

Fennell Scholarship for Girls in STEM

About the Scholarship

The Public Education Foundation's **Fennell Scholarship for Girls in STEM** supports young women from Greater Western Sydney public schools who have a strong inclination towards STEM subjects. The scholarship aims to assist students experiencing financial hardship to complete their senior secondary education and pursue further tertiary studies in STEM. This scholarship is generously supported by Eve Fennell, who is committed to supporting female students, particularly those from refugee backgrounds, to reach their potential in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics.

Five scholarships are available in 2027:

- Four secondary scholarships for students in Years 11 and 12
- One tertiary scholarship for a student commencing university or TAFE

Basic Eligibility

Secondary

- Female student
- Currently enrolled in Year 10 at a NSW public high school
- Residing in Greater Western Sydney
- Demonstrates interest in STEM
- Experiencing financial hardship
- Preference given to students from a refugee background

Tertiary

- Female student
- Currently enrolled in Year 12 at a NSW public high school
- Intending to pursue a university or TAFE STEM course
- Preference given to students from a refugee background

All applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent residents.

Financial Support

- Secondary Scholarships: \$1,500 per year in Years 11 and 12 (\$3,000 per student)
- Tertiary Scholarship: \$3,000 per year for up to 3 years of undergraduate or TAFE study (\$9,000)

Scholarship funds are distributed via EFT, prepaid Visa card, or directly to school accounts, depending on student level.

The scholarship can be used to cover educational expenses such as:

- Laptops or tablets

- Software and subject-specific materials
- Textbooks and stationery
- School uniforms, shoes and study furniture
- School excursions, camps and subject-related fees
- Online or in-person tutoring
- Home internet access

Selection Criteria

- Demonstrated academic effort and commitment to STEM
- Positive attitude towards learning
- Financial or personal disadvantage that impacts educational access
- Contribution to school life or broader community
- Potential to benefit significantly from the scholarship

Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by an independent selection panel organised by the Public Education Foundation. Recommendations are approved by the PEF Board. All applicants will be notified of the outcome by **December 2026**.

How to Apply

Applications must be submitted via the Foundation's online application portal:

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

You will need:

- Personal and school details
- Statement addressing the selection criteria
- Brief explanation of future study/career plans
- Statement on how the funds will be used
- School report
- Principal's supporting statement

Applications close 5:00pm, Friday 25 September 2026 (Secondary); 5:00pm, Friday 4 September 2026 (Tertiary).

Contact

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