

Establishment of the Swetman Fellowship Fund

The Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship Fund was established in 1994 by Flight Lieutenant Ronald Charles Swetman DFC DFM, RAFVR (Retd) and is financed through the Ron Swetman Trust, which is administered by the Air Force Association (Western Australian Division) Incorporated (RAAFA).

The object of the Fellowship is to foster aviation education and interest among young people in Western Australia.

Flight Lieutenant Ron Swetman DFC DFM

Ron Swetman served in 97 Squadron RAF between September 1942 and December 1943 as a Lancaster flight engineer. As part of Bomber Command, the squadron took part in a low-level daylight attack on the MAN diesel engine works in Augsburg, and in the 1,000 bomber raids on Cologne, Essen and Bremen. In April 1943 the squadron joined Bomber Command's Pathfinder Force as a 'target marker' squadron for the main bomber force.



Ron completed 61 operations - the highest number in 97 Squadron during WWII. He was promoted to Flight Lieutenant and awarded both the Distinguished Flying Cross and Distinguished Flying Medal.

After the war he maintained a passionate interest in aviation and generously encouraged young people with similar interests. In retirement he resided at RAAFA's Air Force Memorial Estate in Bull Creek, and continued to administer the Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship until he died in 2001. After Ron's passing, RAAFA proudly assumed the management and promotion of The Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship.

Value of the Fellowship

One (1) Fellowship of \$5,000 will be awarded to a candidate chosen by the Fellowship Selection Panel.

One (1) Award of \$2,000 will be awarded to the second placed candidate.

One (1) Award of \$1,000 will be awarded to the third placed candidate.

The Fellowship and both Awards recipients will also receive:

- 12-month complementary Associate Membership to RAAFA
- Opportunities to participate in unique, curated experiences and VR sessions at RAAFA's Aviation Heritage Museum.

Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship

2024 Information

Important Dates, Documents and Information

15 July 2024	Applications Open
20 September 2024	Applications Close
7 October 2024	Interviews commence
21 October 2024	Fellowship and Awards recipients announced

★ Writing your application

We advise applicants to review the application form and give thought to your responses before starting the application. We estimate that most applications will take between one and two hours to complete.

★ Preparing your references

Please provide two written references, and not more than three. Sometimes, your referees may require some notice to write their reference for you. Please give them plenty of notice and upload their references to your online application along with any other supporting documentation you wish to include.

★ Late applications

Late applications cannot be accepted.

Intention of the Fellowship

The Selection Panel shall be guided in its selection by the intentions of the benefactor, who envisaged that the award would be made for purposes such as:

- An individual undertaking flying training; or
- An individual attending an aviation event or facility for the purpose of his or her own professional development in the sphere of aviation education; or
- Another purpose which furthers an interest in aviation.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a student aged between 15-20 years, an Australian citizen or resident, residing in Western Australia, and undergoing or about to undergo an approved Western Australian aviation education program. Past recipients have undertaken flight, engineering and other aviation related training.

Applications

Applications are to be made using the **Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship** Application form or via QR code, and must be completed and signed by the applicant and parent or guardian (if applicant is under 18 years of age). References and supporting documentation can be attached/uploaded, and should be no more than one page each, with a maximum of three references.



RAAFA Central Support Office

A: 18 Bowman Street, South Perth WA 6151

T: (08) 9288 8400 E: enquiries@raafawa.org.au W: raafawa.org.au



RAAFA WA

Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship

2024 Information

Selection Process

Applications close on **Friday, 20 September 2024**. The initial assessment for interviews will take place shortly thereafter, and it is expected that, subject to candidate availability, the selection and presentation process would be completed in October 2024. The selection is at the absolute discretion of the Selection Panel appointed by RAAFA.

Enquiries

Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship

E heritage@raafawa.org.au

T (08) 9288 8400

Equal Opportunity

RAAFA is committed to equal opportunity and exercise that policy in relation to all admissions processes. The Swetman Aviation Education Fellowship does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, colour, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or disability. All information supplied will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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