

2026 Sir William Tyree Foundation Scholars MENTOR PROGRAM GUIDE

The Sir William Tyree Foundation Scholars and Friends Network was established to encourage and build connections between current and former Scholars as well as friends such as Tyree Industries senior staff members. The Network provides skill-building resources, professional development opportunities and a supportive environment to help Scholars achieve their ambitions.

The Mentor Program is a key activity of the Network, offered each year since 2022.

This year the program is being delivered in partnership with Engineers Australia. Engineers Australia is promoting the opportunity to volunteer as a mentor to its members across Australia.

Purpose of the program and expectations

The program will match mentors with current Tyree Scholars to provide support and advice.

The role of Mentors

- To listen, acting as a sounding board for the mentee to discuss their career aspirations, and any challenges they may be experiencing with their studies or career plans
- To provide advice and encouragement, helping to build the mentee's confidence

The benefits of mentoring for the Mentor

- Being able to 'give back' in a meaningful way
- Learning new things, outside of your usual influences
- Making a positive difference in the life of a Tyree scholarship recipient

The role of Mentees

- To be organised: using the time thoughtfully and being prepared for each meeting
- To take initiative and follow through with recommendations

The benefits of having a Mentor

- Learning from an experienced professional who is motivated to support your growth
- Having an opportunity to test assumptions and discuss options relating to your career
- Expanding your professional network

How will the program work?

The expectation is that mentor/mentee partners will meet at least four times during the program's duration, which is from the beginning of August to the end of November. We will be making matches

based on locality so there is an expectation that at least one of your meetings will take place in person.

We will do our best to match each student with an appropriate mentor. To make this easier, students have been asked to articulate their goals for the program.

Once the matches are made we will make introductions via email. Jane Miller is available for support to both mentors and mentees, and will check in half way through the program to see how things are going.

Suggested topics for discussion

Each mentor and mentee pair will decide how to structure their meetings, and decide on priorities for discussion. However below are some ideas you might find helpful.

Introductions

We recommend that the first meeting is dedicated to getting to know each other and to discuss the mentee's objectives for participating in this year's program.

Exploring employability skills & industry/career options

- Skills that are key to success in relevant roles, industry and/or sector
- Up-skilling and professional development
- Trends in terms of emerging skills or workforce changes

Gaining self-awareness & articulating skills

- Resume, cover letter and LinkedIn profile review

Linking study to the workforce

- Navigating the transition from studying to the workforce
- How educational experiences can provide transferable skills

Professional communication

- Different professional communication styles and what has worked for the mentor
- Communicating in a predominantly digital environment

Building personal & professional networks

- Discussing the influence and importance of networks

FAQs

- What happens if one of us isn't able to continue with the mentor relationship?
If you aren't able to meet at least four times in the four month program window, please contact Jane Miller to discuss.



SCHOLARS AND FRIENDS NETWORK

- Can we meet online if in person isn't convenient?
Yes, this is fine. We expect you to meet at least once in person but the other times can be online if this is more convenient for both parties.
- Can we stay in touch following the end of the program?
Yes! That's entirely up to you.

Confidentiality and respect

Both mentors and mentees are expected to show respect towards each other, for example by showing up on time and being prepared for meetings. Both parties should also ensure that information discussed between them is treated with the utmost confidence. Confidentiality is important for the protection of both, and for building a trusting relationship.

Contact

Contact [Jane Miller](#) with any questions about the program.