

Scholarship Coverletter – Superstars of STEM.
Application for Renee Wootton

I am writing to explain why I am in need of financial support to apply for the Superstars of STEM Program.

Part A:

For the past two years I have self-funded approximately \$50,000 of upfront fees to fulfil a lifetime dream to become a pilot through my Post-Graduate Studies in an Advanced Graduate Diploma in Flying at the University of New South Wales. During this full-time course I have worked full time to ensure I was able to pay the upfront costs along with FEE-Help loan repayments. The course was worth \$150,000, of which \$100,000 was put onto FEE-Help. To expedite my loan repayments, I am paying extra to try and reduce my loan as quick as possible and am ambitious not to place further financial pressure on myself.

As a result, it makes my involvement in future opportunities less tangible, such as Superstars of STEM. This is a program I believe will help me support my community and younger generations, and it is a program I believe is highly aligned with my ambition and capability to give back to others and inspire others to pursue a similar career to my own. I am fortunate enough to have a great job, however extra financial support at this point in my career and life will be highly appreciated in enabling me to unlock my full potential and continue to give back to others, without additional financial pressure.

Part B:

I am a proud Tharawal woman, my family's indigenous heritage originates from the Shoalhaven Wollongong region of NSW. I am supporting my own career and tertiary education and do not have financial assistance from my family.

Thank you to the Science and Technology Australia group for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Renee Wootton