



2024 Rural Health Undergraduate Scholarships

Guidelines for Applicants



**Government
of South Australia**

SA Health

Rural Health Undergraduate Scholarships

Public health services in regional South Australia are delivered by six Local Health Networks. Services provided include public hospitals and other allied health and community-based health services.

The six regional Local Health Networks are:

- > Barossa Hills Fleurieu Local Health Network
- > Eyre and Far North Local Health Network
- > Flinders and Upper North Local Health Network
- > Limestone Coast Local Health Network
- > Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network
- > Yorke and Northern Local Health Network

The regional Local Health Networks are committed to providing a range of high-quality health services to meet the needs of people living in country South Australia. Scholarships are awarded to those residing in regional South Australia who have a strong commitment to a continued and future professional practice in regional South Australia.

Scholarship Eligibility

To be eligible to apply applicants must:

- > be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.
- > reside in or have resided in regional South Australia prior to undertaking tertiary studies.
- > be studying full time, or about to commence full time study.
- > be undertaking study in one of the identified undergraduate disciplines.
- > commit to working at one of the regional Local Health Network health sites on graduation for a time equivalent in years to that funding is provided.

People of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent are encouraged to apply.

Undergraduate Study

Scholarship applications are invited in the following disciplines:

Dietetics	Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics
Nursing	Bachelor of Nursing (inc. Graduate Entry)
Midwifery	Bachelor of Midwifery
Occupational Therapy	Bachelor of Occupational Therapy
Physiotherapy	Bachelor of Physiotherapy
Podiatry	Bachelor of Podiatry
Speech Pathology	Bachelor of Speech Pathology
Social Work	Bachelor of Social Work

If you have any questions, please visit: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ruralhealthscholarships or via email regionalhealthscholarships@sa.gov.au

Undergraduate Scholarship Funding

Scholarship funding is:

- > provided for up to a maximum of four years (for the duration of the approved program of study) at \$5,000 per year paid in two half yearly payments of \$2,500. The total amount of funding and the number of years of funding offered to scholarship recipients will be determined by the Scholarship Panel
- > strictly available for a maximum of four years; the Scholarship agreement will end after four years.
- > provided at the end of the semester once proof of academic results and enrolment for next semester are submitted. Final scholarship payment will be made on course completion and submission of successful results. Recipients must maintain a successful academic record throughout their scholarship, failure to pass any subject may result in loss of funding for subsequent semester.
- > paid into your nominated account.
- > recipients who are employed, or become employed, by one of SA Health's Local Health Network will be paid as a taxable allowance through payroll.

We *strongly* recommended scholarship recipients seek independent taxation and personal financial advice before accepting a scholarship.

Receipt of Other Support

Applicants must advise the Project Officer, Organisational Development if at any stage of the application process they have been accepted for a scholarship elsewhere.

Generally, students are permitted to receive financial assistance from other sources while participating in the program. This may include financial support from employers, colleges, and education providers.

The exception is applicants are ineligible to receive a Rural Health Undergraduate Scholarship where they are in receipt of another scholarship from the South Australian Government, either directly or indirectly through funding from a third-party organisation.

Application Process

Applications are submitted online via the scholarship website by the closing date www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ruralhealthscholarships

To be eligible for consideration an applicant must:

1. complete the online application form.
2. submit a curriculum vitae or resume.
3. submit two referee statements.
 - > one must be from a community member e.g., school principal, or similar, who is able to comment on the applicant's understanding of the distinctive needs of rural communities.
 - > referee statements are required to be signed and dated.
4. submit a written statement (maximum 300 words) that clearly addresses the following:
 - > Explain how the scholarship will assist you.
 - > Explain your understanding of current health issues facing all South Australians, in particular those facing your local community?
 - > On completion of your studies tell us where you would like to be working and why?

Please note: We anticipate the scholarships will be highly sought after. To ensure your application is competitive take care to submit your best possible application. Complete the online application form and ensure you upload the required documents.

If you require assistance, please contact the Organisational Development team:

Email: regionalhealthscholarships@sa.gov.au

Scholarship Terms and Conditions

If successful, the scholarship recipient will need to:

- > **supply** proof of university acceptance and enrolment (noting university acceptance is not required when submitting your scholarship application, evidence of enrolment is required when the scholarship offer is accepted).
- > **maintain** a successful academic record (pass-grades) throughout the undergraduate studies. Failure to pass any subject may result in loss of funding for subsequent semester.
- > **provide** a copy of the official academic results at the end of each semester as well as proof of enrolment for the next semester (where applicable).
- > **ensure** scholarship funds are used for expenses directly related to study.
- > **work** in a rural location, as may be required by the regional Local Health Networks, upon graduation for a period equivalent to the number of years of scholarship funding. Some scholarships are funded by Health Advisory Councils; recipients of these scholarships may be required to work in the Health Advisory Council's area.
- > **accept** the scholarship terms and conditions through a signed agreement.
- > **recipients** who do not fulfil these obligations may be required to repay scholarship funding.

We *strongly* recommended scholarship recipients seek independent taxation and personal financial advice before accepting a scholarship.

Termination of Scholarship Agreement

- > failure to complete scholarship obligations such as non-completion of an approved program of study (e.g., withdrawing from the study program prior to completion) may result in termination of the recipient's scholarship agreement and having to return any scholarship funds already paid.
- > failure to maintain a successful academic record (pass-grades) throughout the undergraduate studies may result in non-payment of the following semesters funding.

For more information

Organisational Development

Email: regionalhealthscholarships@sa.gov.au
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/ruralhealthscholarships

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