

Providing prestigious scholarships for high-achieving South Australians





Summing up success

\$7.8m financial support provided to SA tertiary students since 2010

\$806,000 Playford Trust and partner support confirmed for 2025/26

700+ students supported over the past decade

122 tertiary students supported in 2025

38 partners and supporters

Priority areas

Advanced manufacturing and new technologies

Water, energy and climate change

Agriculture, aquaculture and food production

Space and defence technologies

Resources, energy and sustainability

Health sciences and enabling technologies

Investing in South Australia's future



The Playford Trust supports high-achieving tertiary students contributing to South Australia's skills, knowledge and research base.

With partners and supporters across industry, government, the education sector and the community, it assists students undertaking undergraduate, Honours or PhD programs at Adelaide or Flinders Universities, or studying through TAFESA.

There is a focus on areas of strategic and economic importance to the State.

A key aim is to actively encourage outstanding students into science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) careers, complementing Federal and State Government programs.

Established in 1983 in honour of Sir Thomas Playford, SA's longest-serving Premier, the Trust enjoys bipartisan political support as a not-for-profit, charitable trust operating under its own deed. It is governed by a voluntary board and administered with assistance

from the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

The first university scholarship was awarded to a PhD student of horticulture in 1987. Awards for TAFESA students were first offered in 1999.

In recent years, the Trust's reach and impact have increased dramatically, as have the number and value of its annual disbursements. Partners often also offer work experience, internships and valuable industry networking.

The Trust's funding comes from a range of sources, including income from its own investments; contributions or sponsorships from industry, the education sector and the community; an annual State Government grant; donations from individuals and foundations; additional specific grants from government; and bequests. Donations are tax deductible.



PhD

Playford Trust PhD Scholarships (2)

Donald Laidlaw AO PhD Scholarship

Lang Family Foundation PhD Scholarship

Thyne Reid Foundation PhD scholarship

5 @ \$26,250 over 3.5 years | Students working in one of the Trust's priority areas

Undergraduate and Honours

Alligator Energy/Playford Trust Scholarship |

1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Third-year or fourth-**

year student studying mining engineering,

chemical engineering, geology or geoscience |

Work placement opportunity

The Andy Thomas Foundation/Playford Trust

Scholarships | 8 @ \$5000 x 1 year |

First-year students on an undergraduate

aerospace or space science and astrophysics

study pathway

Aurecon/Playford Trust Scholarship |

1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Final-year** student

studying electrical or civil engineering and

business/commerce (or similar second

degree); or **fourth-year** student in electrical or

civil engineering | Work placement included

AusIMM/Playford Trust Minerals Industry

Scholarships | 3 @ \$9000 x 1 year | **First year**

to Honours students studying geoscience,

mining engineering, chemical engineering

(minerals processing), environmental

engineering or other undergraduate programs

directly relevant to the minerals industry

BHP/Playford Trust Minerals Industry

Honours Scholarship | 1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year |

Honours student studying geoscience, mining

engineering or chemical engineering | Work

placement opportunity

Capral Aluminium/Playford Trust Scholarship |

1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | Student beginning **third**

year mechanical, mechatronic, metallurgical,

chemical or electrical engineering | Paid work

placement

CEEC International/Playford Trust

Minerals Efficiency ESG Scholarship | 1 @

\$10,000 x 1 year | **Fourth-year or Honours**

student studying science, geoscience, mining

engineering, chemical engineering (minerals

processing), or environmental engineering

Codan/Playford Trust Scholarship in

Engineering | 1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year |

Third-year, fourth-year or Honours student

studying electronic engineering, signal

processing or physics, and having an interest

in sensing systems | Paid work placement

Commonwealth Hill Trust/Playford Trust

Rural Stem Scholarships | 4 @ \$5000 x 1 year

| **First-year** undergraduates studying STEM

subjects in areas of primary production and

supporting technologies/sciences | Home base in

rural or regional South Australia

Coopers Brewery/Playford Trust Honours

Scholarship | 1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Honours**

scholarship in agricultural science and related

sustainability practices | Work placement

opportunity

Dean Brown/Playford Trust Agricultural

Scholarship | 1 @ \$5000 x 1 year | **First-**

year student enrolled in agricultural science,

agribusiness or a comparable discipline at

Adelaide University

GSA/Playford Trust Scholarships in Earth

Sciences | 2 @ \$4000 x 1 year | **Honours** students

studying earth sciences

Peak Iron Mines/Playford Trust Scholarships

Students studying mining engineering, geology,

geoscience, or environmental sciences. Either 2 @

\$10,000 **Honours or fourth-year** | or 1 @ \$10,000

Honours or fourth-year plus 2 @ \$5000 **first-,**

second- or third-year | All 1 year. Work placement

opportunities

Playford Trust Resources Sector Engineering

Scholarships | 10 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Third- or**

fourth-year students studying any core engineering

discipline, specialising in mining or energy resources.

Supported by BHP, Hillgrove Resources, Iluka

Resources, Peak Iron Mines, Santos and the

Government of South Australia | Work placement

opportunities

Playford Trust Honours Scholarships |

14 @ \$7000 x 1 year | **Honours** students studying

in one of the Trust's priority areas | 8 scholarships

are allocated to Adelaide University and 6

scholarships are allocated to Flinders University

Playford Trust Rural & Regional STEM

Scholarships | 6 @ \$5000 x 1 year |

First-year undergraduates studying science,

engineering, mathematics or technology | Home

base in rural or regional South Australia

Seeley International/Playford Trust

Scholarship | 1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Honours or**

Masters student studying electrical, electronic

or mechanical engineering, artificial intelligence

or computer science, or information technology

with a focus on innovative air-conditioning | Work

placement included

Show Society Foundation/Playford Trust

'Excellence in Agriculture/Horticulture'

Scholarship | 3 @ \$5000 x 1 year | **Second-year**

or third-year student studying a science related

degree in areas of importance to the agricultural

industry

The Hon Sir Eric Neal AC CVO/Playford

Trust Engineering Scholarship | 1 @ \$10,000 x

1 year | **Fourth-year or Honours** student studying

an engineering degree at Flinders University in

one of the Trust's priority areas

WSP/Playford Trust Engineering Scholarship

| 1 @ \$10,000 x 1 year | **Honours or fourth-year**

student studying civil, structural, mechanical or

electrical engineering or environmental studies |

Work placement included

Residential

Aquinas College/Playford Trust Rural

Residential Scholarship | 1 @ \$8000 x 1 year |

First-year student studying science, engineering,

mathematics or technology. Home base in rural

or regional South Australia

Lincoln College/Playford Trust Rural

Residential Scholarship | 1 @ \$8000 x 1 year |

First-year student studying science, engineering,

mathematics or technology. Home base in rural

or regional South Australia

St Ann's College/Playford Trust Residential

Scholarships | 3 @ \$10,000 x 1 year |

Undergraduates commencing or continuing their

residency at St Ann's and studying in one of the

Trust's priority areas | Provided in partnership

with Chartwells and the St Ann's College

Foundation

St Mark's College/Playford Trust Residential

STEM Scholarships | 2 @ \$8000 x 1 year |

First-year student studying science, engineering,

mathematics or technology

Vocational Education and Training

Playford Trust/TAFE SA Awards |

15 @ \$3000 x 1 year | Three industry sectors

Modern industries and new technology –

Including 2 awards specific to this sector

provided by TAFESA

Agriculture, agribusiness and food production

– Including 2 awards specific to this sector

provided by Sandy's Memorial Trust

Environment, conservation and horticulture

– Including 2 awards specific to this sector

provided by Open Gardens South Australia, and

1 provided by Friends of the Botanic Gardens of

Adelaide

Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden/

Playford Trust Award | 1 @ \$5000 award to

support the professional development of an

AALBG trainee in the field of horticulture.

Trust Board

Hon Dr Diana Laidlaw AM (Chair) | Hon Trish White AM (Deputy Chair) | Mr Llew Jones (Public Officer) | Prof Don Bursill AM | Ms Jenny Brinkworth | Mr Nick Carne | Dr Kate Delaporte | Ms Janine Herzig | Ms Wendy Keach | Mr Mark McGeough | Ms Bunty Parsons | Prof Carolin Plewa | Hon Stephen Wade

Supporting South Australia's next generation

Corporate and community support helps the Playford Trust significantly increase the reach and impact of its work.

Companies, institutions, foundations, families and individuals make a difference in three main ways. In each case, all funds go directly to the students.

Partners fund specific scholarships and/or awards, which usually carry their names and are presented jointly with the Trust. Partner-student relationships can involve work experience and networking.

Supporters provide tax-deductible funding to support scholarships and/or

awards in line with Trust priorities. Some choose to fund specific awards, areas of study or academic levels.

Donors make one-off or annual contributions to support the Trust's work. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Supporters

Hon Dean Brown AO
 Fox Family Trust
 Hon Dr Diana Laidlaw AM
 Lang Family Foundation
 The Estate of The
 Hon Sir Eric Neal AC CVO
 Sandy's Memorial Trust
 Thyne Reid Foundation

Major Donors

Professor Don Bursill AM
 Marjorie Moncrieff
 Robert Pontifex
 James Porter OAM
 Dr Leanna Read
 San Remo Macaroni Co
 Pty Limited

Corporate partners



Institutional partners



Education partners



Government partners



Playford Trust



Secure online credit card donations can be made at any time. Use the QR code at right or visit shoutforgood.com.au and search for Playford Trust. Contact us to donate by bank transfer or cheque. For full information about donations, bequests and partnering, please visit playfordtrust.com.au/funding

