



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Scholarships Supporting Careers for Women in the Automotive Industry

Four full scholarships will be made available in 2022 for aspiring female leaders to grow professionally through MTA Queensland's Auto Women initiative.

The new scholarships, sponsored by MTA Queensland, Spirit Super, and Women & Leadership Australia, aim to support the development of women in early-career and mid-level positions working in the automotive industry.

The recipients will have the opportunity to undertake either the:

- **Leading Edge** course valued at \$3,490 + GST; or
- **Executive Ready** course valued at \$7,990 + GST.

The first training course, Leading edge, is designed to assist females in early-career positions transition into confident, capable, and motivated leaders. Delivered part-time over four months, the program engages participants in a detailed exploration of the fundamentals of management and their individual drivers and derailers. Applicants must be a minimum fourth year apprentice or have at least two years' experience in the automotive industry.

The second course, Executive Ready, is a seven-month program designed to stretch mid-level leaders and propel them towards executive-level performance, behaviours, and mindsets. Applicants must have a minimum of five years in the industry and at least two years' leadership experience.

These fully funded online courses, run by Women & Leadership Australia, are an exceptional opportunity for women in the automotive industry to supercharge their careers and fulfil their leadership aspirations.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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Other eligibility criteria for both scholarships include that the applicant must reside in Queensland and that the applicant and/or employer must be a current financial member of MTA Queensland or use MTA Institute [RTO No. 31529] as a current training provider.

MTA Queensland Deputy CEO Kellie Dewar said, "MTA Queensland's Auto Women initiative was created to provide a supportive environment for women working across the automotive industry. Women can, and do, bring fresh insights and vision to all levels of business, so it is incredibly important that we help to raise their profile.

"Through these scholarships, we hope to assist the career development of females in the trade by enhancing their leadership capacity with relevant training opportunities."

Spirit Super Chair Naomi Edwards added, "We're thrilled to be part of this fantastic initiative. We've been the national super fund for the motor trades for over 30 years and have been staunch long-time supporters of the industry's dedicated career advancement programs.

"We've seen firsthand the amazing impact passionate young women have on this industry and know how important it is to offer real-world skill building opportunities to help them enjoy long and rewarding careers. At Spirit Super, we love to teach and inspire, so this is the perfect program for us to get behind."

Women & Leadership Australia CEO Suzi Finkelstein said, "We are delighted to contribute to this important initiative that will support women leaders in the automotive industry. These scholarships will enable more women to access high-impact leadership development programs and transform their leadership journeys.

"We know that increasing gender equality within leadership roles lead to better outcomes for businesses and the broader community, and we applaud MTA Queensland for taking meaningful action towards a more equal future."

One scholarship will be available per course, per round, with two rounds in a year.

The first round opens today, Tuesday 1 March 2022 and will close **4:30pm, Friday 1 April 2022.**

Nominating is super easy and involves filling out an online form with just 500 (or less) words.

Find out more and apply [HERE](#).

ENDS

For more information:

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Background:

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (**MTA Queensland**) is the peak body representing the interests of employers in the retail, repair, and service sectors of Queensland's automotive industry. MTA Queensland has been performing its vital representative role for the automotive industry since 1929. In Queensland there are some 16,000 automotive businesses employing more than 90,000 people, that generate more than \$7.24 billion to the state economy annually. The automotive industry is estimated to contribute \$37 billion to the Australian economy each year. The Association represents

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and promotes issues of relevance to all levels of government. In 2019 MTA Queensland was announced as an ABA100 winner in The Australian Business Awards and a finalist in the Lord Mayor's Business Awards, for Business Innovation.

The **MTA Institute (RTO 31529)** is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry. The MTA Institute is the largest independent automotive training provider in Queensland, employing experienced trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba to Emerald. In the last year, the MTA Institute delivered accredited courses to more than 2,000 students. The MTA Institute is the first trade RTO in Australia to be approved under the ITECA Industry Certification Program and was the winner of the Small Training Provider of the Year at the 2019 Queensland Training Awards.

MTAiQ, Australia's first automotive innovation hub established by MTA Queensland in 2017, is an ecosystem that supports innovation and research for the motor trades.

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