education and/or work after a significant period away:** Describes individuals who are re-entering educational or employment settings after a prolonged absence, which could be due to various reasons such as caregiving, health issues, or other life circumstances.

**Prefer not to say:** Indicates a preference by individuals to withhold specific personal information or identifiers for reasons of privacy or personal choice.

**Do not identify with any of the above:** Indicates individuals who do not categorise themselves with any of the listed criteria.

We understand that not everyone feels comfortable self-identifying with the listed categories. If you would (optional) 100 like to elaborate, or provide further information to help our team and selection panels understand your self- words identity, particularly the intersectionality of your identity, please elaborate below.

This is optional and is not required to complete to submit an application for the program, up to 100 words.

Any information you provide in this box will be accessible by the Elevate team. Whilst not directly assessed as part of your application, selection panels may draw on this information when discussing access to opportunity and when reviewing intersectionality to ensure a diverse cohort is selected.

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## Review and Submit

Once you submit your application you will be unable to make any changes. Please take the time to review your application carefully, and then click Submit Application.

**Any questions regarding the application process, or if you would like to discuss alternative application options, please contact ATSE: [applications@atse.org.au](mailto:applications@atse.org.au)**

The Elevate: Boosting diversity in STEM program is more than financial assistance, and will include opportunities such as professional development, networking and skills building.

☐ I will participate in the full range of program activities offered beyond the financial support if selected for the program.

More information on the Elevate Program can be found on the [ATSE website](#).

The Elevate: Boosting diversity in STEM program will offer:

- A scholarship
- Access to skill-building workshops
- Access to peer mentoring and networking events
- Access to 24/7 psychosocial and wellbeing support

Some Elevate partner organisations, e.g. government agencies, may offer additional opportunities that are only (optional) available to Australian citizens. These opportunities may also require an individual to obtain a security clearance. Please indicate below if you would like to be considered for such opportunities:

☐ Yes, I confirm I am an Australian citizen and interested in being considered for these opportunities.

☐ No, I am either not an Australian citizen or not interested in these opportunities.

The opportunities provided are in addition to the full suite of activities offered to all scholars as part of the Elevate Program.

If selected for an additional opportunity, you will be notified and provided the option to accept or decline the opportunity. You may also be requested to obtain a security clearance and/or provide proof of Australian Citizenship.

**Your response to this question will not affect your scholarship eligibility and will not be considered during the assessment of your application.**

Have you previously applied for the Elevate Program?

- ☐ Yes, I have applied in a previous year.
- ☐ No, this is my first time applying.
- ☐ I would prefer not to say.

Your response to this question will not affect your eligibility and will not be considered during the assessment of your application.

How did you hear about the Elevate scholarship opportunity?

- ☐ Instagram
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ LinkedIn
- ☐ My secondary school (newsletter/careers advisor/teacher)
- ☐ My university (scholarship offices/professors/school advisor)
- ☐ ATSE (event/email/newsletter)
- ☐ From friends/family
- ☐ From a current or past Elevate Scholar
- ☐ Internet Search
- ☐ Other (Please tell us more)

Please help us to understand our engagement and let us know how you heard about the Elevate scholarship opportunity.

If my application is unsuccessful, I give permission for ATSE to contact me in early 2026 for the purpose of evaluating and improving the Elevate program.

- ☐ I consent
- ☐ I DO NOT consent

Even if you are not awarded a scholarship, please consider providing consent to be contacted in early 2026 for program evaluation purposes.

- ☐ I acknowledge that my de-identified data may be analysed in aggregate for the purpose of evaluating and improving the Elevate Program.

This information will be managed in accordance with [ATSE's Privacy Policy](#). You can withdraw your consent at any time by emailing ATSE at [applications@atse.org.au](mailto:applications@atse.org.au)

- ☐ I have read and understand the [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 is available here: [Code of Conduct | ATSE](#).

- ☐ By ticking this box, I hereby declare that all my responses are true and correct.

Once you submit your application you will be unable to make any changes. Please take the time to review your application carefully by clicking on 'Preview', and then click Submit Application.



ELEVATE is an initiative of the Australian Academy  
of Technological Sciences & Engineering  
[atse.org.au](http://atse.org.au)