

What is the purpose of a Mental Health Scholarship?

Mental Health Scholarships provide financial support for the completion of approved postgraduate level university studies in mental health clinical practice that will enhance the capability of Queensland Health Mental Health staff.

Scholarships are awarded to mental health professionals who are either:

- » permanent employees of Queensland Health Mental Health Services
- » temporary contract employees within Queensland Health Mental Health Services
- » casual staff who can demonstrate an ongoing commitment to Queensland Health Mental Health and have written support from their Hospital and Health Service Mental Health Service.

What benefits will I gain from completing postgraduate studies in mental health under this scheme?

- » the ability to improve consumer outcomes
- » advanced up-to-date skills and knowledge directly relevant to service delivery and care in mental health
- » opportunities for professional development
- » opportunities for career advancement in the diverse and dynamic area of mental health.

Which courses are eligible?

The scheme supports two broad categories of postgraduate courses.

- » courses for registered nurses that assist in enhancing advanced clinical skills and practice in mental health (e.g., towards credentialing as a mental health nurse)
- » courses that assist mental health care professionals in enhancing advanced clinical mental health practice with a holistic, recovery-oriented, consumer focussed service delivery and that are:
 - linked to national and state mental health policy, priorities and standards
 - directly relevant to recognised and supported clinical practice in mental health
 - focussed on clinical or direct service provision skills
 - focussed on addressing identified workforce priorities such as skill shortages or the development of competencies.

Which courses are excluded?

Undergraduate courses of study which lead to a basic qualification for practice or registration are not eligible unless subjects from these programs/courses are undertaken as a continuing education program by applicants already possessing an undergraduate degree.

How are scholarship awards decided?

Awarding of scholarships is based on responses to the assessment criteria and the relevance of the course to the Queensland Health Mental Health Service workforce development needs. A selection panel assesses the applications and makes recommendations to the Executive Director, Mental Health Branch.

How much financial assistance is provided?

Scholarship recipients will receive up to \$1,000 per subject for study completed in 2013.

Will Queensland Health give me time off to study?

Scholarship holders will need to negotiate with their line manager to access leave for course requirements. At their discretion, Hospital and Health Services may support scholarship holders to meet their course requirements by granting:

- » paid leave through the Study and Research Assistance Scheme (SARAS) where required for course of study
- » flexible, study-friendly and family-friendly rostering to access annual leave, accrued days off, time off in lieu (depending on what is routinely available in the service / facility)
- » unpaid leave to complete study.



How to apply

Complete the Mental Health Scholarship application form available on the website:

<http://qheps.health.qld.gov.au/qcmhl>

Forward your application to

The Mental Health Scholarship Coordinator
Qld Centre for Mental Health Learning
Locked Bag 500
SUMNER PARK BC QLD 4074

Fax: 3271 8852

Email: MHscholarships@health.qld.gov.au

Closing date

Applications for scholarships for study in 2013 will be available from September and will close on 26 October 2012.

Further enquiries

If you have any further enquiries about the Mental Health Scholarship Scheme please call the Mental Health Scholarship Coordinator on 3271 8838 or email us at MHscholarships@health.qld.gov.au

Further information is available from

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QUEENSLAND CENTRE
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Scholarship Scheme

2013