

AUSTRALIAN VETERANS'  
CHILDREN ASSISTANCE TRUST

## 2025 AVCAT SCHOLARSHIPS APPLICATION GUIDE

### About the Scholarships and Bursaries

AVCAT scholarships and bursaries support students who study full-time at a university, TAFE, or registered training organisation within Australia. Scholarships provide financial assistance for up to three years and are awarded based on financial need, academic potential, and deservedness.

### Long Tan Bursaries

The Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs funds the Long Tan Bursary for children and grandchildren of Vietnam Veterans. Eligible children of Vietnam Veterans are given priority.

### Sponsored Scholarships

Ex-service organisations, corporate and private donors provide sponsored scholarships. [Click here](#) to see our sponsors.

### Eligibility Criteria

**Eligibility for a scholarship or bursary includes the following:**

- Australian residency status.
- Planning to enrol or enrolled in a course of tertiary study recognised under the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) for one or more academic years' duration at an Australian university, TAFE or registered training organisation.
- Be studying or planning to study full-time online, face to face or a blend of both in 2025 and for the term of the scholarship. If an applicant is offered a scholarship in 2025 but has deferred from their course of study, they are no longer eligible and must reapply when they resume full-time study.
- Priority is given to those who have not previously undertaken tertiary education.
- Applicants who are seeking a scholarship for a second degree, or a graduate degree, Master, or Doctorate i.e., Australian Qualifications Framework Level 8 or above may be considered for a scholarship but will be given lower priority. If an applicant has received a Long Tan Bursary, they cannot be considered for another Long Tan Bursary.

- In receipt of or eligible to receive a means-tested Commonwealth educational benefit including Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY, Austudy, Veterans' Children Education Scheme (VCES) and Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (MRCAETS). Use the Services Australia [Payment and Service Finder](#) or contact [educationschemes@dva.gov.au](mailto:educationschemes@dva.gov.au) to see if you are eligible.
- Be a child or a grandchild of an ex-serving veteran. Children include adopted children, ex-nuptial children, stepchildren and foster children. Stepchildren and foster children must have resided with or been financially supported by their veteran stepparent or foster parent for 5 of the last 10 years. Grandchildren are defined as the children of one's son or daughter and must be the direct descendant of a veteran. Step-grandchildren are not eligible.
- The veteran must be an Australian ex-serving veteran with operational service including eligible war service, war-like service and peacekeeping/peacemaking service OR 3 or more continuous years of full-time other service, as a member of the Australian Navy, Army or Air Force. You can search the [Nominal Rolls](#) to obtain proof of service.
- People who are serving in the Reserve Forces (SERCAT 3, 4 & 5 – Rendering Service) are considered to be serving so the applicant child or grandchild is not eligible.
- Applicants need only complete one application form to be considered for all AVCAT scholarships and bursaries. Applicants will be considered for all scholarships for which they are eligible.

## Important Information

### Please note the following:

- It is a requirement of the application to provide academic results, an academic reference, detailed financial information, and other supporting documents. If this information is not provided an application cannot be considered.
- All scholarships and bursaries share common eligibility criteria. However, specific criteria may apply to individual scholarships, such as, born/living in a specific state/territory/postcode; membership of a particular association; the veteran's service in a specific conflict/battalion/particular section of the Australian Defence Force e.g. RAAF, SAS or the course of study.
- Applications are assessed by independent assessors and AVCAT's National Selection Committee.
- The selection process is competitive and scholarship numbers are limited therefore, not all worthy and eligible applicants will receive a scholarship.

## Completing the Online Application

Applications open **on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2024** and are completed online at [avcat.org.au](http://avcat.org.au).

Applications including all documentation, need to be submitted by **midnight 31st October 2024**. The following information will assist you with the application process:

- Documents relating to the veteran, yourself, academic results, and finances may take time to collect. AVCAT recommends that you start finding information required for the application well before the due date.
- You can save and exit the application at any point. By clicking the 'Save and Continue Later' button. If you 'Save and Continue' you will receive an email with a link to your

partially completed application. Keep this email and link until you complete and finally submit your application.

- Once you submit your application you will receive a confirmation email from AVCAT.
- If you experience any difficulties completing the application or do not receive the confirmation email, please contact AVCAT at least seven days before 31 October 2024 by phone on 02 9213 7999 or email at [info@avcat.org.au](mailto:info@avcat.org.au)

## Information and Documents required for each section of the Application Form

### Section 1: Eligibility

This section is to determine whether you are eligible to apply for an AVCAT scholarship or bursary.

You are required to answer yes/no regarding the Australian ex-serving veteran in your family, your relationship to the ex-serving veteran, enrolment at the tertiary institution, your Australian residency status and eligibility for a means-tested Commonwealth educational benefit including Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY, Austudy, Veterans' Children Education Scheme (VCES) or Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (MRCAETS).

Documentation required: N/A

### Section 2: Contact Information

You are required to:

- provide contact details such as name, address, state, date of birth, email (applicant email), and contact phone number (applicant mobile). AVCAT uses this mobile and email to contact you about your application. The email and phone must be monitored regularly and responses for additional information acted on promptly.
- how you found out about AVCAT and scholarships

Documentation required:

- applicant birth certificate

### Section 3: Other Information

This section requires you to provide more information about yourself including whether you need to relocate for study (i.e. not living at home), your caring responsibilities, and previous applications.

Documentation required: N/A

### Section 4: Veteran Details

You are required to provide details of:

- the ex-serving veteran, their service history, and the relevant membership details of ex-serving organisations (e.g., a state/territory TPI organisation)
- other veterans in your family

## Documentation required:

### Veteran

- veteran service record (search here if required [Nominal Rolls](#)).
  - o If the veteran is a grandparent, the birth certificate of the relevant applicant's parent is also required, to show the applicant is related to the grandparent.
- adoption certificate if applicable

### Other Veteran

- if the other veteran is a grandparent who served in Vietnam, please provide documentation as per above
- if the other veteran is **not** a grandparent who served in Vietnam, no further documentation is required

## Section 5: Family Details

You are required to:

- describe your current accommodation arrangements
- give details of your primary caregivers (e.g., parent/guardian), siblings, and dependants if applicable

Documentation required: N/A

## Section 6: Academic Details

You are required to provide details of your current study circumstances including:

- if you are currently a year 12 student, university/TAFE student, gap year student, mature aged student, working
- course or course preference
- expected ATAR, if applicable
- early offers, if applicable

Documentation required:

### Academic results

- the previous **18 months'** results for the following:
  - o year 12 students – full school reports including teachers comments
  - o University/TAFE students – unofficial academic transcript plus final year school report if within the last 18 months of study
  - o gap year students - year 12 full school reports including teachers comments
- students who have not been studying for over 1 year – employer report or Academic Reference required – refer below

### Reference

- AVCAT Academic Reference Form:
  - o a current teacher/university tutor or lecturer who has supervised or taught you in the last 6 months is required to fill out the [AVCAT Reference Form](#).
  - o if you have not studied for over 12 months you can ask your employer or trainer to complete the AVCAT Reference Form

**This reference must be submitted online directly from your referee to AVCAT.**

## Section 7: Financial Details

In this section, you are required to give details of the following:

### Applicant (and applicant partner if applicable)

- government benefits/pensions received
- other support or allowances received (e.g., rental assistance or child support)
- other scholarships or potential scholarships
- a list of assets/liabilities
- financial assets such as investment property, land, and business interests
- fortnightly income after tax

### Applicant Parents/Guardians

If you are under 22 years old as at 28 February 2025, your parents/guardians are required to provide the following:

**Note:** If your parents are separated, the details of your primary caregiver (and their partner if applicable) are required.

- government benefits/pensions received
- other support or allowances received (e.g., rental assistance or child support)
- a list of assets/liabilities
- financial assets such as investment property, trusts, land, and business interests
- fortnightly income after tax

### Documentation required:

#### Applicant (and applicant partner if applicable)

- most recent evidence of all government benefits received (e.g., Centrelink statement, VCES, MRCAETS advice)
- a **full tax return with all supporting schedules** for the year ended 30 June 2024
- a copy of your last two payslips
- your notice of assessment (NOA) from ATO for 30 June 2024
- your superannuation statement for 30 June 2024

To print copies of your full tax return and NOA use the ATO online services and myGov.

### Applicant Parents/Guardians

If you are under 22 years old as of 28 February 2025 your parents/guardians are required to provide the following:

**Note:** If your parents are separated, only the details of your primary caregiver (and their partner if applicable) are required.

- Evidence of **all** government benefits received by parents/guardians indicating the type and amount of each payment
- full tax returns with **all supporting schedules** for 30 June 2024
- last two payslips
- notice of assessment (NOA) from ATO for 30 June 2024
- superannuation statement for 30 June 2024

A full tax return is multi page document which includes all income and claimable expenses during the financial year.

Insert image of deidentified Full Return 1 – 3 pages

A Notice of Assessment (NOA) is a 1-2 page summary of a Tax Return assessment issued by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO)

Insert image of deidentified NOA pages 1 and 2

To print copies of your full tax return and NOA use the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) online services and myGov.

## Section 8: Personal Statement

This section requires you to describe:

- your relationship with the ex-serving veteran, their impact on your life
- information about yourself including your family life, student life, part-time work, volunteer roles and career goals
- how a scholarship would assist you
- any significant, ongoing impacts on your personal and educational circumstances

Documentation required:

- current resume (maximum two pages)
- medical evidence if applicable

## Section 9: Supporting Documentation

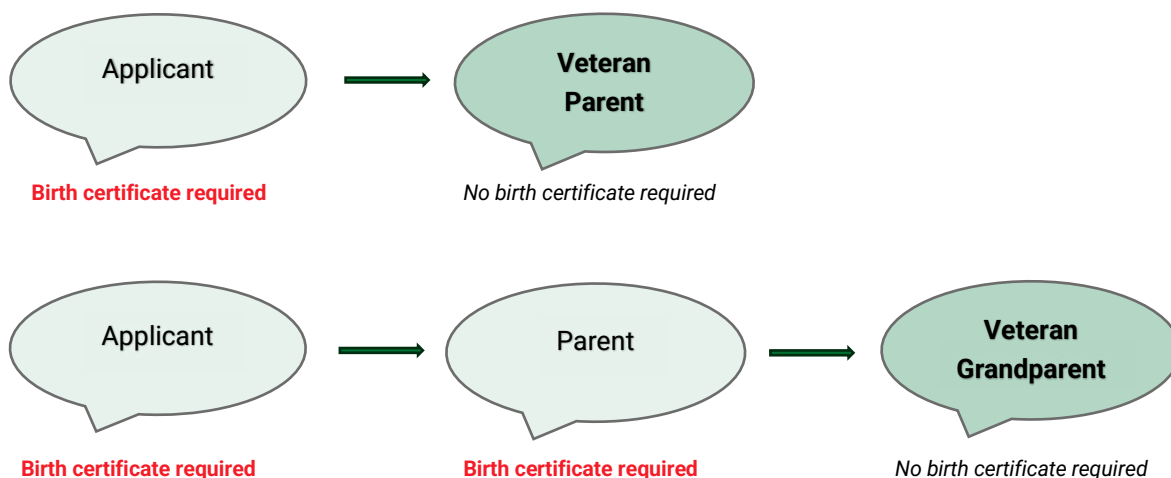
**All required documentation is to be uploaded in this section.**

Documents **must** be clear and easy to read. If you do not have a scanner please use a scanning app on your phone, such as Genius Scan, instead of uploading a photo.

### Birth Certificates

If the veteran is the applicant's parent, only the applicant's birth certificate is required.

If the veteran is the applicant's grandparent, you will need to provide both the applicant's birth certificate, and the applicant's parent's birth certificate, to show evidence of the applicant's connection to the veteran.



## Uploading Documents

### How to tell when your document has uploaded successfully.

When your document has been uploaded successfully the name of the document will appear with a small red cross in front of it – see yellow highlight below.

Step 9 of 10

#### Section 9: Supporting Documentation

*Please upload your supporting documentation in this section. Your application will not be considered if documentation is not provided.*


##### Personal Documents

- Applicant's birth certificate \*

Drop files here or

[Select files](#)

Accepted file types: jpg, gif, png, pdf, txt, doc, docx, Max. file size: 1 MB.

 Birth-Certificate.pdf 25 kb 100%

If you have uploaded the wrong document and wish to delete it, you can do so by clicking the small red cross – see yellow highlight above.

## Section 10: Release of Personal Information

- AVCAT asks you for certain personal information to assess your application and to report to sponsors of scholarships. The personal information will be stored electronically or in paper files. Wherever possible we collect information from the person concerned, but it may be necessary for AVCAT to obtain information from other people including government departments and authorities.
- AVCAT takes all reasonable steps to ensure that information held in paper or electronic form is safe and secure, protected from misuse, loss, unauthorised access, modification, or disclosure. We take all reasonable steps to ensure that personal information is only used by AVCAT or disclosed to other organisations for assessment purposes. This section requires you to declare that the information in the application is true and correct and that you allow AVCAT to make necessary inquiries if required.
- To finish the application, provide your signature and if applicable, the signature of a guardian.
- Press the SUBMIT button and check for the confirmation email.