

Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport First Nations Secondary School Scholarship

About the Scholarship

The **Western Sydney International (Nancy-Bird Walton) Airport First Nations Secondary School Scholarship** supports First Nations students attending public secondary schools in Western Sydney. Beginning in Year 11 (2026) and continuing through Year 12 (2027), the scholarship recognises students who demonstrate a positive attitude towards learning, actively contribute to school life, and engage with their community. Each recipient receives financial support to assist with their educational needs, helping them stay engaged throughout their senior years. The scholarship is part of a broader commitment to empowering First Nations youth and is delivered in partnership with the Public Education Foundation (PEF).

[Western Sydney International Airport \(WSIA\) Portal](#)

Basic Eligibility

- Applicant *must identify* as a First Nations student
- Must be enrolled in a [Western Sydney public secondary school](#)
- Entering Year 11 in 2026 and continuing into Year 12 in 2027
- Demonstrates a positive attitude towards schooling
- Actively participates in school life
- Involved in community and/or extracurricular activities

Expected Outcomes

- Improved school engagement and motivation for First Nations students
- Increased access to educational resources and extracurricular opportunities
- Recognition of student achievement through award ceremonies in 2026 and 2027
- Ongoing collaboration between WSIA, schools, and PEF to support First Nations youth

Financial Support

- \$1,000 per year for each recipient, distributed in:
 - Year 11 (2026)
 - Year 12 (2027)
- Total \$2,000 per student across 5 students (or \$10,000)

Selection Process

- Applications promoted through Western Sydney public secondary schools
- Applications are reviewed by a panel of PEF representatives, donors and experts. Recommendations are submitted to the PEF Board
- PEF's Selection Panel includes a representative from WSIA
- Selection announced December 2025
- Recipients recognised at award ceremonies in May 2026 and May 2027

Students in Years 11 to 12 will also gain access to:

- PEF's mentoring program
- [Studiosity's](#) 24/7 online tutorial services (limited hours per scholar)

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via PEF's online application portal: [PEF-Apply](#).

<https://pef-apply.smapply.io>

Application Checklist

You will need:

- Applicant and parent/carer details
- Proof of Australian citizenship or residency
- Western Sydney public secondary school for 2026
- Information on background, languages, family situation
- Parent/carer statement addressing selection criteria (25-400 words)
- Parent/carer statement on use of funds (20-150 words)
- Recent school report (PDF) Teacher/counsellor reference (PDF/Word, max 400 words)
- Principal's supporting statement (submitted via online form)

Note for Principals: Your statement must go beyond basic confirmation. Generic or copied responses may disadvantage applicants.

Application Deadline

5:00pm, Friday 19 September 2025

Contact Us

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