

GRADUATE WOMEN SOUTH AUSTRALIA TRUST FUND

<https://www.gwsa-trust.com.au/>

2026 POSTGRADUATE MASTERS SCHOLARSHIPS GRADUATE WOMEN SA TRUST MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP \$3,000

For women, who are Australian citizens or permanent residents, enrolled in a postgraduate Masters degree (by research or including a thesis) at a South Australian university.

Other eligibility criteria:

Applicants must:

- be studying for a postgraduate award which is classified at Masters Degree level. This must be by research or include a thesis component; and
- have completed at least six months full time equivalent of their masters program; and
- have a good undergraduate academic record; and
- not be in full time paid employment or on fully paid leave during the tenure of the Scholarship; and
- not have received a scholarship or award in the same category in 2025; and
- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

There is no restriction on field of study. The scholarship may be held concurrently with awards offered by organisations other than the Graduate Women SA Trust fund.

How a Scholarship may be used: This scholarship is not intended to fund basic costs that should be met by your University, unless unforeseen costs are incurred. (Please explain if this is the case). The scholarship is intended to help students in the critical phase leading up to completion of their studies. The scholarship must be used within twelve months of the date of the award (June 2026), i.e. by the end of June 2027.

Selection criteria: Selection of winners is based on financial need, the impact of the scholarship on progress, referees' comments, the purpose for which the scholarship will be used, and the applicant's academic profile and contribution to the academic and wider community. Applications that request funding for activities (eg conference attendance) for which the applicant has previously had only limited opportunities or financial support from other sources will be considered favourably.

Value: The amount of each scholarship will not exceed \$3,000 but may be less depending on requirements of the successful applicant/s, and funds available. No one will be awarded more than one scholarship in any one year. The Graduate Women SA Trust Fund reserve the right not to award a scholarship.

Source of funds: Until 2009 funds for these scholarships were raised annually by the Academic Hoods and Gowns Hiring Service run on a voluntary basis by the then trustees, members of The AFUW-SA Inc. (later GWSA Inc.) and friends. Funds are now sourced from income earned on that legacy of capital and subsequent investments, bequests and donations.

Closing date for applications: **31st March, 2026.**

Intellectual property: The Trustees recognise that postgraduate students retain ownership of intellectual property arising from any original work undertaken during their course of study.

Receipt of all applications will be acknowledged. In the normal course of events, the successful applicants will be notified by the last day of June in the year of the award. Subsequently, a list of winners will be loaded to the Trust Fund Web site.

In submitting this application, you agree, if selected to the GWSA Trust publishing your name and a summary of your work on our website and our LinkedIn page. We may also request photos or additional details for publication.

The decision of the selection committee will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON APPLICATION SUBMISSION OVERLEAF

INFORMATION ON APPLICATION SUBMISSION

LODGEMENT OF APPLICATIONS

Your application must be emailed (including attachments) to: info@gwsa-trust.com.au

By close of business 31st March 2026.

Applications received after the due date will not be considered.

Applications remain the property of the trustees of the Graduate Women SA Trust Fund.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all necessary documentation, including references, are received prior to the closing dates. The only exception to this is official documentation not available by the closing date, such as evidence of enrolment at an institution. Please list such items in a covering email accompanying your application and forward them no later than three weeks after the closing date for applications.

The Trust Fund Trustees and scholarship selection committee members are all volunteers. Assistance for applicants will be made available where possible by responding to written requests for advice sent to: info@gwsa-trust.com.au This will not include details concerning receipt of necessary documentation or status of applications. Winners will be notified by email and results posted on the Trust website after 30th June. If you have queries please allow sufficient time for a reply, or consult the FAQ page on our web site at

<https://www.gwsa-trust.com.au/>

REMOVE THESE FRONT TWO PAGES WHEN SENDING YOUR APPLICATION

**GRADUATE WOMEN SA TRUST FUND
2026 POSTGRADUATE MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP
\$3,000**

APPLICATION FORM

The following checklist identifies the documents that *must* accompany the completed application form. You will need to tick off and sign the checklist as part of the application.

NOTE: When you email your application ensure you include all attachments below to accompany your application. Use the subject line: APPLICATION – GRADUATE WOMEN SA TRUST MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP 2026:

	Item	Cross (x) when attached
1.	Application completed in minimum font 11 point or hand written and all required documents.	
2.	Evidence of current enrolment	
3.	Certified copies of official transcripts of academic record. An interpretation of grades on academic records as supplied by the awarding institution is also required. If records are in a language other than English, a certified translation must be provided.	
4.	Curriculum Vitae (CV) including employment record, education and training history, prizes or awards, tertiary studies, published works, conference presentations – limit to 3 pages ONLY.	
5..	If not an Australian citizen, proof of Australian permanent residency status.	
6	TWO referees' reports. You must ensure that referee reports from two academic staff familiar with your current postgraduate studies are emailed <u>by them</u> to the address on this form to arrive no later than 14th April 2026 .	To be emailed separately

NOTE: Ensure that you have answered all questions fully. The Scholarships Trustees will acknowledge receipt of your application but incomplete applications will not be considered when determining the scholarship winners.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

1 PERSONAL DETAILS

Title: _____ Surname: _____

First names (underline preferred name): _____

Full Address for correspondence: _____

Email address: _____

Date of birth: _____ (day) _____ (month) _____ (year)

Current qualifications held: _____

Country of citizenship: _____

NOTE: If you are not an Australian citizen you will need to provide proof that you are a permanent resident of Australia.

2 CURRENT ENROLMENT

Full title of postgraduate degree for which scholarship is needed (include discipline):

Institution at which degree will be obtained: _____

Degree is being undertaken: Full time / Part time (circle or underline applicable response)

Dates of enrolment: Commencement _____

Expected completion _____

Period for which scholarship is required: _____

Draft Thesis Title:

Abstract describing your research project in plain English – maximum 100 words.

3 PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE SCHOLARSHIP IS REQUESTED

i) What is the main purpose for which the scholarship is required?

Cross (x) ALL that apply and include costs for each item in v) below.

- Short-term assistance with living expenses incurred because of special circumstances impacting on study
- Costs incurred because of study commitments including industry requirements
- Conference/Seminar presentation/attendance
- Other, specify _____

ii) Provide more information about the purpose for which the scholarship is requested.

iii) When will you use the scholarship?

iv) Include any relevant details about your financial situation or special circumstances that impact your study, including sources of income.

Do you personally receive any of the following? Cross (x) all that apply.

University sponsored stipend (specify amount) Other scholarship/s (specify amount)

Wage (part-time or casual work) (specify amount) Health Care Card

Government pension or allowance (specify type/s)

Other (specify, e.g. child support) Support from family

Estimate your anticipated expenses from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027

Total \$ _____

v) Detailed estimates of cost related to the purpose for the scholarship

NOTE: Evidence of costs **MUST** be provided.

Detailed estimates of costs

Item	Estimated cost	Evidence
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
_____	\$ _____	_____
	Total \$ _____	

If you are asking for funding to extend the duration of your postgraduate studies, explain the reason for the extension and availability of funding from your department or university for completion grants.

i) Other than stipends, which should be included in iv) above, list the value of any grants, awards or scholarships you know you will receive between 1 July 2026 and 30 June 2027 to assist with the expenses listed above.

Name of award, funding body, date

	\$ _____
	\$ _____
	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

ii) Specify any other grants, scholarships or awards for which you intend to apply, in order to cover your study expenses.

Name of award	Funding body	Deadline date	Value	Notification date
			\$ _____	
			\$ _____	
			\$ _____	
			\$ _____	

If the value is not known provide an estimate.

Advise the Scholarships Trustees by email if your application for any of these awards is successful between now and mid-May 2026.

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5. CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY AND/OR ACADEMIC LIFE

Describe your achievements both in the wider community and within the University community, including any contribution you have made to university life or the discipline.

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6. REFEREES

Provide the name, position, institution/faculty and email address of TWO academic staff members who are familiar with your academic studies and have agreed to act as referees. One of them should be the person supervising your research project.

Give each of these referees one of the forms included with this application form and ask them to send their references directly to the Scholarships Trustee to be received no later than 14th April 2026. Stress to them that applications without referees' reports will not be considered.

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REFEREE'S REPORT – 2026 POSTGRADUATE MASTERS SCHOLARSHIPS
offered by The Graduate Women SA Trust Fund

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

To the REFEREE – Please complete this confidential assessment of the applicant.

Your title _____ Name _____ Position _____

Email address _____

Institution and country (if not Australia) _____

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacities (e.g. lecturer, Honours supervisor, etc.):

2. How would you rate your knowledge of the applicant as the basis for providing a reference?

Very good Good Adequate Limited/Poor

3. Estimate the number of students with whom you are comparing the applicant.

4. Indicate your overall ranking of the applicant:

Top 5% Top 10% Top 15% Top 20% Top 40% Other Unable to rate

5. Comment on your reasons for the rankings in question 5, and/or add any other comments you wish to make about the applicant's abilities in the space below (Max. 100 words).

6. Comment on the purpose for which the applicant is applying for this scholarship (Max 100 words). In particular:
- how important the expenditure would be in assisting the applicant to make progress on or complete her degree;
 - (if applicable) provide reasons for studies extending past the expiry of a stipend; and
 - provide any other supporting or clarifying comments.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

After signing above and signing any attached sheet email to info@gwsa-trust.com.au by **14th April 2026**

REFEREE'S REPORT – 2026 POSTGRADUATE MASTERS SCHOLARSHIPS
offered by The Graduate Women SA Trust Fund

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

To the REFEREE – Please complete this confidential assessment of the applicant.

Your title _____ Name _____ Position _____

Email address _____

Institution and country (if not Australia) _____

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacities (e.g. lecturer, Honours supervisor, etc.):

2. How would you rate your knowledge of the applicant as the basis for providing a reference?

Very good Good Adequate Limited/Poor

3. Estimate the number of students with whom you are comparing the applicant.

4. Indicate your overall ranking of the applicant:

Top 5% Top 10% Top 15% Top 20% Top 40% Other Unable to rate

5. Comment on your reasons for the rankings in question 5, and/or add any other comments you wish to make about the applicant's abilities in the space below (Max. 100 words).

6. Comment on the purpose for which the applicant is applying for this scholarship (Max 100 words). In particular:

- a) how important the expenditure would be in assisting the applicant to make progress on, or complete her degree;
- b) (if applicable) provide reasons for studies extending past the expiry of a stipend; and
- c) provide any other supporting or clarifying comments.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

After signing above and any attached sheet email to info@gwsa-trust.com.au by **14th April 2026** by **14th April 2026**