

2026 WK APIG Scholarship

Information Pack

Education

Career development

Life experience



Boost your career in Fin Lines with AUD\$9,500 towards a lifetime learning experience

APIG and WK are committed to supporting the career development of young APIG members practising in financial lines insurance in Australia.

For over a decade, the annual Australian WK APIG Scholarship has recognised outstanding contribution and talent in our industry and connected the successful candidate with a lifetime educational experience aimed at enhancing their professional career. Funded by WK, past scholarship winners have attended the international PIF Conference at Cambridge University and taken part in a hosted visit of Lloyd's in London.

There are also excellent personal profiling opportunities, with the winner sharing their experiences with other APIG members and the market.

Applications for the 2026 Scholarship are now open with the winner receiving \$9,500 towards attending an international conference of their choice with direct relevance to their career.

Applications Open: **Wednesday, 17 June 2026**

Applications Close: **5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, 17 July 2026**

Winner Announced: **Thursday, 10 September 2026 (at the 2026 APIG Conference)**

Prize / Learning Package

The 2026 Scholarship Package consists of **AUD\$9,500** funding towards attending an international conference of your choice directly related to professional indemnity insurance or your specialist product area.

A key part of the package is for the winner to share their experience with APIG members on return by way of a brief update and video Q&A. We will also share the winner's submission at www.apig.com.au.

How to apply

Complete the online application form below before 5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, 17 July 2026.

If you have any trouble completing the form, please email us at APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.

Your submission should address the following questions:

Briefly tell us about your current role and its focus.

What you see as a major issue for your area of insurance and how it could be resolved (video up to 3 minutes, or text up to 500 words).

In a few words, what makes you proud to work in the financial lines insurance industry in Australia.

[Apply Here](#)



Funding to attend a global conference of your choice

Professional Indemnity Forum Conference Robinson College, Cambridge University

Conference selection

The WK APIG Scholarship recipient will be able to select an international conference of their choice related to professional indemnity insurance or their specialist product area (for example, cyber or environmental insurance).

The annual Professional Indemnity Forum (PIF) Conference at Cambridge University, with an organised visit to the Lloyd's Market in London arranged by Wotton Kearney, will remain an option. Conference selections will require approval from the judging panel and the recipient's employer to travel on the required dates.

Eligibility

The WK APIG Scholarship is open to current APIG members under the age of 36 on the submission close date (17 July 2026). Applicants must be actively involved in financial lines or professional indemnity insurance in Australia.

Members of the APIG National Committee and employees of Wotton Kearney are ineligible. Full terms and conditions are available in this pack and the [APIG website](#).



2025 Winner

Dominic Parkes-Dolan

Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance

APIG and Wotton Kearney congratulate Dominic Parkes-Dolan, Underwriter at Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance, on winning the 2025 WK APIG Scholarship for his video submission, *Changing of the Guard*.

The judges praised Dominic's analysis of the leadership pipeline crisis facing Australia's financial lines insurance industry. He highlighted an ageing workforce and wave of retirements as a strategic challenge, not just a staffing one, compounded by AI, regulation, and rising client expectations. His recommendations included faster leadership development, better career perceptions, and stronger soft skills alongside tech adaptation.

[View Dominic's submission here](#)



2024 Winner

Grace Coleman

WTW

Grace's video submission *The Risk of Digital Monocultures* explored the vulnerabilities created by modern infrastructure's reliance on standardised systems, using a hypothetical worldwide cyber event to illustrate how a single threat could trigger widespread disruption. Her submission stood out for offering both short and long-term solutions tailored to the Australian market.

[View Grace's submission here](#)



2023 Winner

Ben McCallum

Willis Tower Watson

Ben's submission examined the imposition of cyber exclusions in PI and D&O policies, using real-life breach scenarios to expose potential coverage gaps for third-party claims. The panel was impressed by his practical recommendations for brokers and insurers to develop tailored market solutions in response.

[View Ben's submission here](#)

For more information around our previous winners, please view the [WK APIG Scholarship page](#)

1. Scholarship Purpose

The Wotton Kearney APIG Scholarship has been established to support the career development of young professionals practising in professional indemnity and financial lines insurance in Australia. The annual scholarship recognises an outstanding contribution to the industry by a current APIG member each year, with the winner benefitting from a Scholarship Package which provides financial assistance for them to attend a nominated conference specifically relevant to their career anywhere in the world the following year.

2. General

Information on how to enter this competition, any forms, prizes and rules for redeeming prizes form part of these terms and conditions. Participation in the APIG Scholarship competition constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions in full. An entry which does not comply with these terms and conditions is invalid. Wotton Kearney (**WK**) reserves the right to amend, suspend or cancel the competition at any time and for any reason, including circumstances beyond its control. Any amendments will be published on the WK website.

The competition is being organised and held by Wotton Kearney Pty Ltd (ABN 94 632 932 131).

3. Scholarship Package

AUD\$9,500 funding towards attending a nominated conference, consisting of:

- AUD\$2,000 towards a single conference ticket,
- AUD\$4,000 towards return economy airfares and transfers to attend the conference, and
- AUD\$3,500 towards accommodation and spending.

Funds will be provided to the winner once the nominated conference is approved by the Judging Panel and agreed on by the winner's employer in terms of travel dates and leave. The winner is required to confirm receipt of the funds in writing (email).

The winner is expected to use the funds to cover return flights, accommodation, transport and associated expenses for their nominated conference. If for any reason the winner is unable to accept their prize or attend their nominated conference, the Judging Panel reserves the right to award the prize to another entrant.

4. Conference Approval

The scholarship recipient can select a global conference of their choice related to professional indemnity insurance or their specialist product area (eg. cyber). The annual Professional Indemnity Forum Conference at Cambridge University with an organised visit to the Lloyd's Market in London will remain an option. The nominated conference is to be approved by the Judging Panel and agreed in writing by the winner's employer in terms of travel dates or leave required.

5. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible, entrants must:

- be a current APIG member,
- be under the age of 36 on the submission closing date,
- be actively involved in a capacity where the candidate has a significant involvement in an aspect of financial lines insurance within Australia,
- not be a current member of the APIG National Committee,
- not be an employee at Wotton Kearney, and
- have approval from their employer to travel and attend their nominated conference, including any leave required.

WK reserves the right to verify eligibility at any stage of the competition. Any entrant found to be ineligible may be disqualified, including after the announcement of a winner.

6. Submission Requirements

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must **complete the online application** form before 5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, 17 July 2026.

If you have any trouble completing the form, please email us at APIGScholarship@wottonkearney.com.

Your submission should address the following questions:

Briefly tell us about your current role and its focus.

What you see as a major issue for your area of insurance and how it could be resolved (video up to 3 minutes, or text up to 500 words).

In a few words, what makes you proud to work in the financial lines insurance industry in Australia.

APIG and Wotton Kearney accept no liability for late, lost or misdirected entries.

7. Judging Panel

The successful candidate(s) will be selected by a Judging Panel comprising:

- the APIG Chair (or representative thereof),
- the APIG Deputy Chair (or representative thereof), and
- a Wotton Kearney representative (or representative thereof).

8. Selection Process

The Judging Panel will select the successful candidate entirely at their discretion, but taking into account the following criteria:

- the merit of the candidate's submission,
- the relative benefit of the award to the particular candidate, and
- the relative benefit to the industry arising from the selection.

The panel may decide to interview the best three candidates before awarding the Scholarship. The panel will seek the specific input of each APIG State President as to who the Scholarship should be awarded to. If a deadlock is reached, the APIG National President will have the deciding vote.

If for any reason the winner is unable to accept the Scholarship Package or attend the nominated conference, the judging panel will award the Scholarship to the next applicant they deem has best met the Scholarship criteria.

The panel's decision is final and no discussions with candidates will be entered into.

9. Scholarship Holder's Obligation

The successful candidate acknowledges that:

- the Scholarship cannot be exchanged for any other benefit,
- attendance at every session of the nominated conference is required,
- inability to attend the nominated conference will result in forfeiture and the panel may, at their sole discretion, re-award the Scholarship and request the return of all provided funds as they see fit, and
- on return, they will be required to:
 - publish a short report regarding the highlights of their trip,

- take part in a short Q&A video on their experience for LinkedIn, and
- if required, assist with other profiling opportunities, including speaking briefly at the start of an APIG webinar.

In no event will APIG or Wotton Kearney be liable if unforeseen circumstances arise which prevent the successful candidate from attending the conference.

10. Announcement of Winner

The winner will be contacted in writing and announced at the APIG Conference on Thursday, 10 September 2026. APIG members will also be notified of the winner via a broadcast email and the winner's name will also be posted on the APIG website.

The recipient of the Scholarship and their current employer give permission for APIG and Wotton Kearney to publicise the recipient's name, company and position title as part of the Scholarship announcement and related communications.

11. Intellectual Property

Entrants license their submissions to WK on a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable and worldwide basis and consent to inclusion of all copyright works comprised in their submission for the purposes of WK's promotional and other activities.

12. Disqualification

WK reserves the right to disqualify any entrant who provides false or misleading information, submits work that is not original or solely authored, or engages in conduct considered inappropriate or contrary to the spirit of the competition.

13. Liabilities and warranties

APIG, WK, or members of the Judging Panel, are not liable for any loss or damage to property or persons including, but not limited to, direct or consequential loss and loss from personal injury as a result of participation in the activities from the competition or its prizes.

In no event will WK be liable if unforeseen circumstances arise which prevent the winner from attending their nominated conference.

Liability for any tax on benefits provided to entrants, including prize monies and travel vouchers, is the sole responsibility of the recipient. Entrants are

encouraged to seek independent advice regarding any applicable tax obligations.

Each entrant warrants to WK in respect of their submission that it does not infringe the rights of any third party and all efforts have been taken to avoid any such infringement and the entrant owns the copyright in the submission and is entitled to submit the work as a part of and for the purposes of this.

14. Privacy

All details of entrants will be held in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 and WK's Privacy Policy, which can be viewed at <https://www.wottonkearney.com.au/privacy/>. Any personal information of the entrant will only be used for the purpose of the competition. WK will not, without the entrant's consent, disclose or permit access to the entrant's personal information other than for the purpose of the competition.

15. Key Dates for 2026 Scholarship

- Submissions open on Wednesday, 17 June 2026.
- Submissions close at 5.00pm (AEST) on Friday, 17 July 2026.
- Winner will be announced at the APIG Conference on Thursday, 10 September 2026.

16. Application Form

View the Application Form [here](#).

17. Additional Information

For additional information, visit the [APIG website](#).

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