



2026 AVCAT SCHOLARSHIPS and LONG TAN BURSARY APPLICATION GUIDE

Version 2, 23rd June, 2025

About the and Long Tan Bursaries and Scholarships

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

Long Tan Bursaries

Long Tan Bursaries are for the children and grandchildren of Vietnam Veterans and are funded by the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs. Each year, 37 bursaries are awarded to successful applicants across Australia.

Sponsored Scholarships

Sponsored scholarships are for the children and grandchildren of all ex-serving veterans and are funded by ex-service organisations, corporate and private donors [Click here](#) to see our sponsors.

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility for Long Tan Bursaries and Sponsored Scholarship *

- 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 2026 and for the term of the scholarship. If an applicant is offered a scholarship in 2026 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.
- 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 descendants of a veteran. Step-grandchildren and foster grandchildren must have resided with or been financially supported by a person who is a child of a veteran for 5 of the last 10 years.
- 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.

*** In addition, eligibility for the Long Tan Bursary include:**

- Be a child or grandchild of an Australian veteran who served in the Vietnam War during 31 July 1962 to 30 April 1975
- In receipt of, or eligible to receive, a means-tested Commonwealth educational benefit - Youth Allowance, ABSTUDY, Austudy or Veterans' Children Education Scheme (VCES) or Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (MRCAETS).
- Have not previously received a Long Tan Bursary

*** In addition, eligibility for the Sponsored Scholarships include**

- Be able to demonstrate financial hardship on income and assets grounds
- Specific criteria may apply to Sponsored Scholarships, such as: born/living in a specific state/territory; membership of an association; course of study; veteran's service in a specific conflict/battalion or branch of the Australian Defence Force.

Applicants should only complete one application to be considered for the Long Tan Bursary and a Sponsored Scholarship. Applicants will be considered for all scholarships and bursaries for which they are eligible.

Important Information

- 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; course of study, membership of a particular association;

veteran's service was in a specific conflict/battalion/particular section of the Australian Defence Force, e.g. RAAF, SASR.

- Applications are assessed by independent assessors and AVCAT's National Selection Committee. To read more about assessment, visit our [website](#).
- The selection process is competitive, and scholarship numbers are limited; therefore, not all worthy and eligible applicants will receive a Long Tan Bursary or Sponsored Scholarship.
- Applicants are notified of the outcome of their application from late February through March.
- Applications that are not successful are retained for twelve months and then destroyed.

Completing the Online Application

Applications open on **18th August 2025** and are completed online at avcat.org.au. Applications, including all documentation, must be submitted by **midnight 31st October 2025**. 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 the 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 2025 by phone on 02 9127 9880 or email 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 and/ or the Long Tan Bursary-

You are required to answer yes/no regarding:

- the Australian ex-serving veteran in your family and your relationship to the ex-serving veteran,
- your Australian residency status
- enrolment and study load at a tertiary institution,

Documentation required: N/A

Section 2: Contact Information

You are required to provide:

- contact information for the APPLICANT. This includes the APPLICANT's **email and phone number**. AVCAT will liaise with the APPLICANT throughout the application process. 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 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 under whom you are applying, 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](#))- 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. ie. For a maternal grandparent veteran, the birth certificate of the applicant's mother is required; for a paternal grandparent veteran, the birth certificate of the applicant's father is required.
- adoption certificate if applicable

Other Veterans in your family

- if the other veteran served in Vietnam, please provide documentation as per above
- if the other veteran did not serve 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 dependents 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 or 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 teacher's 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 your referee can also find this form on our website located under Forms in the page footer
 - o if you have not studied for over 12 months you can ask your employer or trainer to complete the AVCAT Reference Form
 - o the referee must be able to speak to your ability to complete your chosen course of study.

AVCAT provides a link to the online AVCAT Academic Reference Form which you share with your chosen referee. The referee completes and submits the form directly to AVCAT and receives email confirmation that the reference has been submitted.

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 of 28 February 2026, 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 2025
- a copy of your last two payslips for June 2025
- your notice of assessment (NOA) from ATO for 30 June 2025
- your superannuation statement for 30 June 2025

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 as of 28 February 2026 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 2025
- last two payslips for 30 June 2025
- notice of assessment (NOA) from ATO for 30 June 2025
- superannuation statement for 30 June 2025

A **full tax return** is a multi-page document that includes all income and claimable expenses during the financial year. See the 4 page sample below

Print | Australian Taxation Office Home.aspx




CUSTOMER COPY ONLY
 Cannot be used for lodging your tax return

2020-21 tax return

ATO receipt number [REDACTED]
 Tax file number [REDACTED]
 Name [REDACTED]
 Date of birth [REDACTED]
 Current residential address [REDACTED]
 Current postal address [REDACTED]
 Taxable income [REDACTED]
 Were you an Australian resident for tax purposes from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021? [REDACTED]
 Will you need to lodge an Australian tax return in future years? [REDACTED]

Income	Amount	Total	Label
Salary or wages			
Your main salary and wage occupation – [REDACTED]			
Payer's ABN or WPN – [REDACTED]			
Tax withheld – [REDACTED]			
Gross payments		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Employer lump sum payments			
Tax withheld – \$0.00			
Tax withheld – \$0.00			
Interest			
Gross interest		[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
TFN amounts withheld – \$0.00			

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Dividends

Franked amount [REDACTED]
 Franking credits [REDACTED]

Net income or loss from business

Capital gains tax

Did you have a capital gains tax event during the year? N

Foreign entities

Did you have a direct or indirect interest in a controlled foreign company (CFC)? N
 Have you, ever, either directly or indirectly, caused the transfer of property – including money – or services to a non-resident trust estate? N

Foreign source income and foreign assets or property

During the year did you own, or have an interest in, assets located outside Australia which had a total value of AUD\$50,000 or more? N

Deductions	Total	Label
Work-related clothing, laundry and dry cleaning expenses		
Claim type – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Work-related self-education expenses		
Claim type – [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Other work-related expenses		
Amount	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

2 of 4 [REDACTED] 1, 4:28 pm

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Costs of managing tax affairs

Interest charged by the ATO	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litigation costs	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other expenses incurred in managing your tax affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Income tests

	Amount	Label
Total reportable fringe benefits amounts		
From employers exempt from FBT under section 57A of the FBTA 1986	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
From employers not exempt from FBT under section 57A of the FBTA 1986	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reportable employer superannuation contributions		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tax-free government pensions or benefits		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Target foreign income		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Net financial investment loss		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Net rental property loss		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child support you paid		
Amount	\$0.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Number of dependent children		<input type="checkbox"/>

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Medicare levy related items

	Label
Medicare levy reduction or exemption	
Reduction based on family income	
Number of dependent children and students	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicare levy surcharge (MLS)	
Were you and all your dependants covered by an appropriate level of private patient hospital cover from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021? – N	<input type="checkbox"/>
You do not have to pay the surcharge for 365 days	<input type="checkbox"/>

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


Australian Government
Australian Taxation Office

[REDACTED]

Tax period ending 30 June 2024

Tax file number [REDACTED]

Date of issue [REDACTED]

Our reference [REDACTED]

Internet: www.ato.gov.au Phone enquiries: 13 28 61

Notice of assessment - year ended 30 June 2024
Income Tax Assessment Act 1936 and Income Tax Assessment Act 1997

Description	Debits \$	Credits \$
Your taxable income is [REDACTED]		
Tax on your taxable or net income	[REDACTED]	
Less non-refundable tax offsets		
Low income offset calculated by us		[REDACTED]
Less refundable tax offsets		
Franking credit offset		[REDACTED]
Assessed tax payable \$5,434.21 DR		
Plus other liabilities		
Medicare levy		
[REDACTED] offset refunds	0.00	
Less Pay as you go (PAYG) credits and other entitlements		[REDACTED]
PAYG withholding (eg tax deducted by your employer or bank)		[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]		[REDACTED]
		Outcome of this notice \$ [REDACTED]

! Your refund of [REDACTED] has been forwarded to your nominated financial institution.

David Allen
Deputy Commissioner of Taxation

Please keep this notice for future reference
Please see over for important information about your assessment

Other information relevant to your assessment:

The Commissioner rounds down certain small amounts that may be owed by you or may be refunded to you. You may have transactions on your account where this has occurred.

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 and access to tertiary education. Please consider all aspects of this relationship.
- information about yourself including your family life, student life, part-time work, volunteer roles, leadership positions and career goals
- how a scholarship or bursary would assist you
- any significant, ongoing impacts on your personal and educational circumstances

Documentation required:

- current resume (maximum two pages)
- medical evidence if applicable
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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, not the birth certificate of the veteran parent

If the **veteran is the applicant's grandparent**, provide **both** the applicant's birth certificate, and the applicant's parents' birth certificate to show evidence of the applicant's connection to the veteran. The birth certificate of the veteran grandparent **is not** required.

Uploading Documents

How to tell when your document has been 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.

- Applications that are not successful are retained for twelve months after which the application and all supporting documents are destroyed.
 - To finish the application, provide your signature and, if applicable, the signature of a guardian.
 - Press the SUBMIT button and check your inbox for the confirmation email.
 - 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 2025 by phone on 02 9127 9880 or email info@avcat.org.au
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