

The Kyneton Aero Club Flying Scholarship Background

The Kyneton Aero Club (KAC) flying scholarship will continue this year, 2024. The scholarship commenced in 2023 with a seed donation from the estate of member Colin McAvoy and was subsequently supported by the Kyneton RSL and current club members. The 2023 scholarship was awarded to Maddie Machell, who has now progressed to fly solo and is continuing her training with KAC.

The scholarship is a support program for young people with a demonstrated interest in aviation. It is open to new students and to people who have already commenced flight training.

It is open to persons aged between 16 and 22 years of age on the 1st of March 2024.

The scholarship will pay 50% of the cost of each instructional or flying hour, to a maximum total value of \$5,000. This value will be provided progressively as the training is undertaken.

Training is based on competency rather than hours of study (the RAA Pilot Certificate generally takes between 20-30 flying hours to achieve.) Once scholarship funds have been consumed, KAC expects the student will continue to pay for training at standard rates.

The scholarship does not pay for KAC student membership, RAAus annual membership and joining fees, Pilots Logbook, headset, or any other training material required.

Selection Criteria

Applicants must:

- 1) undertake a Trial Introductory Flight with KAC at applicant's expense.
- 2) In a self-authored letter of no more than 500 words, applicants must demonstrate to the assessors their passion for aviation. Applicants should identify:
 - a) how and when they developed their interest in aviation.
 - b) how they have nurtured their passion for aviation by activities such as Air Cadets, membership of a club, hobbies or school/education subject selections.
 - c) their initial reaction to their Trial Introductory Flight with KAC.
 - d) why they want to earn their pilot certificate; and
 - e) how they want aviation to be part of their life either as a career or as a private flyer.
- 3) provide a reference of no more than 300 words from a non-family member schoolteacher or community leader who has known the applicant for at least 2 years.
- 4) Applicants must also:
 - a) be no less than 16 and not more than 22 years old at the time of making their application.
 - b) if under the age of 18 years, provide written consent from a parent or guardian to allow them to undergo RAAus flying training.
 - c) if not a holder of a driver's licence, provide written and signed confirmation (from a parent or guardian if under 18) that they meet the medical requirement for the issue of a motor vehicle driver's licence.
 - d) live within a practical distance of the Kyneton airfield and have means of transport to and from the airfield.

Expectations

KAC expects that scholarship recipients will:

- possess the necessary English language skills and general aptitude to facilitate their education.
- agree to participate in ongoing surveys and evaluation activities after completion of the scholarship.
- consent to KAC publishing their name, age, town, photograph and training progression details for related promotional and reporting purposes.
- inform KAC (preferably, in advance) of extenuating circumstances that will (or could) delay or prevent their training progression.
- actively participate in Kyneton Aero Club activities and fundraising events. This includes but is not limited to the monthly KAC Hot Dog Flyin, the Biggest Morning Tea, the Kyneton Agricultural Show KAC Marquee and KAC Working Bees.

Where to send Application Forms

Applications should be submitted electronically to president@kynetonaeroclub.org (bearing the subject line "2024 Scholarship Application").

How will applications be processed?

Applications will be assessed by a panel appointed by the KAC Committee and will be graded solely based on selection criteria. The panel will:

- validate all applications.
- consider reports from KAC instructors on aptitude shown in a Trial Introductory Flight.
- advise successful applicants of the outcome.
- advise unsuccessful applicants and thank them for their participation.

The panel's evaluations will remain confidential, however applicants are welcome to request feedback.

Terms and Conditions

- scholarships are valid for 18 months from the date of award.
- applications open on the 1st of March and will close on the 30th of April 2024.
- applicants are to complete their training within 18 months of the date of the scholarship.

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