



Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health Inc

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Media Release

1 August 2008

Allied Health Clinical Placement Scholarship Scheme

The Services for Australian Rural & Remote Allied Health (SARRAH) has been working with a range of stakeholders, including the Australian Government, to develop and implement an Allied Health Clinical Placement Scholarship (AHCPSS) Scheme worth \$2.5 million over the next three years. SARRAH has been appointed by the Australian Government to administer the AHCPSS Scheme.

SARRAH's president, Scott Wagner, said "this is a great opportunity for allied health students to receive clinical experience in rural and remote communities and also get a taste of the lifestyle. There is a real need to recruit more allied health professionals in rural and remote communities and this scholarship will help that happen."

"Evidence shows that students who are exposed to quality clinical placements in rural or remote Australia whilst undertaking study are more likely to consider a health career in these locations" said Mr Wagner.

AHCPSS will contribute funding for up to six weeks while the scholar is on their clinical placement. The scholar receives funding towards:

- travel to and from the placement location;
- accommodation costs; and
- living expenses.

Eligible allied health disciplines are: Indigenous Health (undergraduate only), Audiology, Chiropractic, Dietetics, Exercise Physiology, Occupational Therapy, Optometry, Osteopathy, Radiation Therapy, Medical Imaging, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Physiotherapy, Podiatry, Psychology (post graduate only), Social Work (AASW approved courses only) and Speech Pathology. Whilst applications will be considered from all allied health scholars, emphasis will be placed on scholars going in to their final year of study.

Over 40 scholarships will be awarded annually; students can only receive one scholarship during their course of study.

The 2009 Round of scholarships opens for applications on 1 September 2008. The Application Form, Eligibility Criteria and 2009 Guidelines will be available on the SARRAH website from this date.

"SARRAH will continue to support health service and system reforms that make sure families in rural and remote Australia have access to the health care they need", said Mr Wagner.

The AHCPSS is funded by the Australian Government Department of Health & Ageing.

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