Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme

Overview
The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarship Scheme is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health. The Scheme was established in recognition of Dr Arnold ‘Puggy’ Hunter’s significant contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and his role as Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Control Health Organisation (NACCHO).

The aim of the scheme is to encourage and assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce.

The scholarship provides financial assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are intending to enrol or are enrolled in an entry level course in an eligible health related discipline at an Australian educational institution (Certificate IV and above). Graduate entry level courses are included.

Eligible health areas are:
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander health work
- Allied health (excluding pharmacy)
- Dentistry/oral health (excluding dental assistants)
- Medicine
- Midwifery
- Nursing.

Application dates
The scheme will open for application on Monday 21 July 2014 for studies undertaken in 2015.

Eligibility criteria
Funding under this scheme is available for applicants who meet the following criteria:
- of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent
- intending to enrol or are already enrolled in an entry level health qualification
- intend to study in the academic year that the scholarship is offered.

Applicants must identify as and be able to confirm their Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander status.

The scholarships are very competitive and there are usually more applications than there are available scholarships. Therefore, not all eligible applicants will receive a scholarship.

Value of funding
Funding is provided for the normal duration of the course. Full time scholarship awardees will receive up to $15,000 per year and part time recipients will receive up to $7,500 per year. The funding is paid in 24 fortnightly instalments throughout the study period of each year.
Selection criteria
These are competitive scholarships and will be awarded on the recommendation of the independent selection committee, and based on the applicants responses to the selection questions in the application.

Important links
- Confirmation of Aboriginality
- Impact of scholarship on Centrelink payments
- Taxation implications of receiving a scholarship
- Indigenous cadetships

Links to Indigenous health professional associations
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Worker Association
- Indigenous Allied Health Australia
- Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses
- Indigenous Dentists' Association of Australia
- Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association of Australia
- The Australian Indigenous Psychologists Association

Links to professional health organisations
- Australasian Society for Ultrasound in Medicine

Contact ACN
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