

# 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

Scholarships are awarded to eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people on behalf of the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

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 (Occupational Therapy, Pathology, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Psychology, Podiatry)

### Australian Rotary Health Co-Sponsorship

Scholarships are awarded in partnership with Australian Rotary Health. Successful applicants are placed with sponsoring Rotary clubs or private sponsors. Each Rotary club appoints a mentor / liaison person. Rotary clubs and sponsors contribute half of the scholarship amount.

Co-sponsored recipients are required to maintain regular contact with their sponsoring club to keep them up to date with their studies, and when invited, to attend a Rotary club to meet members who are contributing to the scholarship.

### Scholarship entitlement

Scholarships are awarded for a full course of study.

Successful applicants 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.

There is no deferred entry into the scholarship program.

### Eligibility

To be eligible, 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 approved undergraduate or postgraduate level course, or have received an offer of acceptance
- > be a resident of South Australia for more than 12 months prior to submission

Confirmation must be provided from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Organisation. Statutory Declarations will not be accepted.

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

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

Applicants who are or will be receiving the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network (NALHN) Aboriginal Student Support (scholarship) Program are not eligible for this scholarship.

### Selection criteria

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

Applicants will be asked to attend an interview with the panel.

## Fact sheet

Selection of scholarship recipients is based on the following criteria:

- > Applicants provide details of past and present study, work experience, 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:

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

### Scholarship requirements

- > comply with all course requirements
- > provide copies of results and enrolment to the Department
- > use scholarship funds for specified purposes only
- > provide a report outlining the use of funds at the end of each semester

Scholarship recipients are required to notify the Department if they:

- > withdraw from the course
- > fail part of the course
- > make changes to study load
- > change any personal contact details
- > receive any other scholarship

Recipients are required to hold all screening assessments required by the institution and required by law in connection with their chosen course.

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

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.

### How to apply

Between June 2024 and November 2024, applications are open for the scholarship applicant pool. Applicants in the pool will be considered for any scholarship places available during 2024. Applications for the 2025 academic year intake will open in December.

**To apply, visit the SA Health Careers website:**

[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers)

## For more information

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