

The PROPEL logo is a blue triangle pointing downwards with the word "PROPEL" in white capital letters inside it.

SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS AND STRUCTURE

How many scholarships are available?

Propel: Australian Submarine Scholarship Program will award up to 3,000 two-year undergraduate scholarships between 2026 and 2028, providing students with access to education and career opportunities associated with the AUKUS nuclear-powered submarine (NPS) enterprise.

When will I receive my payment?

Provided scholars continue to meet eligibility requirements, 2026 scholars will receive two payments:

\$3,000 in May 2026

\$2,000 in May 2027

Can I hold multiple scholarships?

There is no limit to the number of additional scholarships Propel scholars can hold. We encourage you to confirm with your other scholarship provider whether their terms and conditions enable you to hold additional scholarships.

ELIGIBILITY

Which degrees are eligible?

Propel scholars must be studying an eligible science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) degree. These include engineering (all disciplines), science (all disciplines) and other STEM-aligned degrees (e.g. information technology). If you are unsure whether your degree is eligible, please send the name of your degree to the Propel team for review propel@atse.org.au

How many years do I need left in my degree to be eligible?

Propel scholars must have at least two (2) years of full time (or full-time equivalent) study of an eligible degree remaining as of January 12, 2026.

Are double degrees and vertical double degrees eligible?

Yes, Propel scholars can study double degrees and vertical double degrees; however, applicants must have a minimum of two (2) years left of an eligible undergraduate STEM degree to be deemed eligible.

CONNECTIONS TO DEFENCE

Will being a Propel scholar guarantee me a job with the ASA or the Department of Defence?

There is no guarantee that you will be offered or a job as a student or graduate with the Australian Submarine Agency or the Department of Defence. There may be connections you make through the scholarship that may lead to future employment opportunities, but there is no expectation that you undertake employment with them during or following your degree. As a Propel scholar, you are encouraged to accept opportunities to engage with these agencies and other organisations in the defence ecosystem throughout your time as a Propel scholar.

Will ASA have access to any intellectual property (IP) or research developed during my studies?

No, ASA will not have access to any IP or research you may develop during your studies.

Do I need a security clearance to have a Propel scholarship?

No, you do not need a security clearance to apply for, or hold, a Propel scholarship.

Will I get a security clearance as part of my Propel scholarship?

The Propel scholarship will not provide or facilitate obtaining security clearances to scholars.

A security clearance may be required to work or undertake placements in some roles related to NPS pathways. This requirement will be communicated by potential employers. If you think you may be interested in roles requiring security clearance, we encourage you to become familiar with the requirements outlined by the Australian Government Security Vetting Agency. <https://www.agsva.gov.au/> All security clearances must be sponsored by a [government or business entity](#). Individuals cannot sponsor their own security clearance.

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