

## Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship

### 2010

#### APPLICANT GUIDELINES

##### **Scholarship Offer**

The Royal Children's Hospital Foundation in collaboration with the Department of Health (DoH), Nurse Policy Branch (NPB) is offering scholarships for registered nurses to support postgraduate study in targeted areas of practice with an identified need for qualified nurses.

Scholarships of up to 100% of course fees will be awarded to successful applicants undertaking postgraduate studies in target areas of practice.

Additional DoH funding opportunities available:

- A Victorian Nurse Practitioner Project (NNPP) Scholarship round will be opened in late October 2009 for nurses undertaking courses in 2010 leading to endorsement as a nurse practitioner. Guidelines and the application form will be available on:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner/nurse-practitioner-scholarships>
- For information about Postgraduate Nurse Scholarships in the areas of **Mental Health** and **Maternal and Child Health** (funded by the Office of Children, Department of Education and Early Childhood Development) refer to:  
<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/postgrad>.

##### **Eligibility**

A Division 1 registered nurse is eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship if:

- Currently registered in Division 1 with the Nurses Board of Victoria
- An Australian citizen or permanent resident or New Zealand citizen
- Residing in Victoria
- Employed within the Royal Children's Hospital
- Enrolled in Semester 1 2010 in an eligible postgraduate program that leads to a tertiary qualification in one of the **targeted practice areas**
- They **do not** hold an award qualification in the target area for which the scholarship is sought
- They **have not** previously received a department scholarship to study in the target practice area
- Are committed to the area of practice for a period of two years post course completion
- Works a minimum of 60.8hours per fortnight
- They have employer support.

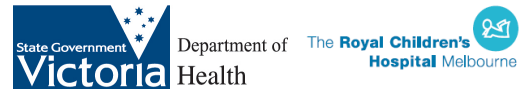
##### **Target practice areas:**

Adolescent Health & Welfare	Paediatric Intensive care
Oncology and Palliative Care	Neonatal Intensive Care
Perioperative	General Paediatrics
Mental Health	Emergency Nursing

**Postgraduate courses** must be:

- Delivered by a university or accredited higher education provider (HEP)
- Lead to an award qualification (or exit point) at postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma level.

# Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship 2009-2010 Applicant Guidelines



## **Selection**

Applications for Semester 1 are [due by 1 February 2010](#).

Applications for Semester 2 are [due by 1 July 2010](#). (Not required if submitted for a full year in semester 1)

Selection of successful applicants involves:

- (a) Assessment of applications for eligibility
- (b) Assessment against other applications giving consideration to the applicant's educational and clinical background, commitment to the target practice area, costs associated with study and other funding support
- (c) Consideration will be given to current workforce priorities:

### **Education and clinical background**

The applicant will be required to provide details of post secondary educational and clinical background relating to the target practice area

### **Commitment to the target practice area**

The applicant will be required to provide:

- A brief description of their commitment to the chosen area of practice as evidenced by activities such as participation in a professional body; involvement in professional development within the workplace; or any other supporting documentation or information
- Evidence of intention to continue working in the specialty area of clinical practice. This may be in the form of a statement of intent
- Applicants must work a minimum of 60.8 hours per fortnight.

### **Funding support**

The applicant will be required to provide details of other professional development funding received for this course, i.e. from a professional body. This excludes loans that must be fully repaid (successful applicants should not apply for fee help). Applicants will be required to provide details of the amount and source of funding.

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 and service areas with known workforce need. Scholarships will be granted at the discretion of the Selection Panel.

Successful applicants will be determined by a selection panel which include; Executive Director of Nursing, Director Nursing Workforce Development, Director of Critical Care and Access, Nurse Unit Managers and a Human resources Representative.

## **Successful applicants**

Successful applicants for Semester 1 (full year) will be [notified in writing by 1 March 2010](#).

Successful applicants for Semester 2 will be [notified in writing by 1 August 2010](#)

To accept the scholarship the applicant is required to submit the following by the due date:

- (i) Acceptance letter (provided by Mackinnon) outlining terms and conditions must be signed and returned to the Mackinnon Nursing Education and Development Centre
- (ii) Evidence of Australian citizenship or permanent residency or New Zealand citizenship as required (Applicants from New Zealand must submit a copy of their current passport)
- (iii) Copy of current NBV registration – front and back - showing name, registration number, endorsements and if there are conditions or restrictions on registration
- (iv) Confirmation of enrolment

# Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship 2009-2010 Applicant Guidelines

**Do not send these documents with your scholarship application.**

Successful applicants are responsible for enrolling but should not pay any course fees.

Course fees will be paid directly to the appropriate universities.

Successful applicants should not apply for any fee help.



## **Scholarship conditions**

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

<b>Continued employment</b>	The scholarship recipient must remain employed within the target area of practice within the Royal Children's Hospital for a period of 2 years full-time, or pro-rata equivalent, following the completion of the postgraduate course for which a scholarship has been awarded. <b>Students unable to fulfill this condition will be required to refund scholarship monies.</b>
<b>Participation in data collection</b>	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 scholarship recipients 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.
<b>Deferment from course</b>	If a student is required to defer their studies for any reason they must notify the Mackinnon Nursing Education and Development Centre within one week of the change in study arrangements. All or part of the scholarship money will be required to be returned. Students may re-apply in subsequent scholarship rounds.
<b>Withdrawal from course</b>	Scholarship recipients withdrawing from the course are required to notify the Mackinnon Nursing Education and Development Centre within one week of withdrawal. All or part of scholarship money will be required to be returned.
<b>Consent to share student information</b>	Scholarship recipients will be required to sign a consent form, granting the selection panel and university permission to share student enrolment information with the department for the scholarship administration purposes.
<b>Taxable income</b>	Scholarship funds maybe considered <b>taxable income</b> . For further information consult your taxation agent or the Australian Taxation Office.

## **Disbursement of scholarship funds**

Scholarship funds will be paid **directly to the appropriate universities**.

Scholarship funds are unable to be released until all required documentation is received. Scholarships will be reallocated if the required documentation is not received by the due date.

# Postgraduate Nurse Scholarship 2009-2010 Applicant Guidelines

## ***Application process***

**Step 1** Ensure your scholarship is within a target area of practice. Download the application form, from the Mackinnon Nursing Education & Development website

**Step 2** **Complete the 2010 Application Form.**

*It is recommended that all fields in the application form be completed to maximise the likelihood of success.*

**Step 4** **Submit application by:**

**Semester 1 – February 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 (full year application)**

**Semester 2 – July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 (half year application)**

***Late applications will not be considered.***

***Address applications to:***

- **Post** Postgraduate Nursing Scholarships – Semester 1 2010  
Gemma Phipps  
Program Coordinator  
Mackinnon Nursing Education & Development Centre  
The Royal Children's Hospital  
50 Flemington Rd  
Parkville Vic 3052
- **Email** mackinnon.education@rch.org.au

## ***Contact***

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