



Country Health SA Local Health Network

Undergraduate Scholarships

Guideline for applicants



Government
of South Australia

SA Health

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About the Country Health SA Undergraduate Scholarships

Country Health SA Local Health Network (Country Health SA) is committed to providing a range of high quality health services to meet the needs of people living in country South Australia. Country Health SA awards scholarships to those residing in these areas who have a strong commitment to a continued and future professional practice in the country.

Who is eligible to apply for a scholarship?

To be eligible to apply for the Country Health SA scholarship program, applicants must:

- > be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- > be eligible to undertake an approved program of study
- > be studying full time or about to commence full time study in a required graduate or course at University (degree level).
- > be undertaking study in one of the identified disciplines that will lead to the student, upon graduation, to be fully qualified to commence clinical practice
- > reside in or have resided in country South Australia prior to undertaking their tertiary education.
- > intend to enter the workforce and work at one of our Country Health SA health sites following completion of study program.

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

Approved programs of study

Applications will be accepted from persons who are intending to undertake or currently undertaking an approved program of study in relevant disciplines identified as areas of workforce need.

Undergraduate level

- > Registered Nursing
- > Occupational Therapy
- > Physiotherapy
- > Podiatry
- > Speech Pathology

If you have any questions about what is an eligible health discipline, please visit the Country Health SA website at www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/countryscholarships or alternatively contact the Scholarships Coordinator on:

Phone: (08) 8226 6468

Email: healthcountryscholarships@sa.gov.au

Scholarship Funding

- > The Scholarship provides students with up to \$5,000 per year for a maximum of four years' study at the Undergraduate level.
- > Funding is only available for the duration of the approved program of study.
- > Payments will be made twice a year following submission of evidence of the successful completion of the semester study and where continuing, enrolment into the next semester.
- > Where the course has been completed, evidence of completion of the course is required for the final payment to be made.
- > The total amount of funding per year and the number of years funding offered to scholarship recipients will be determined by the Scholarship Panel.
- > If a student is undertaking study over a longer period, Scholarship funding is strictly available for a maximum of four years (for undergraduate level). At the end of the student's agreed Scholarship Period the Scholarship Agreement will end.
- > The Scholarship Terms and Conditions are provided below.
- > Country Health SA recommends scholarship recipients seek independent personal financial advice before accepting a scholarship offer.

Receipt of other support

Applicants must advise the Country Health SA Scholarships Coordinator if at any stage of the application process they have applied for and been accepted for a scholarship elsewhere.

Generally, students are permitted to receive support or financial assistance from other sources while participating in the program. This may include, but is not limited to income from employers, assistance from scholarships from education and training providers.

The only exception is that Scholarship recipients are ineligible to receive a Country Health SA Scholarship where they are in receipt of a scholarship awarded by the South Australian Government either directly or indirectly through funding from a third party organisation.

Application process

Applications must be submitted online via the Country Health SA website www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/countryscholarships and be received by the closing date.

To be eligible for consideration an applicant must:

- > complete the online application form
- > submit a curriculum vitae or resume
- > submit two written referee statements (one from a member of the community e.g. School Principal)
- > provide a short supporting written statement (refer below)

Please note: To be eligible for consideration, the online application form must be completed and supplementary documents uploaded, otherwise in the application will be deemed to be incomplete and make the applicant ineligible.

Written statement

The written statement (max 300 words) needs to clearly address the following three areas:

1. How will the scholarship funding assist you and how do you see you would utilise the scholarship funding each year?
2. What is your understanding of current health issues facing all South Australians and in particular your local community?
3. At the end of your studies where would you like to be working and why?

If you require assistance, please contact the Scholarship Coordinator on;

Phone: (08) 8226 6468

Email: healthcountryscholarships@sa.gov.au

Scholarship Terms and Conditions

If successful, the scholarship recipient will need to:

- > **supply** proof of University acceptance and enrolment;
 - o at the time of application, University acceptance is not required
 - o proof is required when a Scholarship offer is accepted.
- > **upon** request, supply a Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI) National Criminal History Record check and National Police Clearance at their own expense in accordance with SA Health Policy. The following checks are essential for all new employees, volunteers, students and contractors employed or engaged to perform work within Country Health SA:
 - o Child – related employment screening – DCSI National Criminal History Record Check
 - o Aged care sector employment screening – National Police Clearance
- > **maintain** a successful academic record (pass-grades) throughout the undergraduate studies.
- > **provide** a copy of the official academic results at the end of each semester as well as proof of enrolment for the next semester (applicable).
- > **ensure** the scholarship funds are used for expenses directly related to study (keep copies of all receipts)
- > **work anywhere** in a country area as may be required by Country Health SA upon completion of the course for a period equivalent to the number of years of scholarship funding awarded. Some scholarships are funded by Health Advisory Councils (HAC); recipients of these scholarships may be required to work in the HAC area.
- > **accept** the scholarship terms and conditions through a signed agreement, students who do not fulfil these obligations may be required to repay the scholarship funding.

Country Health SA recommends scholarship applicants seek independent personal financial advice before accepting a scholarship offer from Country Health SA.

Termination of Scholarship Agreement

- > failure to complete scholarship obligations such as non-completion of an approved program of study (e.g. withdrawing from the approved program of study within the agreed scholarship period) 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 that semester's funding.

Work requirement with CHSALHN

- > upon successful completion of the undergraduate degree scholarship recipients are required to work anywhere as may be required by Country Health SA in a country location for a period equivalent to the number of years funding provided.
- > scholarship recipients are responsible for applying for positions to fulfil the bonding agreement. Country Health SA will not find employment for the recipient.
- > scholarship recipients may be required to locate to a country area in South Australia where there are positions available to fulfil the bonding agreement.

- > if required, the Scholarship recipient can fulfil the work requirement at more than one health service across Country Health SA, as long as the recipient works for the equivalent number of years as funding was provided.

For a list of country health services in Country Health SA please visit the Country Health SA website – www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/countryscholarships

Further information

Information regarding what is a country public sector health service under Country Health SA and the Minister for Health and Wellbeing is available on the website -

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/countryscholarships

Enquiries can be directed to the Scholarships Coordinator:

Phone: (08) 8226 6468

Email: healthcountryscholarships@sa.gov.au

For more information

Country Health SA
People and Culture
Adelaide
Telephone: (08) 8226 6468
www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/countryhealthsa

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