



IAHA 2021 High School to Health Careers Program (Northern Territory)

Guidelines for Application

1. Introduction of Program for Students

The **IAHA 2021 High School to Health Careers Program (HS2HC)** is supported and funded by The Northern Territory PHN Rural Health Workforce Agency (NT PHN RWA).

Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) will organise and facilitate the IAHA HS2HC Program with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health students that are currently studying their chosen health qualification and early career graduates, from both the VET sector and higher education, as well as providing support and mentoring for all students that attend.

The IAHA HS2HC Program is co-designed with members and communities and is aimed at providing a culturally safe and responsive rural or remote experience in the Northern Territory, for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health students undertaking their tertiary degree, early career postgraduate studies or their VET qualifications.

The IAHA HS2HC Program provides a positive and strengths-based approach to health career opportunities in rural or remote Australia with two-way learning experiences based on interactive and informative high school visits with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from years 7-12.

Tertiary students serve as relatable role models and take high school students through interactive stations with activities that inspire, educate and showcase different and diverse health careers that link to local needs and support the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families and communities.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible to participate in the IAHA 2021 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander High School to Health Careers Program, applicants must:

- a. address all application requirements as set out in *Section 3 - Application Process* (below).
- b. identify as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person
- c. be a current member of Indigenous Allied Health Australia
- d. be within their final two years, or less than two years removed, from their tertiary or VET course.
- e. have enrolled in or completed a health-related discipline, such as allied health, nursing, midwifery, medicine, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker/Practitioner, Allied Health Assistance and/or VET sector related profession
- f. be considering undertaking a rural and remote clinical placement in an ASGC RA classified area 3-5 or Modified Monash Model classified area 3-7 of at least 4 weeks or more in duration; and/or considering a rural or remote career pathway.
- g. be 18 years of age or over at time of applying for the scholarship.

Please note that recipients of any previous IAHA Professional Development Scholarship that have failed to acquit their scholarship are ineligible for the Program.

Students from the Northern Territory or whom have strong cultural and community ties to the Northern Territory are strongly encouraged to apply.

If there are more applicants than there are available scholarships, not all applicants who meet the eligibility and selection criteria will be offered a scholarship from this round. Students who are unsuccessful may be offered a spot on future HS2HC programs, and students nearing the end of their eligibility to participate in the HS2HC will be prioritised.

3. Application Process

Applicants must:

- a. meet the eligibility criteria outlined above
- b. apply to IAHA, in writing, by completing the online application form via the IAHA website [HERE](#).
- c. provide evidence of current enrolment or recent completion (within two years).
- d. provide written responses, of no more than 200 words, to each of the following:
 - i. How and why you choose to become a health professional
 - ii. The strengths you think you can bring to engaging with and presenting to a diverse group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students
 - iii. Your ability to work in a culturally safe way, independently and as a part of a team (provide an example)
 - iv. The experience(s) you would like to create for the students attending your hands-on workshop and how would you ensure students were able to engage in your interactive workshop
 - v. Your future intentions upon graduation or undertaking clinical placement;
 - vi. The strategies you have that will help you cope with the physical and emotional demands of a program which can involve long days, short breaks, travel across vast distances and lots of community engagement; and
 - vii. Any other information you think is relevant to your participation in the program.

4. Selection

Applications will only be considered if:

- ALL required information is provided in the application form,
- Applicants have agreed to the terms and conditions; and
- Applicants have, where relevant, met all the terms and conditions of previous IAHA scholarships.

Further ranking may occur using the following criteria:

- Quality of the rationale in the written statement, in comprehensively addressing the criteria as outlined above
- Willingness to consider a placement and/or career pathway in rural/remote Australia; and
- Relationships to the Northern Territory, including strength of cultural and community connections.

The IAHA Leadership team will administer this program, including being responsible for assessing scholarship applications against the eligibility and selection criteria, and making recommendations to the IAHA delegate for endorsement.

Applications received after the closing date for each round will not be eligible or considered.

The IAHA delegate will be responsible for the final decision of HS2HC program recipients and IAHA's decision will be final.

IAHA will notify successful applicants in writing. Recipients must advise their acceptance of the program and agree to all the terms and conditions in writing within the timeframe provided. If an applicant forfeits or declines a program offer, that place will be offered to another applicant.

IAHA will also notify unsuccessful applicants in writing once the program has been filled.

5. Terms and Conditions

The Scholarship recipient agrees to:

- a) read and abide by the [IAHA Code of Conduct](#) at all times as well as other relevant policies and procedures in relation to travel and finance.
- b) return their travel documents by the required date. Failure to return the travel documents by this date will result in forfeiture of the scholarship.
- c) be responsible for their own transfers to and from their place of residence and their nominated airport.
- d) pay any changes to travel and accommodation bookings once they have been made as stipulated on the travel forms and approved by IAHA's CEO.
- e) attend and actively engage in the HS2HC program in its entirety. Failure to attend will result in ineligibility for future scholarships and/or recovery of funds.
- f) refund the scholarship in full if they fail to undertake the HS2HC program. In exceptional circumstances, this may be waived at the discretion of the IAHA CEO.
- g) submit a written reflection report on their attendance and learnings, no later than 4 weeks following completion of the placement.
- h) be available to IAHA to undertake reasonable activities to further promote the scholarship program.

Scholarship applicants are encouraged to seek advice from the Australian Taxation Office, Accountant and /or Centrelink about any impact the granting of a scholarship may have on their financial situation.

6. Schedule

IAHA will offer the IAHA HS2HC program under two programs, the Top End Program and the Central Australia Program.

- a. Top End Program – to occur in Term 1 or Term 2 in 2021, for a period of up to 8 days
- b. Central Australia Program – to occur in Term 3 or Term 4 in 2021, for a period of up to 8 days

Applications will open 3 months prior to the experience and recipients will typically be notified 6 weeks before the commencement of the placement.

IAHA will book all travel for HS2HC participants. Noting that travel is to rural and regional locations, and availability can be limited, IAHA will book travel approximately a month in advance, at which time participants can no longer withdraw without violating the terms and conditions outlined above.

Contact Details

For more information please contact the IAHA Secretariat on (02) 6285 1010 or via email to membership@iaha.com.au

