

# Media release

44/13 – 20 November 2013

## Airservices encourages women's flying dreams

Women interested in a career in aviation are being encouraged to apply for the Airservices-sponsored Australian Women Pilots' Association (AWPA) Flight Training Scholarships, with applications closing at the end of January 2014.

The Airservices and AWPA scholarships offer flight training opportunities for women and assist them to complete their flight training.

Airservices Executive General Manager Corporate and Industry Affairs, Unni Menon, said the sponsorships recognise the contribution that the AWPA, founded by pioneer aviator Nancy-Bird Walton in 1950, makes to Australian aviation.

"The scholarships are designed to support the sustainability of the general aviation community and encourage women with an interest in aviation to pursue their flying dreams.

"We're proud to support the work of the association as they help young women learn to fly and consider a future career in the industry," Mr Menon said.

Scholarship recipient Melinda Eddy said that since receiving the Airservices Flight Training Scholarship earlier this year, she had added nearly 40 hours to her log book, allowing her to achieve her commercial pilot licence (CPL) and gain a twin endorsement in the Piper Seminole along the way.

"I would love to be flying the Bombardier Dash 8 for Qantaslink in the near future and am planning for a cadetship," Melinda said.

The scholarships can be used for initial pilot training or towards assisting with the cross-country flying component of a commercial pilot licence.

"We hope these scholarships will encourage women who are passionate about flying to become active, long-term members of the aviation community and beyond," Mr Menon said.

The scholarships are offered over two categories with two scholarships in each. Applicants must be members of the association, demonstrate an aptitude for flying and commitment to aviation and be aged at least 15.

More information on the scholarships is available on the [AWPA website](#).

**For media enquiries call Airservices Media on (02) 6257 2828 or email [media@airservicesaustralia.com](mailto:media@airservicesaustralia.com)**

**Get the latest news and updates via our Twitter account: @AirservicesNews.**