

MEDIA RELEASE

28 August 2023

Applications open for 2024 Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships Scheme

Applications open this week for the 2024 Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships Scheme.

The Puggy Hunter Memorial Scholarships Scheme (PHMSS) encourages and assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students in health-related disciplines to complete their studies and join the health workforce.

The Australian Government established the PHMSS as a tribute to the late Dr Arnold ‘Puggy’ Hunter and his outstanding contribution to First Nations Australians’ health and his role as Chair of the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO)

Australian College of Nursing (ACN) CEO, Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward, said today that Puggy Hunter was an inspirational leader in promoting improvements in Indigenous health and the scholarships are a fitting annual reminder of his outstanding legacy.

“ACN has proudly administered the Puggy Hunter Scholarships since 2002,” Adjunct Professor Ward said.

“During this time, the scholarships have supported 1400 students to complete their studies.

“That means more First Nations nurses, midwives, doctors, dentists, and allied health workers in the health system and directly helping patients in their own local communities in many cases.

“The scholarships are deservedly very popular and prestigious. Over the years, we have received more than 7500 applications.

“We look forward to receiving applications for the 2024 scholarships.”

Applications for the 2024 Puggy Hunter Scholarships open on Wednesday 30 August 2023 and close on Tuesday 10 October 2023. There will be up to 300 scholarships. More details are available at <https://www.acn.edu.au/scholarships/first-nations-health-scholarships>

This is the final year that ACN will administer the scholarships on behalf of the Australian Government and the Department of Health and Aged Care.

For more information:

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Notes to Editors:

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is the national professional organisation for all nurses and its aim is to ensure that the Australian community receives quality nursing care now and in the future. ACN is a membership organisation with members in all states and territories, health care settings and nursing specialties. ACN is also the Australian member of the International Council of Nurses headquartered in Geneva in collaboration with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF). An organisation not afraid to challenge industry issues affecting the nursing profession or Australia's health care, ACN is a well-connected and educated national body that drives change with people of influence to enhance the delivery of health services to the Australian community. ACN's membership includes nurses in roles of influence, including senior nurses, organisational leaders, academics, and researchers.

Social media channels:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acnursing>

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CEO - Adjunct Professor Kylie Ward FACN - Bio



Kylie Ward. Policy Reformer. Nurse. For-Purpose Leader. Equality Warrior. Adjunct Professor. Transformation Specialist.

Kylie is the CEO of Australian College of Nursing. She has led a program of transformation at ACN, which has now become Australia's beacon for Nurse Leadership.

She is a major policy influencer, advocate for women, children and equality.