

OFFICIAL

VETERANS SA TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



PLEASE READ THESE GUIDELINES CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE ONLINE APPLICATION



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INTRODUCTION

What is the Veterans SA Tertiary Scholarship Program?

The South Australian Government recognises the value of a strong, vibrant, well-supported and represented veteran community.

Veterans SA (VSA) recognises the barriers faced by the veteran community in being able to seamlessly engage with training and higher education pathways. One such barrier relates to the costs associated with further education. VSA aims to support eligible veterans and partners to mitigate some of these out-of-pocket costs by offering financial support through the Veterans SA Tertiary Scholarship Program (the Program).

A total of \$50,000 (GST inclusive) in grant funding is available for distribution in the 2023-2024 financial year, for study or training undertaken in Semester 2, 2024. There will be one funding round in this period.

There is a pilot program that is administered in partnership with the Public Trustee, which is providing administrative support for this competitive grant process to distribute payments from the Fund.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Who can apply for scholarship funding?

To be eligible to apply for funding under the Veterans SA Tertiary Scholarship Program, applicants must:

- Be a South Australian resident.
- Have Australian residency status.
- Be enrolled or planning to enrol in a tertiary course of study (recognised under the Australian Qualifications Framework) at a university, TAFE or registered training organisation in Australia.
- Be a former permanent serving member of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) or the partner of a current or former serving ADF member.
- Not be in receipt of any education scholarships at the time of application, including but not limited to scholarships from the Australian Government designed to offset higher degree research fees.

GRANT AMOUNT & GRANT PERIOD

How much can I apply for?

Each applicant can apply for up to 75% of their out-of-pocket training expenses (capped at a maximum of \$5,000 (GST inclusive) per applicant), including fees associated with tuition, textbooks, resources and required course equipment.

The scholarship process is competitive, and applications may be funded in full, partially funded or not funded at all.

What amount of funding is available?

A maximum of \$50,000 (GST inclusive) in scholarship funding is available for distribution in the 2023-2024 financial year.

The Government of South Australia reserves the right to not distribute the full amount.

When are applications due?

Applications for the 2023-24 funding round close at 5.00 pm ACDT on Tuesday 18 June 2024.

Late applications will not be considered.

ASSESSMENT PROCESS & CRITERIA

What is the scholarship assessment process?

After your application is submitted, you will receive an acknowledgement of receipt on your application via email.

Stage one – Application screening

Once the round has closed, Veterans SA will screen all applications to ensure that:

- The applicant and the scholarship application meet the eligibility criteria – ineligible applicants/applications will not progress to the assessment phase.
- The application has been completed in full and all supporting documentation has been provided – incomplete applications will not progress further.

Stage two – Assessment against criteria

Applications that progress to stage two will be assessed by the Public Trustee.

Two Public Trustee employees will assess each application on merit, based on how well it meets the assessment criteria and how it compares to other applications.

At any stage during the process, applicants may be contacted for clarification on their application.

The Public Trustee will assess eligible applications against the following assessment criteria:

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| 1. Connection to employment outcomes (40%) | Does the application clearly define the connection between the funded tertiary training and future employment outcome/s? |
| 2. Alignment with the Government of South Australia's priority skill areas (30%) | Is the applicant undertaking training in one of the Government of South Australia's priority skill areas? (Construction; defence and space; early childhood education and care; health and aged care; IT and cyber security; manufacturing and carbon neutral energy; hospitality and tourism and resources) https://skills.sa.gov.au/outlook |
| 3. Value for money (30%) | Would the scholarship funding provide value for the South Australian community using State Government money? |

Please note: Only evidence presented in the application will be assessed.

HOW TO APPLY

What documentation is required?

Applicants are required to provide documentation substantiating their veteran or ADF/veteran partner status, these would include a DVA card or certificate of service for veterans and an ADF family ID card or statutory declaration for partners.

Applicants will be required to provide evidence of course enrolment from a tertiary institution and evidence of out-of-pocket course/training costs.

A covering letter or references are not required.

What should I consider when preparing an application?

- Make sure that you include all attachments and essential documentation where requested.
- Putting together a strong application takes time so please read the guidelines carefully, complete the application in full and answer all questions.
- Read the assessment criteria carefully to ensure your application identifies how your tertiary training or study meets the criteria.

How do I submit my application?

Applications must be submitted via the [online application form](#).

Please contact Eric Parnis at Veterans SA if you experience difficulties with the online form or are unable to submit your application online.

Phone: 08 8226 8544

Email: veteranssa@sa.gov.au

NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION OUTCOMES

How will I be notified of the outcome of my application?

The Public Trustee will notify applicants of the outcome of their application in writing before 30 July 2024.

Unsuccessful applicants may contact the Public Trustee team at pt.enquiries@sa.gov.au to receive feedback on their application. Please include 'Veterans SA Tertiary Scholarship Program enquiry' in the subject line of your email.

What happens if my application is successful?

If your application is successful, you will be notified by email. The Public Trustee will contact you to arrange the completion of required paperwork prior to payment of scholarship funds.

What are my obligations?

- Successful applicants agree to Veterans SA contacting them to participate in scholarship related events.
- Successful applicants agree to Veterans SA contacting them to obtain feedback and/or participate in an evaluation of the scholarship program.

CONTACT

For more information contact:

Eric Parnis

Veterans and Family Policy Officer, Veterans SA

Phone: 08 8226 5844

Email: veteranssa@sa.gov.au

Who is Veterans SA?

In 2008, the South Australian Government was the first state jurisdiction to recognise the importance of a state-based Veterans' Affairs portfolio and as a result Veterans SA was established.

We envisage a strong, vibrant, well-supported and represented veteran community, inclusive of all generations, that is understood and acknowledged by all South Australians.

As the lead advocate across the Government of South Australia on matters relating to veterans and their families, Veterans SA works with ex-service organisations and civic groups that provide support to members of the community when and where it is needed most.

The agency also plays a role in sharing information about services, programs and opportunities across South Australia that are available to families and those who have served in the Australian Defence Force.

Veterans SA works with the veteran community to ensure commemoration activities are supported and that occasions of military and historical significance are remembered and preserved for all South Australians.