MT BURDETT FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Investing to build vibrant, resilient rural communities

The Mt Burdett Rural and Regional Advancement Foundation and the Leadership WA Foundation are proud to offer emerging and mid-career leaders in regional Western Australia the opportunity to further build their leadership capability, through the Mt Burdett Foundation Scholarships.

The Foundation's vision is that by investing strategically in new initiatives and people, we create a vibrant, resilient community to ensure a healthy future for both the Esperance region and across rural and regional Western Australia. If you are:

- Living and working anywhere in regional Western Australia
- Emerging - mid level in your career
- Passionate about creating a positive impact and difference where you live
- Keen to build your leadership skills and put them into practice for your community

Then we encourage you to apply for the Mt Burdett Foundation Scholarship, which supports two places onto Leadership WA's Rising Leadership Program, an experiential program that brings together developing leaders from the corporate, not-for-profit and public sectors, to share experiences, explore who they are as leaders, build on their strengths, and discover how to take on greater leadership roles.

The Leadership WA Rising Leadership Program

Ideal for emerging and mid-career professionals, the Rising Leadership Program takes participants on a 6-month journey that fosters new thinking and perspectives on leadership. The Program occurs twice each year - commencing March and June and runs over 10 Experiences (12 days) held in different locations across Perth.

Participants will explore a variety of themes through dynamically structured group discussions and learn from Western Australia's most qualified and insightful leaders from across private, community and government sectors. Each Rising cohort is carefully curated by Leadership WA to ensure diversity of thought and experience across multiple sectors.

The Rising Leadership Program provides a holistic approach to developing your own courageous and authentic style of leadership, using evidence-based theories, tools and frameworks for leading self, team and organisation. This includes:

- **Values-Based Leadership |** Aligning authenticity to change and high performance
- **Mindful Leadership |** An intentional and simple way to lead better

The Program has 3 foundation pillars of Leading Staff, Leading Team and Leading Organisation.

Discover more at: leadershipwa.org.au/rising

Following completion of the Program, graduates will join a strong and influential network of Leadership WA Alumni. This network comes together regularly to continue to grow and learn, and to give back by contributing their expertise and time to social impact activities across WA, making a real and meaningful difference in their community.

What does the scholarship cover?

The Mt Burdett Foundation Scholarships fund the full fees for a Program place, valued at $8,640. The scholarship's emphasis is on applicants clearly outlining their plans to contribute back to their community or sector on completion of the course. Two scholarships are available for 2026.

How to apply?

You can apply through the Rising Leadership Program page at leadershipwa.org.au/rising.

You will be asked to consider both the criteria for the Rising Leadership Program and also demonstrate your eligibility for the Mt Burdett Scholarship, including why you are passionate about your region and how you will take your leadership learnings back to your own community to create a marked difference.

Leadership WA's Programs are highly regarded and entry is competitive. Applicants undergo a selection process, which includes an online application, followed by an interview (which can be via Zoom).

The application for a Mt Burdett Scholarship forms part of the Rising Leadership Program application.

Apply for this Scholarship for the June cohort by 30 April 2026.

About the Mt Burdett Rural and Regional Advancement Foundation

People and strong communities are the backbone of rural and regional Western Australia. Operating under the umbrella of the Mt Burdett Foundation (established by Esperance farmer Chris Reichstein), the Mt Burdett Rural and Regional Advancement Foundation has been established with the aim of empowering people in rural and regional areas with the skills and confidence to help grow vibrant and resilient communities.

For more information, visit mtburdettfoundation.org.au.