Scholarship Offer

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development administers a Postgraduate Scholarship program, which offers scholarships for nurses registered as both a nurse and a midwife currently working in the Victorian public health sector to undertake postgraduate study maternal and child health nursing.

Postgraduate Courses

Applicants for Maternal and Child Health Nursing Post Graduate Scholarship Program must be planning to undertake either a Postgraduate Diploma of Nursing Science in Child, Family and Community, or a Master of Nursing Science in Child, Family and Community or a Graduate Diploma in Child and Family Health Nursing delivered by a university or accredited higher education provider.

Entry requirements for both courses include current registration as both a nurse and a midwife with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA).

Eligibility

- Australian Citizen or permanent resident or New Zealand citizen
- Resides in Victoria
- Current Division 1 registration (without restrictions) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Current Midwifery registration (without restrictions) with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency
- Details of educational and clinical background
- Do not hold an award qualification in MCH nursing
- Evidence of 2012 enrolment in a Postgraduate Diploma of Nursing Science in Child, Family and Community, or a Master of Nursing Science in Child, Family and Community or a Graduate Diploma in Child and Family Health Nursing delivered by a Victorian University or accredited higher education provider.
- Have not received a scholarship, funding, grant, bursary, financial aid or aid/assistance in any other form to study Maternal and Child Health Nursing (as specified above under the Heading “Postgraduate Courses”)
- Must agree to employment within a Municipal Maternal and Child Health Service for the equivalent of one year post graduation

Please note: Incomplete and incorrect applications will not be considered

Eligibility requirements must be adhered to but are subject to the sole discretion of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
Selection

Selection of successful applicants involves:

- Meeting Eligibility Criteria
- Education and clinical background

Where the number of eligible applications is greater than the available funding, scholarships will be awarded based on industry need, targeted areas of practice and government workforce priorities, including geographic areas with known workforce need. Scholarships will be granted at the discretion of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the decision of the Department is final.

Successful Applicants

Successful applicants will be notified and are required to submit the following documentation to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development by the due date:

i. Signed 'letter of offer' accepting the scholarship and scholarship conditions

ii. Evidence of Australian citizenship, permanent residency or New Zealand citizenship as required (Applicants from New Zealand must submit a copy of their current passport)

iii. Copy of current Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency Registration showing name, registration number, endorsements and if there are conditions or restrictions on registration

iv. Confirmation of enrolment in Semester 2, 2012

v. Evidence of payment or deferment of fees (full fee paying students only). This may be in the form of:
   a. An official university letter confirming enrolment
   b. An official Student Tax Invoice or Statement of Account for Semester 2, 2012. In addition, a Student Tax Invoice from Semester 1 may be submitted. Students with CSP places need only provide evidence of enrolment.
   c. Information provided must include:
      d. Course – enrolled units, subjects or courses for Semester 2, 2012 (and Semester 1, 2013) where applicable
      e. Enrolment status – part time/full time course load
      f. Type of place – e.g. Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP - HECS) or Full-fee paying (FFP) place

vi. Banking Details

vii. Completed Tax File Number Declaration Form

Do not send these documents with your scholarship application.

Successful applicants are responsible for enrolling and paying course fees (or deferring fees) or HECS by the due date, and are responsible for debts incurred in the course of study including FEE-HELP and HECS-HELP loans. Students with CSPs may be eligible for a discount if the student’s HECS contribution is paid ahead of the census date for each semester.


To Apply

Applications:

Post
Catherine Riddoch
Maternal & Child Health Postgraduate Nursing Scholarships –Semester 2, 2012
Level 11/35 Spring St
Office for Children and Portfolio Coordination
Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
GPO BOX 4367,
Melbourne, Victoria, 3001

Email
mch@edumail.vic.gov.au

SUBJECT: Postgraduate MCH Nursing Scholarships –Semester 2, 2012
Scholarship conditions

By accepting a scholarship offer, the recipient is accepting the following scholarship conditions:

Continued employment
Successful applicants must be employed within local government Maternal and Child Health Service in Victoria for a period of one year full-time, or pro rata equivalent, following the completion of the postgraduate course.

Students unable to fulfil this condition will be required to return scholarship monies to the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

Participation in data collection
In order to assist in the collection of data with regard to workforce planning, in particular the attrition rates of nurses working in specific areas of nursing practice, it is a further condition that successful applicants provide their contact details to the Department for a period of five years. This data will be used to inform future policies relating to the nursing workforce and the postgraduate scholarship program.

Recipients may be contacted by phone for survey purposes.

Deferment from course
If a student is required to defer their studies for any reason they must notify the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development within one week of the change in study arrangements. All or part of the scholarship money will be required to be returned to the Department. Students may then re-apply at the time of recommencement of the course.

Withdrawal from course
Students withdrawing from the course are required to notify the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development within 1 week of withdrawal. All or part of scholarship money will be required to be returned to the department.

Consent to share student information
Students will be required to sign a consent form, giving the University permission to share student enrolment information with the Department of Education and Early Childhood development for the purposes of administering scholarships.

Taxable income
Scholarship funds are considered to be taxable income. For further information consult your taxation agent or the Australian Taxation Office.

Disbursement of scholarship funds
Scholarship funding for successful applicants will be paid directly to the recipient. It is expected that scholarship recipients will utilise scholarship funds for the purpose outlined in these guidelines. Payments will not be made to universities or directly the ATO on the student’s behalf.

Scholarship funds are unable to be released until the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development receives all required documentation. Scholarships will be reallocated to other students if the required documentation is not received by the due date.

Contact

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Department of Education and Early Childhood Development,

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