



Australian
**Rural Leadership
Foundation**

ARLP

Applicant Q&A

When will the program run?	ARLP Course 29 – June 2022 to October 2023
What is the desired outcome of the application process?	To identify a cohort of participants from diverse backgrounds (including age, gender, geography, race, sector and cognitive ability). All successful candidates will be able to exhibit their capacity and willingness to make a leadership contribution to rural, regional and remote Australia.
When is the application period?	5 July to 29 August 2021
What is cost of a scholarship?	\$50,000+GST – funded by corporate, government, industry and philanthropists. \$5,000+GST – participant fee which is compulsory.
What is the format of the course?	50 days, 46 face-to-face and 4 days online 4 sessions over 15 months* Session 1: Discovery & Awareness / 13-26 June 2022 / 14 days Session 2: Networks & Affiliation / 19-27 Oct 2022 / 9 days Session 3: Connection & Mobilisation / 17-30 April 2023 / 14 days Session 4: Influence & Impact / 1-9 Sept 2023 / 9 days <i>*dates & locations subject to change due to Covid-19</i>
What if I am unsure about whether I am a suitable applicant?	A conversation with a mentor or someone who has completed the program is a good starting point to decide if you will proceed with an application. You can also call the ARLF office on 02 6281-0680 and discuss your applicability.
What are the implications of COVID-19 on the running of the program?	<p>The current global and national context is creating significant challenges for face-to-face delivery of programs which the ARLF has responded to over the course of 2020/21 having continued to deliver programs to multiple cohorts.</p> <p>The ARLF has invested in new products and digital platforms and has collaborated with trusted colleagues in alternate methodology to deliver programs using a combination of face-to-face, regional hubs and online components in response to the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>The ARLF will work closely with all stakeholders to make decisions around program delivery that place the health and safety of all participants and staff, and the community as the highest priority. This includes making decisions around program commencement, location and identifying risk scenarios and how they will be managed.</p>

How will the mentoring component work?	The ARLF values the inclusion of one-on-one mentoring and coaching as a learning and development practice for leadership and has created a mentoring framework and model which is offered to participants on the ARLP. We believe that collaborations and network connections make a vital contribution to increasing leadership capacity in rural, regional and remote Australia. More information will be provided to successful applicants prior to program commencement.
Do you have to be from a rural area to apply?	Applicants must have a strong desire to contribute and take action toward building a strong rural and regional Australia. They will most likely work or live in a rural or regional location or sector, but this is not a pre-requisite.
When are applicants short-listed for interview?	All submitted applications will be assessed by a selection panel by late-September. All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application and, if successful, informed of an interview.
When will the interviews be held?	Interviews will be held from 20 September to 8 October via zoom online meetings. Applicants selected for interview must be available during this time.
What will the interview be like?	The interview will take up to an hour. There will be three people on the interview panel – a representation of ARLF staff, alumni members and someone from the broader ARLF network which may be someone from a sponsoring organisation. There is no preparation required, however you may like to refresh your memory about what you included in your application. We are interested in learning more about you in the interview to see if you are a suitable candidate at this point in your leadership.
How are applicants matched to scholarships?	At the completion of interviews, the ARLF begins the complex process of matching applicants with available scholarships. The selection process is moderated by participant diversity, sponsorship requirements and scholarship availability. With a limited number of scholarships available each year, these places are highly competitive. Please bear in mind this can be a lengthy process and patience is appreciated.
When are successful applicants selected and advised they have a place on the program?	The majority of places are confirmed by the end of December. If you are not successful in gaining a place in the program, you can request feedback about your interview to support a future application.
If I am accepted on the program and my life circumstances change and I am no longer able to participate, how is this managed?	Changes in circumstances are assessed on a case-by-case basis and depend on the time at which the cancellation occurs. The program team will discuss options to cancel, transfer or substitute your place.
What level of fitness do you need to have for the outdoor activities?	There are no prerequisites regarding fitness however we do suggest that you prepare mentally and physically for the challenge of the ARLP. A moderate level of fitness will assist you to accomplish the outdoor educational challenges. If you have any specific concerns about your ability to undertake any physical elements of the program due to a disability or health condition, please contact the office to discuss the possibilities available to you.
How are health conditions managed on the ARLP?	The program team works closely with participants to manage individual health conditions to ensure maximum participation in all program activities. If you have a health condition(s) it is important to detail this in your application.

Who do I contact for more information?	Please call the ARLF office on (02) 6281-0680 or email info@rural-leaders.org.au
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