



ARBS Foundation Leadership Awards

Call for Nominations

The ARBS Education and Research Foundation invites industry associations, employers, and leaders to nominate outstanding young people for the annual ARBS Leadership Scholarships.

The Foundation was created in 2014 to return ARBS Exhibition profits to the HVAC&R and building services industry through education, training, and practical research. Since then, more than half a million dollars has been invested to strengthen skills, improve career prospects, and boost industry capability.

There is no shortage of bright, motivated young people in our sector. They come from every part of the industry, from administration to trades to engineering. Many award programs recognise them, although few provide the practical support needed to take the next step in their development. The ARBS Leadership Scholarships aim to change this by offering targeted financial assistance to help emerging leaders grow.

Scholarship Categories

Four scholarships will be awarded each year:

- **Young Achiever Open Category** - open to persons in any occupation with any education level subject to the age restriction
- **HVAC&R Apprentice or Tradesperson** (two awards) - open to any person who is either an apprentice or tradesperson in any trade occupation or with a trade qualification working as for example, project manager, estimator
- **Female any occupation** - open to females employed in any occupation and with any level of education who is exhibiting leadership in their work

*Nb: Nominees must be under 30 years of age on 7 May 2026 of the nomination year.
Applicants must be employed in the HVAC&R or building services industry*

Nomination Process

Nominations open in November and close on 30 January 2026.

ARBS Exhibition industry associations are invited to submit nominations, and multiple nominations are welcome. Each nomination must include:

- Scholarship category sought
- Candidate name and relevant personal details
- Employer details
- Employment history
- A statement from the nominating organisation outlining the candidate's leadership potential

Each nominee must also provide a 12-month development plan that explains how they intend to build their leadership capability. This may include short courses, domestic study program, mentoring, or other structured learning programs. The quality of this plan is the primary selection factor.

The nominee's employer must sign a statement endorsing both the nomination and the proposed development plan.

Applications are submitted online at <https://arbs.awardsplatform.com>

Selection Process

A three-person selection panel, including a representative of the Foundation board, will review applications and create a shortlist for each category. Decisions will be based on the written submission and, if required, an interview held in person or via Zoom during February or March.

Winners will be announced at the biennial ARBS Exhibition or at an equivalent industry event in alternate years.

Award Details

Each scholarship is valued at \$5000.

Recipients decide how to allocate the funds in line with the development plan submitted in their application. Each recipient will sign a funding agreement with the Foundation confirming how the award will be used. Funds will be released according to the nature of the approved program