

# Aboriginal Health Scholarship Program

The Aboriginal Health Scholarship Program, in partnership with Australian Rotary Health, aims to increase the number of professionally qualified Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people working in the South Australian health sector.

## Program overview

Each year, the Department for Health and Ageing awards scholarships to eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on behalf of the Minister for Health.

The program supports students studying towards a health qualification at a degree level (or higher) in areas such as, but not limited to:

- > Medicine
- > Registered Nursing
- > Midwifery
- > Dentistry
- > Allied Health (Social Work, Psychology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry)
- > Health promotion
- > Environmental health

## Eligibility

To be eligible, scholarship applicants must:

- > identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent and be accepted as such by the community in which they live or have lived; and provide confirmation from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation
- > be undertaking or enrolled in an appropriate approved undergraduate or postgraduate level course
- > be a resident of South Australia for more than 12 months prior to submission.

Applicants undertaking a certificate course or foundation studies towards entry into a degree level course are not eligible for this scholarship.

## Selection criteria

Scholarships are awarded on the recommendation of a selection committee comprising Department for Health and Ageing and Australian Rotary Health representatives.

The selection of scholarship recipients is based on the following criteria:

- > Applicants are required to provide details of past and present study, work experience, awards, personal development, career path and involvement in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities.
- > Applicants are required to disclose if they receive any other scholarship or grant for the same course of study.

Preference will be given to applicants:

- > whose proposed course of study meets an identified need within SA Health
- > who have completed part of the course
- > who have academic merit, based on the results achieved and, if necessary, on reports from referees familiar with their work and suitability for a career in the chosen field of study
- > who have a letter of acceptance or enrolment into an approved course
- > who have relevant work experience, personal development and involvement in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities.

## Study load

Scholarships applications for both full-time and part-time study will be considered. Applicants are required to provide evidence of their study load.

## Fact sheet

### Scholarship entitlement

Successful applicants will receive a scholarship of up to \$5,000 per academic year (for full time study) paid in instalments and adjusted according to actual study load.

Scholarship payments are made on the receipt of enrolment and results.

### Scholarship requirements

Scholarship recipients are required to:

- > comply with all course requirements imposed by their education institution
- > successfully complete their course
- > provide copies of their results to the Department at the end of each semester
- > show evidence of their enrolment at the start of each academic year or semester
- > use scholarship funds for specified purposes only
- > provide a report outlining the use of funds at the end of each semester.

Recipients are required to notify the Department if they:

- > withdraw from their chosen course
- > make changes to their study load
- > change personal details, such as address, email address, phone number or bank account information.

If any of these requirements are not met the scholarship may be suspended and recipients may be required to pay back scholarship funds.

### Academic progress

Scholarships are awarded for a full course of study and reviewed at the end of each year.

If a scholarship recipient fails to complete part of their course, the scholarship will be suspended pending successful completion of the failed study.

Scholarship recipients who subsequently withdraw from the course may be required to repay any scholarship funds relating to the failed study.

If the Department decides a scholarship recipient's academic performance is unsatisfactory then further payments under the scholarship may be withheld.

### Australian Rotary Health sponsorship

Scholarships are awarded in partnership with Australian Rotary Health. Recipients co-sponsored by Rotary are required to maintain regular contact with their sponsoring club and allocated mentor, and to attend the club at least once per academic year.

### How to apply

Applications are open until 28 February 2018.

To apply, visit the SA Health Careers website: [www.sahealthcareers.com.au](http://www.sahealthcareers.com.au).

For assistance with the online application call our candidate contact centre on **1300 882 992**.

## For more information

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