



RURAL OUTLOOK for UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS TOWARDS ALLIED HEALTH
ROUSTAH



ROUSTAH Rural Placement Scholarship GUIDELINES

Successful students will receive financial assistance for travel, accommodation and living expenses, but the scholarship of \$500.00 will not necessarily cover all costs incurred. The aim is to provide scholars with:

- an overall view of working and living in a rural or remote community;
- a positive clinical placement experience; and
- a rural health community experience that facilitates social activities.

Applicants must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Enrolled as a fulltime or part-time student in an accredited, eligible allied health course that will result in a nationally recognised and accredited qualification at the University of South Australia. Applications will be accepted for both undergraduate and graduate entry courses. The course must lead to the student, upon graduation, being fully qualified to commence clinical practice.
2. Studying one of the following degrees:
 - Nutrition and Food Science
 - Medical radiation science:
 - Medical Imaging
 - Nuclear Medicine Technology
 - Radiation Therapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Physiotherapy
 - Podiatry
 - Social work (AASW approved courses only)
 - Pharmacy
 - Nursing
 - Midwifery
 - Laboratory Medicine
3. Attending a clinical placement for a minimum of four (4) weeks
4. A member of the UniSA student rural health club ROUSTAH.

Scholarship places will be allocated across various nursing and allied health professions both by geographical area and professional priority areas. These will be deemed in accordance with the Administrator (RDWA) and current committee.

Effect of Other Scholarships and Bursaries

Applicants who are already in receipt of another scholarship or bursary specific to their clinical placement are ineligible for this scholarship.

Assessment and Selection

Selection of scholarship recipients will be based on an applicant's eligibility and responses to the selection criteria. Please note that criteria may be used as ranking tools where scholarship places are oversubscribed – see Community Selection.

The Administrator will be responsible for de-identifying scholarship recipients, and a panel comprising of two (2) committee members and a nominated staff member from the RDWA, will decide the successful applicants based on selection criteria and guidelines. They will also determine the number of scholarships to be given each year in accordance with these Guidelines and the Funding Agreement as to the quality of the applications, and whether any applications are deemed suitable. If no applications are successful the money will be rolled over into the next semester's scholarship funds.

Following this process, the Administrator will advise all students of the outcome of their application in writing. Successful applicants will be offered a scholarship and must confirm acceptance of offer in writing. If a student forfeits or declines an offer of a scholarship place, that place will be offered to the next student based on eligibility and responses to the selection criteria.

Unsuccessful applicants can reapply in future semesters.

Scholarship Payments and Student Obligations

Scholars will not be required to provide documentary evidence of how they utilised scholarship funds.

Scholarship recipients enrolled in full-time or part-time tertiary study will receive their scholarship payments, in a once off payment, via Electronic Transfer, at least 2 weeks (where practical) before the commencement of their clinical placement.

Scholarship applicants and recipients are encouraged to seek advice from the Australian Taxation Office and/or Centrelink about any impact the awarding of a scholarship may have on their financial situation. This is solely the responsibility of the applicant.

The scholar, on completion of their placement, is required to provide a report comprising of a maximum 500 words on their placement experience, with any accompanying photos, as well as a letter from their clinical placement unit confirming they completed the entirety of their placement.

Inability to Attend or Complete a Placement

If a recipient is unable to attend or complete the entirety of their clinical placement, s/he must provide written evidence of the circumstances to the Administrator. All requests must be provided to the Administrator within 14 calendar days of the event occurring. In the event of this occurring the scholarship money will be repaid in full, from which the Administrator will issue the recipient a tax invoice and payment details.

General Information

Scholarships of up to \$500.00 are available for clinical placements during eligible undergraduate studies or graduate entry level studies. There will be at least one scholarship offered per semester of \$500.00, and based on the financial budget of the ROUSTAH club and rollover of scholarships funds; this may increase at the committee's discretion.

Study Period 2 (Semester 1) Clinical Placements

Applications will be open 10/01/ 2011. Closing Date for Study Period 2 applications is Friday 18 March 2011.

Study Period 5 (Semester 2) Clinical Placements

Applications will be open 16/5/2011. Closing Date for Study Period 5 applications is Friday 27 June 2011.

For placements that do not take place within these study periods or fall outside the above timeline, the applicant may apply for post clinical placement selection. Students applying for this scholarship retrospectively will not receive any priority.

Students who received the scholarship will not be able to apply again in the same year but may apply again the following year in accordance with eligibility criteria.

Clinical Placement Organisations

Allied health scholarship recipients may undertake a clinical placement in a variety of regional or remote allied health practices including an Aboriginal Medical Service, community health care centre, hospital, public or private practice, or a combination of these.

Clinical placement organisations may require recipients to comply with certain requirements such as providing a criminal history check or undertaking safety and cultural sensitivity training. The scholarship recipient is responsible for ascertaining the necessary requirements and for complying with them.

Recipients will receive funding support for a placement of minimum duration of four (4) weeks. Placement weeks cannot be split.

Community Selection

Priority will be given to students undergoing clinical placements where the community is ranked in the following order and as per the ASGC – RA (see <http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/Publishing.nsf/Content/RA-intro>);

- 1) Very remote
- 2) Remote
- 3) Outer Regional
- 4) Inner Regional

Placements will not be limited to those being undertaken in South Australia but will be considered Australia- wide.

Scholarship applicants must provide details of any confirmed clinical placement as part of their application. Where this is not possible, details must be provided to the Administrator prior to any scholarship payments being made.

Post Clinical Placement Selection Criteria

A student must comply with the above eligibility and assessment criteria, and can only apply within a 3 month buffer period of completion of their placement program.

Ranking Criteria

The following is a ranking order of criteria upon which the applicant will be assessed;

1. Geographical area and Professional Priority areas
2. Longevity of the clinical placement
3. How active the member is within the rural health club.

Please note; you will not be ranked higher if from a rural background, as this scholarship is to promote rural and remote clinical placement experience to everyone regardless of background.

Priority will be given to Australian citizens or Australian Permanent Residents.

HOW TO APPLY:

For your application to be considered please submit the following to the ROUSTAH Club Administrator (see below for contact details) by email, post or fax:

- Application form (available from ROUSTAH website www.roustah.com)
- Supporting Documentation
 - 500 word statement (see application form for more detail) **and**;
 - Proof of enrolment at UniSA and course details **and**;
 - Supporting letter from UniSA Clinical Placement Unit with details of clinical placement.

Applications for Study Period 2 (Semester 1) **due Friday 18 March 2011**

Applications for Study Period 5 (Semester 2) **due Friday 27 June 2011.**

For further information please contact:

ROUSTAH Club Administrator
Student Services Officer
Rural Doctors Workforce Agency
63 Henley Beach Rd
Mile End SA 5031

P: 08 8234 8277

F: 08 8234 0002

E: studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au