



Tim Fischer

FELLOWSHIP

Empowering ideas, Educating communities:
Drive change for regional Australia





Unlock your potential with the **Tim Fischer Fellowship**

Are you passionate about making a difference in rural and regional Australia?

Do you have bold ideas and the drive to create change?

The **Tim Fischer Fellowship** is your opportunity to explore new ideas, drive change and accelerate your career with \$50,000 in funding.

What is the Tim Fischer Fellowship?

Inspired by Tim Fischer's honesty, integrity, and selflessness, this Fellowship supports a recipient with up to \$50,000 in funding, mentorship, and networking opportunities to help turn their bold ideas into reality. The proposed project must include an education element, whether through communities, workplaces, youth, students or other educational contexts.

Whether you're an aspiring leader, a dedicated professional, a researcher or an emerging innovator, this Fellowship is your opportunity to create real impact and advance your career.

You can view the objectives for the Fellowship here.

cef.org.au/tim-fischer

What you'll receive

- **\$50,000 for project activities, research or education.**
- **Access to mentors and a network** to grow your leadership skills and expand your network.
- **Invitations to key events** and networking opportunities.
- Support to **share your insights and inspire change** in rural and regional Australia.

Who can apply?

- **Australian residents 18 years or older.**
- **Ready to deliver a bold idea to create change.**
- Open to **all fields and career stages** – no industry restrictions.
- **Passionate** about supporting **rural and regional communities.**
- **Willing to represent Country Education Foundation (CEF)** as an ambassador.

What could it mean to be a Tim Fischer Fellow?

Being a Tim Fischer Fellow will give you **the opportunity to explore, expand your knowledge and network within your chosen area.**

As a Fellow, you'll be **empowered to create meaningful impact and drive real change** for rural and regional Australia.



Our 2025 Tim Fischer Fellow

Annabelle Hudson

Annabelle, from Young, NSW, is passionate about helping rural and regional young people recognise their potential and trust their unique path.

As a psychology tutor at the University of NSW and the University of Technology Sydney, and with experience in the youth suicide prevention research team at Black Dog Institute, she bridges research with real-world impact.

With Fellowship support, Annabelle aims to co-design a tailored program for rural and regional students that helps them build self-knowledge and self-belief, recognise their strengths, and set meaningful goals.

By expanding their sense of possibility and equipping them with practical tools to navigate life's challenges, she aims to empower rural young people to pursue futures that reflect who they are and what matters most to them.



Key Dates

Applications open 14th July 2026.

Applications close 24th August 2026,
submitted by 5:00 PM AEST.

Finalist interviews 8th October 2026.

Recipients announced 9th October 2026
at the CEF Awards event in Sydney.

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Country Education Foundation (CEF) presents the Tim Fischer Fellowship as part of its commitment to empowering people across rural and regional Australia to realise their full potential. **The Fellowship honours the legacy of our original patron Tim Fischer AC** by championing opportunity, curiosity and community.

Through our national network, CEF supports students to pursue further education, training and employment, ensuring geography is not a barrier to success. The Tim Fischer Fellowship strengthens this mission by inspiring leadership and a spirit of service to regional communities, values that reflect Tim Fischer's lifelong dedication to regional Australia.

Together, **we inspire young Australians to stay connected to their communities**, building a generation defined not by geography, but by possibility.



Who was Tim Fischer?

The Hon Tim Fischer AC was a wonderful supporter and strong advocate for Country Education Foundation's work in rural and regional Australia. **The former Deputy Prime Minister was involved with CEF for over 15 years.**

He was known for his warmth, intellect, down-to-earth demeanour, and was also **a passionate advocate for regional Australia, education, rail transport, and the arts.** He was an author, broadcaster and family man.



How to Apply

Seize this life-changing opportunity to develop your potential and create lasting impact in regional and rural Australia.

Scan the QR code to find out more. Or visit <https://cef.org.au/tim-fischer>