




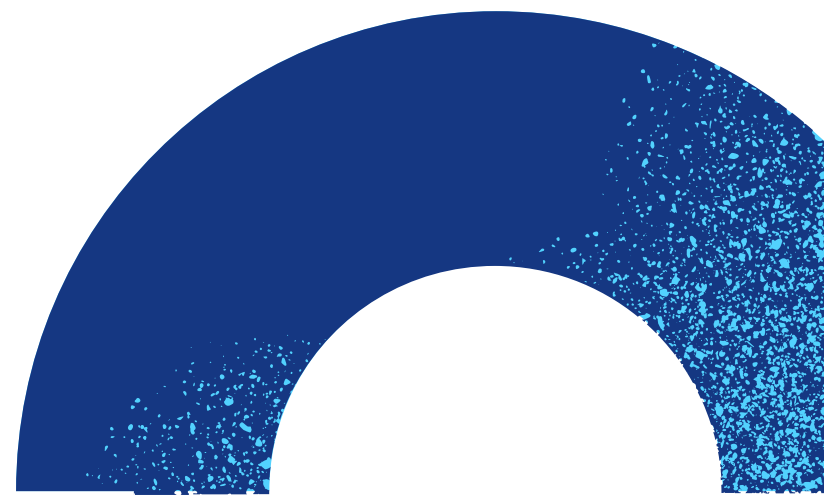
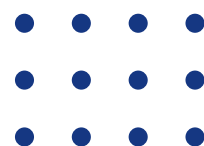
# Young Australian Space Leader 2025

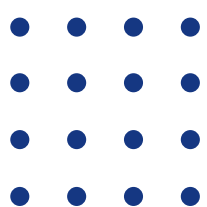


**Scholarship Awards Info Booklet**



**Scholarships for University Students and  
Young Professionals to attend the  
International Astronautical Congress, in  
Sydney (Oct 2025)**





The Young Australian Space Leader (YASL) Award is a scholarship for Australian students and young-professionals to attend the International Astronautical Congress, wherever it might be in the world; from South Africa to Mexico to Adelaide.



The 2025 International Astronautical Congress will be in Sydney, in October. We now have the opportunity to send multiple Young Australian Space Leaders to represent Australia in the greater global Space Industry, selected from a variety of backgrounds.



Young Australian Space Leaders are chosen based on their impact on the Australian Space industry - from community outreach to interdisciplinary initiatives and industry engagement, each recipient has demonstrated that they are the future leaders of our Space Industry.





# ELIGIBILITY

This year, we're thrilled to introduce a broader eligibility framework with the inclusion of the "Wildcard" stream - designed to welcome applicants who are not currently involved in AYAA programs but still demonstrate outstanding potential and impact in the space sector.

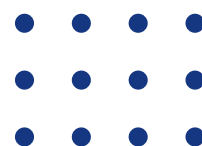
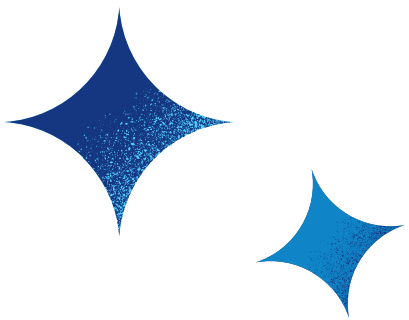
Across both streams, the following core eligibility criteria apply:

- Applicants must be aged 18 to 35 (inclusive) during the International Astronautical Congress (IAC).
- Applicants must not have previously received a YASL award, nor be a current recipient of any other scholarship to attend IAC 2025.

In 2025, applicants may now apply through one of two streams, The "AYAA Affiliated Stream" and the "Wildcard" stream (details for both on the following pages).

Applications will close on the **24th of August 11:59PM AEST**

The selected Young Australian Space Leaders of 2025 in this category will be announced in the weeks following.







# AYAA AFFILIATED STREAM

This stream is open to applicants who have actively participated in AYAA programs during 2024/25, this includes:

- Members of university rocket teams that competed in the Australian Universities Rocket Competition (AURC)
- Participants in the 2024/25 Astra Program.
- Current or former AYAA volunteers, including committee, outreach, or event roles.

In addition to meeting one of the above, applicants in this stream must also be enrolled full-time in a Bachelor's, integrated Master's, Juris Doctor, or Doctor of Medicine program at an accredited Australian university during IAC.

## **Conditions for AYAA Affiliate applications**

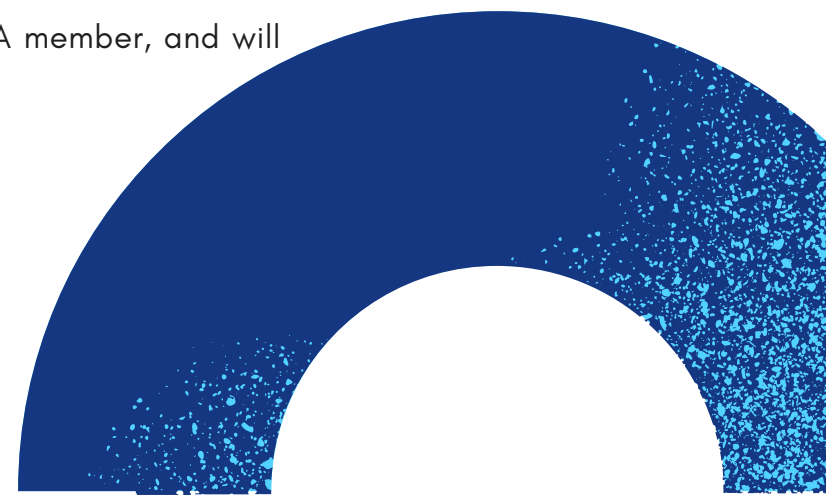
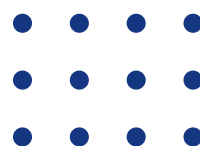
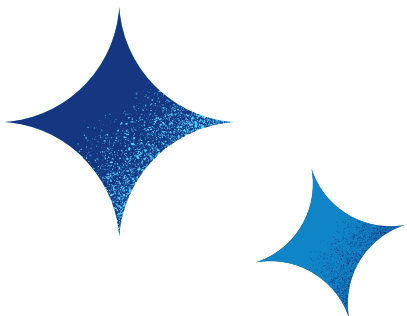
Each **eligible AURC team** can nominate up to 3 team members, and each submission must include an endorsement from a University faculty representative listing the nominee(s) by name.

- Ideally this is an academic advisor, however, other senior faculty members will also be deemed acceptable. This cannot be signed by casual university staff or student/staff.
- We recommend having a single letter (or saved pdf of emails) with all names to reduce workload, but the method is up to individual discretion.

Each **Astra submission** must include an endorsement from an Astra committee member or participant in the year that the nominee participated.

- Each person may only endorse two applicants, any endorsement after two will be disregarded and treated as not received.
- This endorsement may take form of a short message, or email. Nominees will not be judged on the method of endorsement, only on the content (positive/negative) and its existence.

Each **AYAA submission** must include an endorsement from a senior AYAA member, and will include a request for evidence of impact of work.







# WILDCARD STREAM

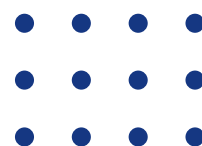
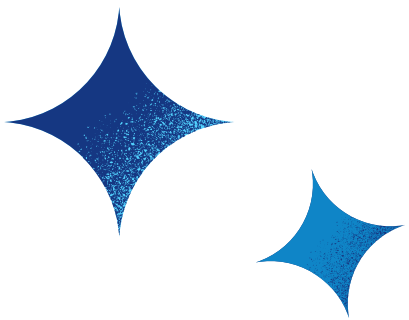
The Wildcard Stream is open to individuals who have made meaningful contributions to the Australian space sector outside of formal AYAA programs. This includes those whose work, leadership, or advocacy has advanced space-related initiatives through independent, academic, professional, or creative avenues.

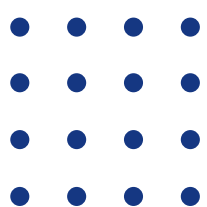
Applicants may include:

- Students or professionals involved in independent space research, technical projects, or startups
- Contributors to university clubs, community initiatives, or public outreach programs
- Advocates working in space policy, education, or communication
- Creatives using media, storytelling, or art to promote space awareness

## **Conditions for Wildcard Applications**

Each application must include two endorsement letters from references (professional or academic) who can speak to the applicant's contributions and character. Referees should ideally be senior professionals, academics, or mentors familiar with the applicant's work. References will be assessed for clarity, relevance, and strength of impact.





**For more info contact**  
**[scholarships@ayaa.com.au](mailto:scholarships@ayaa.com.au)**



**or check the website at**  
**[www.ayaa.com.au/yasl](http://www.ayaa.com.au/yasl)**

