



Young Professionals Scholarship

The Australian Organics Recycling Association (AORA) and Pure Environmental are very pleased to announce the availability of a scholarship of \$3,000 to support a young professional to attend our 2026 Annual Conference to be held in Melbourne, Victoria from 22 – 24 April 2026.

This opportunity is open to a young professional in Australia embarking on a career in the organics recycling industry. Applicants must be under 30 years of age (as of 1 June 2026) and have less than two years' experience working in the organics recycling industry.

Only one scholarship is available. **Applications can be made by eligible persons by completing the [online application form](#) before 5pm Thursday 12 March 2026.** An announcement will be made in early April 2026.

The scholarship recipient will be required to:

- Attend all three days of the AORA 2026 Annual Conference (22 – 24 April 2026, Melbourne)
- Write an article for the AORA Newsletter on their experience at the conference, what they learnt and gained by attending the conference.
- Actively promote AORA through their networks
- Mentor any future conference scholarship recipients
- Become a student member of AORA if they are not already.

Applications will be assessed by representatives from AORA and Pure Environmental. The awarding of a scholarship recipient will be at the discretion of the assessment committee.

Any questions can be directed to Alex Hammett, AORA National Coordinator on 0434 625 472 or email: alex@aora.org.au.

Brief for Scholarship Applicants and Winners

Applying and evaluation

This scholarship is open to applicants from across Australia that meet the following eligibility criteria.

Applicants must be:

- Under 30 years of age as of 1 June 2026
- A current full-time student or currently employed but with 2 or less years professional experience in the organics recycling industry.
- Undertaking study or employment in a relevant field
- Available to attend the conference.
- Able to demonstrate how attending the selected conference would assist them in their career and ongoing professional development.

All applicants are required to complete the AORA Young Professionals Conference Scholarship 2026 Application Form available at: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/8694681/AORA2026YP> by 5pm Thursday 12 March 2026. No late applications will be accepted.

Applications will be evaluated based on how they describe the professional and personal benefits that would arise from their attendance at the conference.

There is one 2026 Young Professionals Conference Scholarship on offer. The value of the scholarship is up to a total of \$3,000 of eligible expenses. In the case where the cost of registration, travel and accommodation for the chosen conference is greater than \$3,000, then only funding up to \$3,000 will be provided.

The winning applicant will be notified via phone of their success, and an announcement will be made via the AORA social media channels.

Applications close Thursday 12 March 2026

Brief for recipients

The scholarship recipient must be available to attend all three days of the conference 22 – 24 April 2026 in Melbourne. The scholarship will not cover any cost associated with the applicant needing to take time-off from work or study to attend the conference.

Within three months following attendance of the conference, the winner of the scholarship will be required to:

- Write a brief article for the AORA website (no more than 500 words)
- Provide feedback on the scholarship process, suggesting ways it could be improved and/or further promoted.
- It is also hoped that the recipient will be willing and available to participate in AORA in their state over the coming year.

Scholarship funds will be paid to the recipient's nominated bank account upon confirmation of registration to the conference.