

Pre-registration Scholarships For International Nurse Graduates

Guidelines 2009 – 2010

The Nurse Policy Branch offers scholarships to support international nurse graduates to meet Victorian registration requirements.



1.Amount and purpose

Pre-registration Scholarships for International Nurse Graduates assist international nurse graduates who have had their nursing qualifications assessed by the Australian Nursing & Midwifery Council (ANMC) or Nurses Board of Victoria (NBV) and who are required to undertake a competency based assessment program before becoming eligible for registration as a nurse in Victoria.

Approved applicants receive a scholarship of \$2,000.

The number of places supported is limited by available funding for the financial year.

2.Eligibility

a) Nurses

To be eligible, the international nurse graduate must:

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Reside in Victoria
- Have been assessed by the Nurses Board of Victoria and advised that they require successful completion of an accredited pre-registration program for overseas nurses to gain registration
- Have met the Nurses Board of Victoria English language requirement
- Have met the selection requirements of the approved program
- Be enrolled or have a confirmed place in the approved program.

For NBV information - www.nbv.org.au

b) Approved courses

Course approval is at the discretion of the Nurse Policy Branch. The course must be:

- Accredited by the NBV as a Pre-Registration or Initial Registration Course for Overseas Qualified Nurses AND
- Delivered by an NBV approved University, Registered Training Organisation or Public Health Service as identified in schedules 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Health Services Act 1988.

NBV approved courses can be found at <http://www.nbv.org.au>. Note: Courses delivered by private health services are **not** approved for this scholarship.

3.Selection

Applications should be submitted on behalf of applicants by the approved course provider and will be assessed against eligibility criteria. Course providers will be notified in writing of the successful applicants.

Where the number of eligible applicants exceeds available funding, the scholarships will be allocated to eligible applicants in the order they are received.

4.Disbursement and conditions

Funds for successful applicants will be sent to the course providers. The course provider must disburse the full amount of the awarded scholarship funds to the student.

- Where the fees have not been paid in full, the course provider may subtract the scholarship amount from the fee owing OR
- Where the fees have already been paid in full, the course provider must pay the funds directly to the student.

Applications will be accepted throughout 2009-2010 and processed on:

- 21 August 2009
- 27 November 2009
- 19 February 2010
- 21 May 2010

By accepting funds under the Pre-registration Nursing Scholarships Program, the international nurse graduate agrees to:

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- Notify the Nurse Policy Branch in writing of course withdrawal or non-completion as soon as possible. All or part of the scholarship money will be required to be returned to the department; and
- Provide evidence of enrolment and course costs if requested.

Scholarship recipients should note that data (including the student's name and address) collected as part of the Pre-registration Nursing Scholarships Program may be used for follow up by the Nurse Policy Branch. This data may be used to inform future policies relating to the nursing workforce, in particular international nurse graduates.

5. How to apply

Applications are submitted by course providers on behalf of course participants. Applications must be:

- Submitted on the 2009-2010 application form. All sections of the application form must be completed.
- Signed by the international nurse graduate.
- Endorsed by the course provider.

Incomplete applications or applications not submitted on the application form will not be considered. Please read the guidelines and ensure the application form is complete before submitting.

Applications should be mailed to:

Project Officer

Pre-registration Scholarships for International Nurse Graduates

Nurse Policy Branch (Level 20)

GPO Box 4057

MELBOURNE VIC 3001

6. Contact

Enquiries can be directed to:

Nurse Policy Branch

Ph: 03 90967154

Email: nursepolicy@dhs.vic.gov.au

For questions about registration please contact the **Nurses Board of Victoria**

595 Little Collins Street

Melbourne Victoria 3000

Ph: 03 8635 1200 or 1300 362 309

Fax: 03 8635 1248

Website: <http://www.nbv.org.au>