

MEDIA RELEASE

Property industry scholarship invests in regional NSW students' value

A new scholarship for New South Wales school leavers to study property valuation and land economics has been announced by the Australian Property Institute (API), the peak industry body for property professionals.

The \$30,000 scholarship, funded through the Australian Property Research Education Fund (APREF), will be awarded to one a regional or rural-based high school student to study an API accredited university degree in 2021. Students can undertake studies in property economics, valuation or development.

APREF Chair Bruce Billson said the recipient of the scholarship will also have access to senior property professionals to mentor them.

"Supporting enthusiastic students entering a rewarding career that might otherwise be out of reach is a great way for API members, through our foundation, to 'give back' to the profession," Mr Billson said.

"As we think about the COVID-19 economic recovery, the property industry will be integral in creating jobs, and expert property professional graduates will be needed in New South Wales.

"This is about unlocking future potential in the industry. Studying and working as a property professional can lead to work in across finance, law and infrastructure – we want the best and brightest to be a part of the largest industry in Australia."

API CEO Amelia Hodge said the scholarship, focussed on supporting regional and rural students is one of two APREF scholarships, with the other available to Tasmanian students.

"This is the inaugural round of property scholarships and we hope the program will grow in future years to support the local industry and more students," Ms Hodge said.

"It's so important that we have a strong local property industry where graduate property valuers can support the finance, government and infrastructure sectors."

Information about applying for the scholarship can be found at api.org.au/apref. Applications close 30 October 2020.

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Media contact: Nelson Savanh
General Manager Corporate Affairs
0424 988 523