

ACN Foundation Policy Fellows

Expression of interest

The Australian College of Nursing (ACN) is inviting applications from registered nurses to participate in the ACN Foundation Policy Fellows Program (AFPF). Launched in 2019 by the ACN Foundation, this is the first nursing specific health policy fellowship in Australia. The program has been designed to provide the next generation of nurse leaders with an understanding of the relationship between policy and improvements in health outcomes, with a particular focus on the nursing contribution.

The Fellowship requires a commitment of one year. During this time participants will be exposed to and engage with a range of thought leaders within and external to nursing. Supported by a mentor they will participate in an interactive structured program and will contribute to the production of documents such as position statements, White Papers and manuscripts, relevant to policy priorities at the time.

Policy Fellows will be funded through the ACN Foundation to attend key events and participate in structured programs.

Applicants must be emerging or mid-career nurses, with aspirations to advance their understanding of and contribution to the national and international policy debate and discussion.

Successful candidates or 'Policy Fellows' will:

1. Participate in a structured policy program throughout 2021 designed to enhance their understanding of the policy process, including mentorship and masterclasses.
2. Receive training in policy development and writing.
3. Be prepared to dedicate up to 10 hours per week to successfully complete the requirements of the program.
4. Be afforded opportunities to influence health policy through researching, writing, presenting and producing documents such as policy statements, commentaries, issues papers, and scoping reviews.
5. Participate in and contribute to the annual ACN Policy Summit March 2021 in Canberra and ACN National Nursing Forum in Canberra August 2021.
6. Complete interesting and relevant assignments as they progress through the Policy Fellows Program.
7. Develop and present at least one session (minimum one hour) on a policy discussion topic that will be recorded and made available to ACN members for CPD.

Selection Criteria for the Program

1. Must be an emerging or mid-career Registered Nurse in Australia with the NMBA.
2. Willing to make a one-year commitment of at least 10 hours per week to the ACN Foundation Fellows Program.
3. Demonstrated evidence of leadership abilities.
4. Demonstrated ability to write well and to construct an argument.
5. Higher degree in nursing or health related field or other evidence of proven academic capability.

Application Process

To apply, send your expression of interest (EOI) to policy1@acn.edu.au by **COB 13th November 2020**.

Your EOI must consist of the following:

1. Written expression of interest addressing the selection criteria and how you will benefit from the scholarship (two-page limit)
2. Curriculum Vitae (8-page limit)
3. Two references in support of your application, of which one must be an academic reference which attests to writing skills.

Selection Process

The final decision for successful applicants remains at the discretion of the ACN Foundation Selection Committee

Timeline:

- **October 2020:** Applications open Friday 16th October at 9.00 am (AEST).
- **October 2020:** Applications close Friday 13 November at 5 pm (AEST).
- **December 2020:** By mid-December an offer will be made to successful candidates. Candidates to accept offers.
- **January 2021:** Successful candidates to commence program.

If you have any questions about the Policy Fellow Scholarships, please contact Dr Carolyn Stapleton FACN on 02 6283 3431 or carolyn.stapleton@acn.edu.au