



**THE HON MELISSA PRICE MP**  
**Minister for Defence Industry**  
**Minister for Science and Technology**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEW FUNDING TO ADVANCE WOMEN IN STEM**

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The Morrison Government is continuing to break down barriers to the advancement of women and girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) with an additional \$6.7 million in funding.

The investments will ensure the continued success of the Superstars of STEM program, as well as backing the important work of the Women in STEM Ambassador, including the national awareness raising initiative – *Future You*.

Making the announcement on International Day of Women and Girls in Science, Minister for Science and Technology Melissa Price said the funding demonstrated the Government's commitment to supporting women and girls and built on the \$147 million of investments to support gender equity in STEM.

"The Morrison Government is determined to break down barriers that stand in the way of girls and women studying STEM subjects and excelling in the careers that follow," Minister Price said.

"The study of STEM subjects and pursuit of STEM careers is essential to our national prosperity and for growing our economy.

"Our investments will ensure our Women in STEM Ambassador Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith can continue to be a great advocate for gender equity in STEM and the incredible Superstars of STEM program can inspire even more role models."

Minister Price said the Government wanted to see women and girls having equal opportunities in STEM subjects and careers.

"Supporting girls and women with opportunities to excel in these areas is not only an important issue of equity, but it bolsters the pool of available STEM-skilled workers," Minister Price said.

"This additional funding will continue to address structural and cultural biases that lead to the under-representation of women and girls in STEM, through amazing programs like the Superstars of STEM.

“The new investment also recognises the work of the Women in STEM ambassador and the *Future You* campaign in encouraging women and girls to consider STEM subjects and careers.”

The Government will invest \$2 million in the Superstars of STEM program, delivered by Science & Technology Australia, allowing it to develop an additional 120 women Superstars into future leaders.

The Government is providing an additional \$2.4 million to support the Women in STEM Ambassador initiative.

Professor Lisa Harvey-Smith’s *Future You* campaign, designed for children 8 to 12 years old and their parents, has also reached 3.1 million children, parents and carers across Australia since its launch in October 2020.

Notably, only 20 per cent of girls reported being interested in STEM jobs before 2018, but today upwards of 68 per cent of girls are now interested in a STEM career.

The Government will invest an additional \$2.3 million to expand this national digital awareness-raising initiative.

For more information on the work of the Women in STEM ambassador visit [www.womeninstem.org.au/](http://www.womeninstem.org.au/)

To learn more about the *Future You* visit <https://womeninstem.org.au/futureyou/>

To learn more about the Superstars of STEM program visit [www.scienceandtechnologyaustralia.org.au/superstarsofstem](http://www.scienceandtechnologyaustralia.org.au/superstarsofstem)

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