

Tasmanian Women in Agriculture
MARCUS OLDHAM RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Scholarships 2026

ABOUT TASMANIAN WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE INC:

Tasmanian Women in Agriculture (TWIA) is a voluntary, non-political, independent and grassroots organization that recognizes the needs and aspirations of people involved in agriculture in rural communities, women and their families in Tasmania.

We are committed to raising the profile of agriculture as a forward thinking and vibrant industry that is vital to the economy of Tasmania. In addition, we encourage women involved in the industry to realize their full potential and to support women who wish to be part of the decision-making areas of agriculture beyond the farm-gate.

OUR VISION

A connected, strong and vibrant rural community.

OUR MISSION

We connect, support and celebrate Tasmanian rural women by:

- Providing opportunities for them to network and support each other
- Encouraging and empowering them to realize their full potential
- Advocating for and representing them and their communities
- Providing them with opportunities to gain and share knowledge at state, national and international levels and
- Raising their profile as part of a forward thinking and vibrant industry that is vital to the Tasmanian economy

BACKGROUND OF TWIA CONNECTION TO MARCUS OLDHAM RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Program (MORLP) is an intensive five-day workshop aimed at developing personal and leadership skills in anyone associated with rural industry and communities.

It is attended by a wide variety of self-funded and rural industry-sponsored representatives from across the country. The program has no connection or affiliation with TWIA but as it fits very well with TWIA's own aims and purpose, it was deemed a highly appropriate way to assist Tasmanian rural women with personal development, business and professional growth and leadership and representative skills.

TWIA has access sponsorship to enable Tasmanian women to attend the course since 1995. Toyota was the initial sponsor for many years, followed by Extractas Bioscience in recent years, formerly Tasmanian Alkaloids.

The number of recipients each year is dependent on TWIA funding and sponsorship.

The MORLP scholarship covers all course fees, meals, accommodation at MORLP and up to \$600 of travel costs.

Past recipients of the program have been encouraged to continue their relationships with their sponsors and Marcus Oldham College. When available they are also encouraged to contribute to TWIA in a variety of formats when required.



THE APPLICATION AND JUDGING PROCESS

- TWIA contacts the Marcus Oldham Rural Leadership Co-Ordinator to confirm that placements are available for the course in the current year
- TWIA advertises the MORLP scholarship
- Applicants complete the TWIA application form
- The TWIA executive appoints a judging panel of three. This panel comprises one executive member, one former MORLP attendee and another person with strong connections to and/or understanding of both TWIA and if possible MORLP
- The panel will choose several applicants to be called for interview and, based on the selection criteria, will choose who will be recipients of the scholarships available
- All applicants are to be advised of their outcome by phone, person or email
- The Judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into
- TWIA advises Marcus Oldham College of the successful TWIA applicants
- The applicants are then required to complete appropriate paperwork including the MORLP application prior to attending the program.
- Successful candidates will be invited to this year's TWIA AGM to be introduced to the executive & membership.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF SUCESSFUL APPLICANTS

It is expected that any scholarship winner will:

- Represent TWIA with diligence, decorum and goodwill throughout the course.
- Send a thank you to the scholarship sponsor
- Complete a report to TWIA following the course and to the TWIA Bluegum newsletter and annual report
- Make contributions to TWIA in the future, including being a judge on future MORLP panels, promoting MORLP, supporting the Project Officer where required, acting as MC at future scholarship presentations etc.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The MORLP Scholarship is open to any Tasmanian woman. Whilst it is not necessary for applicants to be a member of TWIA, those that aren't will be encouraged to join the organization. The following selection criteria will be used in the judging process:

- Evidence of your connection, belief in and commitment to agriculture and/or the rural community/families
- Contribution to/involvement in the development of your community and/or your field (including work history, positions held and activities)
- Demonstrated leadership skills and/or willingness and ability to represent agriculture and rural communities into the future
- A brief statement about why you believe you would be a worthy recipient of the scholarship

Applicants are advised to address all the above in their application and submit supporting documentation.



TASMANIAN WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE
MARCUS OLDHAM RURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION FORM 2026

Name:

Address:

Mobile:

Email:

Your connection to rural life:

Your connection to industry and/or community work:

Your leadership skills:



Employment History and experiences (current and previous):

Formal Education:

What effect on your future do you hope to achieve by attending MORLP?

Signature: _____ Date: _____ / _____ / _____

Please return to: Caitlin at scholarships@taswomeninag.org by the 20th of February 2026.

