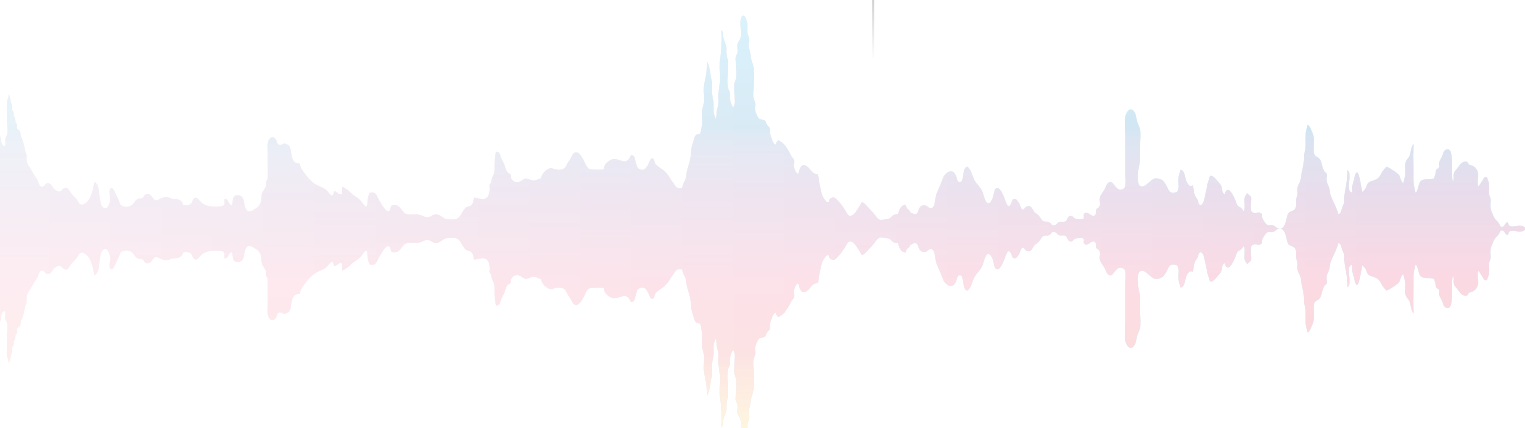


2026 ACEL
NEW
VOICE
SCHOLARSHIPS

**RECOGNISING
THE NEW VOICES
IN EDUCATIONAL
LEADERSHIP**



NEW VOICE SCHOLARSHIPS

The ACEL 'New Voice' Initiative: Supporting emerging voices in educational leadership

About ACEL

The Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) is a not-for-profit company that actively supports the development of leadership capabilities across Australia through conferences and workshops, leadership programs, in-house publications, online learning and resources, and a bookshop.

Access to these leadership-focused opportunities is available for classroom teachers through to system leaders.

As the premier provider of resources and experiences for educational leaders, ACEL continues to expand with a growing network of over 60,000 and more than 5000 members actively connecting and participating in regular professional learning.

The ACEL 'New Voice' initiative recognises 'new voices' in educational leadership. These 'new voices' are recognised as forward-thinking, relevant and responsive to issues in contemporary Australian education.

About the Scholarships

The New Voice Scholarships are part of ACEL's significant commitment to recognise the emerging voices in educational leadership. New Voice Scholarships recognise forward thinking, contextually relevant and responsive educational leaders whose work has had an impact above and beyond their immediate context.

Each scholarship aims to welcome recipients into the ACEL network and support their journey by sharing their voices with the education community.

Recipients of the ACEL 'New Voice' Scholarships will receive:

- Complimentary attendance at the 2026 ACEL National Conference
- Complimentary attendance at the National Awards Ceremony (held during the National Conference)
- Reimbursement of return economy flights to attend the 2026 ACEL National Conference, contingent upon location
- 1 Year ACEL Associate membership
- Spotlight on your work in ACEL's publications
- Public acknowledgement as a New Voice Scholar via ACEL communications and through the National Awards Ceremony to all members and database

Other Features and Benefits:

- Featuring of their work in ACEL's publications including in the *Australian Educational Leader Journal* and *Perspectives*
- Engagement with their local ACEL Branch
- Ongoing acknowledgement as New Voice Alumni in future years
- Joining a network of New Voice Scholars from all states, territories and sectors

Selection Process:

1. Initial review of submissions by the ACEL Awards Committee
2. Short-Listing of candidates
3. Selection of successful applicants
4. Confirmation of Scholarship

Please note that New Voice Scholars can be both peer and self-nominated.

CATEGORY 1:
The 'New Voice' in School Leadership

This scholarship recognises an impressive 'new voice' in educational leadership.

Criteria for selection:

- An aspiring educational leader
- Teaching qualifications
- Currently employed in an educational institution in the state/territory
- Demonstrated excellence in current educational role
- Demonstrated capacity as a forward-thinking, relevant and responsive educator

CATEGORY 2:
The 'New Voice' In Educational Leadership Research

This scholarship recognises an impressive 'new voice' in educational leadership research.

Criteria for selection:

- An aspiring educational leader
- Teaching qualifications
- Currently employed in an educational institution in the state/territory
- Currently completing or recently completed (in the past 5 years) a Master of Education or Doctorate in Education
- Demonstrated excellence in educational leadership research
- Demonstrated capacity as a forward-thinking, relevant and responsive educator

CATEGORY 3:
The 'New Indigenous Voice' in Educational Leadership

This scholarship recognises impressive new Indigenous voices in educational leadership.

Criteria for selection:

- An aspiring Indigenous educational leader
- Teaching qualifications
- Currently employed in an educational institution in Australia
- Demonstrated excellence in current educational role
- Demonstrated capacity as a forward-thinking, relevant and responsive educator

CATEGORY 4:
The 'New Voice' in Early Childhood Education Leadership

This scholarship recognises an impressive 'new voice' in early education leadership.

Criteria for selection:

- An aspiring educational leader
- Teaching qualifications
- Currently employed in an educational institution in the state/territory
- Demonstrated excellence in current educational role
- Demonstrated capacity as a forward-thinking, relevant and responsive educator

How to Apply: acel.org.au/NewVoice

Submissions close on Wednesday 25 March at 11.59pm AEDT

<p>1</p> <p>Application Form</p> <p>Completion of the online application form via acel.org.au/NewVoice</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Resumé</p> <p>Up-to-date resumé demonstrating excellence in current educational role and particular fields of interest</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Essay</p> <p>Describe why you or your nominee are considered to be forward-thinking, relevant and responsive (500 words or less)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>References</p> <p>Two professional written references, with contact information of referees* (250 words or less per reference)</p>
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*At least one of your referees must be a manager or leader within the organisation you currently work in.