

Pilkington Graduate Aerobatic Scholarship

The recipient of the scholarship receives:

- Two books selected from:
 - Aerobatics Down Under by David J Pilkington
 - The Basic Aerobatic Manual by William K Kershner
 - Better Aerobatics by Alan Cassidy
 - Peak Performance For Aerobatics - eBook by Fred DeLaCerde
- Three hours of ground theory training towards the 1500 ft aerobatic endorsement.
- Four hours of flying in a Super Decathlon or five hours in a Cessna 152 Aerobat.

An applicant must have a minimum of an RPL and an aerobatic endorsement. Those with more aerobatic experience including aerobatic instructors are welcome to apply.

Scholarship applications should be in the form of a written essay of approximately 300 words. The selection criterion is simply consideration of that written essay with respect to the goal of providing an overall benefit to the sport of aerobatics (within a reasonable timeframe).

The application should include a short bio, copy of pilot licence and relevant logbook extract.

Send applications to david.pilkington@ozaeros.com.au and ensure acknowledgement of receipt.

The syllabus of flight training covers:

- Refresher of basic aerobatics.
- Compound manoeuvres.
- Flying the Australian Aerobatic Club's Graduate (or Sportsman) sequence.

The recipient must:

- Read the book prior to commencement of training.
- Complete the Endorsement Questionnaire for the aircraft prior to flight training.

Notes:

- Applications close 18th January 2025 and the recipient announced approximately 1st February.
- Training to be done in the Melbourne area at the normal base for the aircraft.
- Training must be completed within one year.
- The goal is to promote competition aerobatics so the scope of training is towards a 1500 ft endorsement starting with the Graduate (or Sportsman) Known competition sequence.
- Upon completion of this training the recipient should be ready for their first contest.
- More information at <http://ozaeros.net.au/>

David Pilkington
4th December 2024

PS: I have no input to the selection process – the independent judges have been given only the same information above. Previous winners have all been aerobatic instructors and perhaps it is easier for them to write a winning essay? Recreational pilots are welcomed so consider the meaning of these instructions: “The selection criterion is simply consideration of that written essay with respect to the goal of providing an overall benefit to the sport of aerobatics (within a reasonable timeframe).” Words mean exactly what they state: “... **provide an overall benefit to the sport of aerobatics** ...” nothing else matters to the selection of the winner so think about what you can do which would actually provide a benefit to the sport!