

# Media release

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## Airservices supports the next generation of pilots

Airservices has today announced a three-year, almost \$70,000 sponsorship agreement with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots' Association (AOPA) to support education of the next generation of pilots.

Airservices will fund six scholarships per year to assist with costs associated with gaining post Private Pilots Licence qualifications of aviation devotees.

Airservices Executive General Manager Government and Industry Affairs, Unni Menon said the agreement recognised the essential role played by AOPA as part of a vibrant, growing Australian aviation industry.

"We're proud to support the work of the organisation as they help young people progress their flying skills and to operate safely and pursue a career in the industry," Mr Menon said.

"This agreement is part of our wider contribution to the aviation industry in general and we look forward to building on this association with AOPA."

Airservices and AOPA scholarships will assist recipients to further their flying training at minimal cost.

Through the Airservices sponsorship, AOPA will provide each successful student with \$3,000 to subsidise the cost of post Private Pilots Licence qualifications such as an Instrument Flight Rules rating or a commercial licence.

"We hope these scholarships will encourage young pilots to become active, long-term members of the aviation community and beyond," Mr Menon said.

AOPA will also be offering 20 Trial Instruction Flights (TIFs) to young people to start them on the career path to becoming a pilot.

The scholarships and TIFs are available to both male and female students who have demonstrated an aptitude for flying, a commitment to aviation, and financial need.

More information on the scholarships is available at [www.aopa.com.au](http://www.aopa.com.au)

**For a photograph of the contract signing visit <http://newsroom.airservicesaustralia.com>  
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