

RFDS Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health scholarship guidelines

Aim of the scholarship

As a commitment under our national Reconciliation Action Plan 2016-18, and in an effort to grow an appropriate and skilled rural health workforce, the RFDS will provide financial support through scholarships to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health students to undertake a clinical placement in a remote and rural Australia.

Eligibility

- Scholarships are available to Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students (or in the case of medicine, interns i.e. PGY1) undertaking an appropriate remote or rural clinical placement in the following fields:
 - Medicine (to be administered by Australian Indigenous Doctor's Association (AIDA));
 - Nursing or Midwifery (to be administered by the Council of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives (CATSINAM));
 - Allied Health (to be administered by Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA)).
- Scholarship applicants must be current members of (as relevant) AIDA, CATSINAM or IAHA.
- Scholarships are available only for the purposes of providing financial assistance to undertake an appropriate clinical placement:
 - In an ASGC-RA classified area 3-5, or Modified Monash Model classified area 3-7;
 - For a placement of no less than 4 weeks;
 - To assist with costs of travel and accommodation.

Selection

- These scholarships are for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students currently undertaking a relevant tertiary degree in medicine (note: or internship – PGY1); nursing; midwifery; or allied health.
- AIDA, CATSINAM and IAHA will coordinate promotion of this scholarship to relevant student cohorts, as well as the recruitment, selection and payment processes.
- Priority will be given to applicants who will be undertaking placements in remote areas.
- Applications, in the format as determined by, as relevant, AIDA, CATSINAM or IAHA, must address the following:

- How the scholarship will benefit the applicant professionally;
 - Why the applicant is seeking to undertake a rural or remote clinical placement;
 - The applicant's rural clinical experience to date;
 - A projected budget of costs for the placement and any other additional financial support that is being provided.
- Applicants must agree to provide a written reflection report, and be available to the RFDS and (as relevant) AIDA, CATSINAM or IAHA to undertake reasonable activities to further promote the scholarship program.

Scholarship funding

- A total of \$30,000 in scholarship funding will be available (\$10,000 each for medical; nursing and midwifery; and allied health). This is intended, where possible, to fund multiple scholarships within each discipline.
- Applicants must agree to report on and acquit all scholarship funds, and this information be provided by (as relevant) AIDA, CATSINAM or IAHA to the RFDS.

Other details

- All further details and arrangements will be determined by AIDA, CATSINAM and IAHA and these guidelines should be read in conjunction with all other documentation.
- Applicants must agree to all further terms and conditions of this scholarship as specified by, as relevant, AIDA, CATSINAM or IAHA.