Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme (NAHSSS)

NAHSSS Allied Health Clinical Psychology Scholarship Guidelines 2017

The NAHSSS Allied Health Postgraduate Scholarship is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health
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Information for Scholarship Applicants

1. General Information

The Australian Government aims to consolidate and build on workforce programs to ensure they better align with, and are able to respond to the needs of health professionals to train and practice, particularly in clinical areas and locations of particular need.

The objectives of the consolidated Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme are to:

- Increase the health workforce by facilitating the entry of jobseekers and youths interested in pursuing a career in nursing and allied health professionals.
- Facilitate the continued professional development of nurses and allied health professionals.
- Encourage the pursuit of a health career in both geographic areas and professions where there are shortages.

The NAHSSS Clinical Psychology Scholarship guidelines form the basis for administration of a broad range of study arrangements for prospective clinical psychologists. There will be one round of scholarships offered in each calendar year. Applications received outside the application period will not be considered.

A limited amount of NAHSSS Allied Health scholarships will be offered for the academic year 2017. The scholarship covers FTE of 12 month or two academic semesters of the study program.

- Funding is only available to undertake courses offered by universities in Australia.
- Supporting documents are only required if you are successful in getting a scholarship.
- Only one application from each applicant can be considered for assessment.
- Scholarship applicants are not required to have an offer of place at a University when they apply. However, applicants must have researched the most appropriate course of studies and institutions and include their preferences at the time of applying for the scholarship.
- Those in receipt of a NAHSSS Clinical Psychology Scholarship are eligible to apply for the NAHSSS Clinical Placement Scholarship.

The next round of applications will open on 27 January 2017 and will close on 27 February 2017. An online application will be located on the Application Form on the Clinical Psychology Page of the SARRAH website. Access to the application form becomes available only when the application opens.

2. Eligibility Criteria

Those applying to commence or already enrolled in a clinical psychology postgraduate course in Australia can apply for this scholarship. The course must satisfy the Psychology Board of Australia “Area of practice endorsement registration standards”. It is the responsibility of the applicant to choose an eligible course. Identification of ineligibility of courses can occur at any stage during the application assessment and conditional offer phases.

Applications are invited from across Australia; however, rurality and other criteria may be used as ranking tools where scholarships are oversubscribed.
If you have been offered a scholarship under the NAHSSS and completed your funded activity less than 12 months before the commencement of this funding round, you are not eligible for this round of scholarships.

2.1. Eligibility Requirements

- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident of Australia

New Zealand citizens who arrived in Australia on or after 27 February 2001 must have applied for, and been granted Australian permanent residency to be eligible to apply for a scholarship.

New Zealand citizens living in Australia prior to 27 February 2001 are eligible to apply for a scholarship. You will be required to provide proof that you have lived in Australia prior to 27 February 2001.

Acceptable proof includes:

1. Official documentation showing your residential address in Australia prior to 27 February 2001 i.e. Centrelink payments, bank statements utility bills etc...
2. A certificate, issued under the Social Security ACT 1991, stating you were residing in Australia on 26 February 2001. Note: These certificates must be held retrospectively as they are no longer issued.

Please [click here](#) for more information to determine your eligibility for Australian Citizenship/Residency.

- Be undertaking or applying to undertake a postgraduate clinical psychology course accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC)
- Have not already completed (by the end of 2014) a Clinical Master of Psychology

2.2. Eligible Courses

Applicants must include their course and institution preferences when submitting the application for the Scholarship. The eligible courses are:

- Postgraduate professional clinical psychology programs offered by Australian Universities at the Master or Doctoral level.
- Only courses accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APEC) offered by coursework at the fifth and sixth year of study. Please see the list of Approved program of studies published in the Australian Psychology Board of Australia website at [Psychology Board of Australia - Accreditation](#).
3. Self-Assessment Checklist for NAHSSS Clinical Psychology Scholarships

Are you an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident?  
Yes  
No  
You are not eligible

Will the proposed course provide the applicant with the qualification required by the Psychology Board of Australia for endorsement as a Clinical Psychologist?  
Yes  
No  
You are not eligible

Have you been subject to an official or disciplinary action within the past two years?  
Yes  
No  
You are not eligible

Are you currently in receipt of any other scholarship for more than $7,000 per annum or a scholarship/Bursary funded by the Department of Health for the proposed study program? (This excludes the NAHSSS Clinical Placement Scholarship administered by SARRAH)  
Yes  
No  
You are not eligible

Is your proposed course a Master/Doctorate of Clinical Psychology and accredited by APAC?  
Yes  
No  
You are not eligible

Login to the application form and create a user name and password. You will receive a ‘do not reply’ e-mail when you log in to the application and after you have successfully submitted an application. Please keep these e-mails for future reference. Please visit this link: Step by Step instructions to complete application before you proceed with the application.
4. Application Process
Applications open on 27 January 2017 for funding for the academic year 2017. A link for the online application will be on the Clinical Psychology Scholarship page on the SARRAH website when applications open. The application form is not available before the opening date.

4.1. Do not reply e-mails
The applicant receives two (2) do not reply emails. These emails are automatically generated and may be delivered to your junk or spam mail box.

1. The first do not reply email is sent to the address provided when the account is created confirming the “user name” and “password” and “application code” (NAHSSS_CLIN_PSYCH_2017....). These three (3) things must be entered exactly how they appear in the “do not reply email” to log back into the application.

2. The second do not reply email is confirmation that the application has been successfully submitted.

4.2. When one of the sections is outlined RED
When a section has not been completed correctly, the text box or radio button will be outlined in red, move the cursor over each question and a message will appear. Please follow the instructions on the message.

1.15. Finalise and Submit
It is the applicant’s responsibility to print a copy of their application; this must be done before the application is submitted. The Scholarship Administrator will not print copies of the application for applicants. It is the applicant’s responsibility to submit their online application. Applicants that do not submit their application will not be notified. An automatically generated email is sent to the applicant when the application has been submitted successfully. Depending on an individual’s email settings this may go straight to the spam or junk mail box. It is not the Scholarship Administrator’s responsibility if this occurs.

If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail this means your application has not been submitted. If you have any problems please contact the scholarship Administrator via e-mail psychology@sarrah.org.au or by phone 1800 338 061

5. Selection Criteria
The primary objective of the scholarship is to address workforce shortages in areas of geographical and clinical need. The selection criteria reflect this requirement. All claims made in the online application must be verified if the applicant is successful.

- Rural, remote or regional background
- Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander background
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) background
• Demonstration of affiliation to one of the above mentioned criteria

Rural Remote or Regional Background

The Australian Standard Geographical Classification – Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) tool is used to define rurality. An ASGC-RA ranking of two (2) and above is considered rural. Go to Doctor Connect to search for a town’s ASGC-RA ranking. There are four classifications for rural status.

1. Currently residing and delivering a clinical service in an ASGC-RA 2 and above location. To claim rurality under this clause the applicant must show they have delivered a continuous clinical service in a rural, regional or remote area for the previous 12 months. A continuous clinical service means at least 10 hours per week of direct client/patient contact providing direct treatment, intervention or assistance, assessment, client management and education across the health care system. Self-employed applicants are required to provide a certified copy of their professional indemnity insurance, Registered Business name and ABN that shows the applicant has provided the clinical service for at least the preceding 12 months.

2. Currently residing and working (full-time or part-time) in a non clinical capacity in an ASGC-RA 2 and above location.

3. The applicant undertook primary or secondary schooling in an ASGC-RA 2 and above location only in Australia. Applicants who have attended primary school in rural and remote areas overseas are not considered under this category.

4. The applicant has lived for eight cumulative years in an ASGC-RA 2 and above location.

Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Applicants

An Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander person is one who;

• Is of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander descent.
• Identifies as an Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander person.
• Is accepted as being of Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander descent in the community in which she or he lives or has lived.

Cultural and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) Status

Cultural and linguistic diversity refers to the wide range of cultural groups that make up the Australian Population. A person from a CaLD background meets one of the following criteria:

• Arrived in Australia as an immigrant or refugee from a non-English speaking country.
• A child of migrant parents (mother and father) both of whom are from a non-English speaking country.

Demonstration of affiliation to one of the above mentioned criterion

Where the applicant does not have a rural, remote or regional background, CaLD background or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background, he or she has the opportunity to explain their affiliation with one or more of these groups in the selection criteria question 8.
The following selection criteria questions are set out in the application form reflecting the objectives of the scholarship scheme.

**Selection Criterion 1:**
In which area/s of clinical psychology are you interested and what contribution do you see yourself making in the future (150-200 word limit)

**Selection Criterion 2:**
Outline your future commitment to working in an area of geographical need (150-200 word limit)

**Selection Criterion 3:**
Did you attend primary school in a rural, remote or regional area?

**Selection Criterion 4:**
Have you spent 8 cumulative years living in a rural or remote area?

**Selection Criterion 5**
Do you currently live and work in a rural or remote area?

**Selection Criterion 6:**
Are you an Aboriginal and or Torres Strait Islander Applicant?

**Selection Criterion 7:**
Are you from a cultural and linguistically diverse (CaLD) background?

**Selection Criterion 8:**
If you do not have a CaLD, Indigenous or rural remote background can you demonstrate your affiliation/identity with one of these groups? Applicants will need to answer this question if you do not have a rural or remote background, are not cultural or linguistically diverse or of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Descent.

### 6. Application Assessment process

A Selection Assessment Panel, where relevant, will be chosen by the administrator to assist with the selection of successful candidates for scholarships. The members of the assessment panel will be drawn from a range of sources which may include relevant professional groups, rural and indigenous organisations and educational institutions.

Applications are invited from across Australia; however, rurality and other criteria may be used as a ranking tool where scholarship places are oversubscribed.

The Administrator will be responsible for selecting scholarship recipients and deciding on the number of scholarships to be given each year in accordance with these Guidelines and the Funding Agreement.
If there are more applicants for scholarships than there are places available, not all applicants who meet the eligibility criteria will be offered a scholarship.

There is a three-stage selection process to determine which applicants are offered a scholarship:

1. Applications are first assessed against the eligibility criteria. The applications that meet these criteria move to Stage 2.
2. Eligible applications will be forwarded to the Assessment Panel for consideration. Applications are ranked against the written answers to the selection criteria. The selection criteria will be developed by the Administrator and will be identified in the Application Form.
3. The scores from the assessment panel are combined with a ranking assigned to the other selection criteria to determine an Order of Merit.

Following this process, the Administrator will select scholarship recipients and all applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by email. Successful applicants will be offered a scholarship and must advise acceptance in writing. If an applicant forfeits or declines an offer of a scholarship place, that place will be offered to the next applicant on the Order of Merit.

The Order of Merit is valid for that year’s application round only. The Order of Merit will not be made publicly available and applicants will not be informed of their rank.

Applications received outside of the advertised application periods will not be considered.

7. Conditional Offer Letters
The successful applicants will receive a conditional offer by e-mail by 17 March 2017. To accept the offer, return by mail the signed acceptance of offer form and all certified supporting documents with proof of enrolment before the due date to the following address. Scanned e-mailed copies or faxed documents will not be accepted.

Clinical Psychology Scholarship Administration Team
Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health
PO Box 74
Deakin West ACT 2600

8. Value of the Scholarship
Funding is for a maximum of one year for full time study or two years for part time study. The maximum scholarship entitlement is $15,000 regardless of the course of study either Clinical Masters or Doctorate. Where the applicant has already started the course, the funding will be at a pro-rata rate for the uncompleted study component. There will be no extension of funding beyond one year (full time study). The scholarship is not retrospective.
9. Academic and Professional Referees

Academic and Professional referees are not required. The Administrator accepts admittance into an APAC accredited clinical psychology course as sufficient proof of an applicant’s academic and professional performance.

10. Appeals

There is no appeal process for the NAHSSS Clinical Psychology Scholarship. Applicants may not appeal the selection of scholarship recipients or the amount of funding awarded.

11. Effect of Other Scholarships and Bursaries

Those in receipt of another scholarship or bursary funded by the Department of Health are ineligible for this scholarship. Students who are undertaking accredited Clinical Psychology Master or Doctoral level are eligible to apply for and receive the NAHSSS Clinical Placement Scholarship.

When the scholar is receiving another award or scholarship, that provides a benefit greater than $7,000, then either the non-NAHSSS or the NAHSSS Scholarship must be reduced by the amount that exceeds $22,000 per annum. Where the total value of both scholarships exceeds $22,000 the scholar must relinquish one of the scholarships, to be eligible for the NAHSSS Clinical Psychology Scholarship.
Information for Scholarship Recipients

Conditional scholarship offers are made based on the Order of Merit. All applicants will be notified by email by 17th March 2017. To accept the conditional offer, the applicant is required to agree to the Terms and Conditions of the Scholarship and provide certified copies of documents to verify the information provided in the online application. The precise documentation is explained in the subsequent sections.

1. Notification and Acceptance of Scholarship

Once the successful applicants are awarded a scholarship under the Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme (NAHSSS) the scholarship offer must be formally accepted and returned to the Scholarship Administrator by the due date with all completed relevant documentation. Failure to accept the offer by the due date may result in forfeiture of the scholarship. Once all the documentation is received and verified and the Administrator is satisfied with the documentation the scholarship is confirmed.

2. Use and Payment of Scholarship Monies

Payment of scholarship monies is subject to receipt of the applicant’s written acceptance of the Terms and Conditions of the scholarship. The scholarship funds can cover expenses such as course fees, travel, accommodation internet connection and text books. This list is a guide to use the scholarship funds and not a prescriptive list.

- Expenditure of scholarship monies shall be in accordance with the application and guidelines for the Scheme as well as the terms and conditions of the scholarship. Approval must be sought in writing from the Scholarship Administrator for any variation of the use of scholarship monies.
- No payment is made until the scholarship holder provides the Scholarship Administrator with evidence of enrolment in the approved activity.
- The provision of bank account details. The scholarship money is only paid into the bank account of the scholarship holder’s personal name. No payments are made to a third party. The exception is if the account is held jointly with a spouse. Scholarship payments will be made by installments either monthly or by semester for the duration of the funded period.
- The Scholar shall submit evidence of continuing enrolment in the approved activity by the beginning of each semester. Progress payments will not be made until this evidence is provided

3. Acquittal of Scholarship Monies

The Scholar is not required to provide receipts for expenditure.
4. **Copyright and Publication**

Unless agreed otherwise:

- All publications resulting from the approved scholarship shall acknowledge that the work has been supported by an award from the NAHSSS funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health.

- Publications shall also include a statement to the effect that the views expressed in that publication do not necessarily represent those of the NAHSSS, its Administrator, Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health (SARRAH) and/or the Government Department of Health.

- One (1) copy of each journal article and one (1) copy of any report or book specifically related to work supported by the scholarship, or any media release, shall be provided to the Scheme Administrator by the scholar.

5. **Termination of Scholarship**

The Scholarship Administrator may terminate a scholarship where:

- Evidence of continuing enrolment in the approved activity is not received or no request for deferment has been made to the Scholarship Administrator by the university census date.

- Satisfactory progress in the approved activity is not made.

- The scholar withdraws from the funded activity.

- The scholar transfers to a different course of study.

- The scholar ceases to be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

- If the scholar breaches any rules or guidelines in these terms and conditions.

- The scholar accepts another scholarship funded by the Commonwealth Department of Health (Except the NAHSSS Clinical Placement Scholarship) or accepts any other scholarship or bursary valued at more than $7,000 per annum.

- The scholar fails to contact the Scholarship Administrator regarding any changes that affect the scholarship within fourteen (14) days.

6. **Verification of Supporting Documents**

All successful applicants will be advised to provide required documents to accept the conditional offer. The required documents are listed in the conditional offer letter. Generally the following documentation is required to accept the conditional offer.

1. **Signed and witnessed acceptance of offer document**

   This document is available at Acceptance of Offer Documents on the Clinical Psychology Scholarship page on the SARRAH website. Any person can witness your signature on the document.

2. **Certified proof of Australian citizenship/or permanent resident status**

   Please provide a certified copy of one of the following:
   - Birth Certificate.
   - Passport bio data page and relevant pages of the passport showing the resident status in Australia.
   - Naturalization or citizenship documents.
For New Zealand citizens a copy of the details page from your New Zealand passport.

Entitlement verification document issued by the Department of Immigration and citizenship. A certified copy of a citizenship document is to verify that you are an Australian citizen and/or that you are eligible to live in Australia permanently.

If the name on the document you provide to verify your Australian citizenship is different to the name on your application, please provide a certified copy of a document, which verifies your change of name. This could be a marriage certificate, a deed poll or other legal document.

New Zealand citizens who arrived in Australia on or after 27 February 2001 must have applied for, and been granted Australian permanent residency to be eligible to apply for a scholarship.

New Zealand citizens living in Australia prior to 27 February 2001 are eligible to apply for a scholarship. You will be required to provide proof that you have lived in Australia prior to 27 February 2001.

Acceptable proof includes:

1. Official documentation showing your residential address in Australia prior to 27 February 2001 i.e. Centrelink payments, bank statements utility bills etc...
2. A certificate, issued under the Social Security ACT 1991, stating you were residing in Australia on 26 February 2001. These certificates must be held retrospectively as they are no longer issued.

New Zealand citizens entering Australia are granted a Special Category (SCV) which allows them to lawfully live and work in Australia indefinitely. However, the SCV is a temporary visa and does not entitle the holder to access the full range of benefits for which permanent residents are eligible.

3. **Documents to prove your Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Status**

If you have indicated on the application that you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent a signed declaration by an official from an incorporated Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation is required.

4. **Completed bank account details form**

The bank account must be in the name of the applicant. Scholarship funds will not be paid to third parties, trust accounts, businesses or to the provider of the funded activity. The only exception is a bank account jointly held with spouse. This document can be located Acceptance of Offer Documents through the Clinical Psychology scholarship page on the SARRAH website.

5. **Signed Statement of Declaration**

The Statement of Declaration is available through the Acceptance of Offer Documents on the Clinical Psychology scholarship page on the SARRAH website. Please ensure all the boxes are ticked to show that you agree to all the terms and conditions of the scholarship.
6. **Documents to Prove Rural and Remote**

- If you have indicated in the application that you have attended primary school in a rural, remote or regional area, you will need to provide a certified copy of the primary school report.
- If you have indicated in the application that you have spent 8 cumulative years in rural or remote areas, you will need to provide documentation to prove this i.e. utility bills etc.
- If you indicate in the application that you live and work in a rural and remote area, a letter from your current employer, on a letterhead stating your length of service.

To claim rurality under this clause the applicant must show they have delivered a continuous clinical service in a rural, regional or remote area for the previous 12 months. If you are self-employed you must provide a statutory declaration with the date you became self-employed and the ABN number of your business.

Where the length of employment is under 12 months, the scholarship administrator has the discretionary power to review the application and offer a scholarship.

7. **Cultural and linguistically diverse background**

- International Passport pages that show permanent residency visa
- Refugee visa
- Letter of confirmation from the President or Chairperson of a cultural community group you belong to, including the organisation’s common seal.
- Documentation that proves that both of your parents are migrants from a non English speaking background (birth certificate). Documentation that proves the applicant is their child (birth certificate).

8. **Proof of enrolment**

A document from the university showing you are currently enrolled in an accredited clinical psychology study program is required. The scholarship can be provisionally accepted if enrolment will not be confirmed until the due date to accept the conditional scholarship offer. If you do not receive a confirmation of enrolment by the due date, accept the conditional offer provisionally and return the documents. The scholarship offer will be confirmed when the proof of enrolment is received by the administrator.

7. **Document Certification**

All documents need to be certified, except the proof of enrolment.

The certifying officer must:

- Write on the copy “This is a true copy of the original documents sighted by me’
- Sign and print their name
- Provide an address and a contact telephone number
- State their profession or occupation group (as below)
- Write on the copy of the date certified; and
• Affix the official stamp or seal of the certifier’s organisation on the copy

If the certifying officer is a Justice of the Peace, the certifying officer must list registration number and state/territory of registration.

(1) a person who is currently licensed or registered under a law to practise in one of the following occupations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chiropractor</th>
<th>Dentist</th>
<th>Legal practitioner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical practitioner</td>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>Optometrist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patent attorney</td>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>Physiotherapist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychologist</td>
<td>Trademarks attorney</td>
<td>Veterinary surgeon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) a person who is enrolled on the roll of the Supreme Court of a State or Territory, or the High Court of Australia, as a legal practitioner (however described); or

(3) a person who is in the following list:

• Agent of the Australian Postal Corporation who is in charge of an office supplying postal services to the public
• Australian Consular Officer or Australian Diplomatic Officer (within the meaning of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*)
• Bailiff
• Bank officer with 5 or more continuous years of service
• Building society officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
• Chief executive officer of a Commonwealth court
• Clerk of a court
• Commissioner for Affidavits
• Commissioner for Declarations
• Credit union officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
• Employee of the Australian Trade Commission who is:
  (a) in a country or place outside Australia; and
  (b) authorised under paragraph 3 (d) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*; and
  (c) exercising his or her function in that place
• Employee of the Commonwealth who is:
  (a) in a country or place outside Australia; and
  (b) authorised under paragraph 3 (c) of the *Consular Fees Act 1955*; and
  (c) exercising his or her function in that place
• Fellow of the National Tax Accountants’ Association
• Finance company officer with 5 or more years of continuous service
• Holder of a statutory office not specified in another item in this list
• Judge of a court
• Justice of the Peace
• Magistrate
• Marriage celebrant registered under Subdivision C of Division 1 of Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*
• Master of a court
• Member of Chartered Secretaries Australia
• Member of Engineers Australia, other than at the grade of student
• Member of the Association of Taxation and Management Accountants

• Member of the Australian Defence Force who is:
  (a) an officer; or
  (b) a non-commissioned officer within the meaning of the *Defence Force Discipline Act 1982* with 5 or more years of continuous service; or
  (c) a warrant officer within the meaning of that Act
• Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia, the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants or the National Institute of Accountants
• Member of:
  (a) the Parliament of the Commonwealth; or
  (b) the Parliament of a State; or
  (c) a Territory legislature; or
  (d) a local government authority of a State or Territory
• Minister of religion registered under Subdivision A of Division 1 of Part IV of the *Marriage Act 1961*
• Notary public
• Permanent employee of the Australian Postal Corporation with 5 or more years of continuous service who is employed in an office supplying postal services to the public
• Permanent employee of:
  (a) the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority; or
  (b) a State or Territory or a State or Territory authority; or
  (c) a local government authority;

With 5 or more years of continuous service who is not specified in another item in this list
Person before whom a statutory declaration may be made under the law of the State or Territory in which the declaration is made
• Police officer
• Registrar, or Deputy Registrar, of a court
• Senior Executive Service employee of:
  (a) the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth authority; or
  (b) a State or Territory or a State or Territory authority
• Sheriff
• Sheriff’s officer
• Teacher employed on a full-time basis at a school or tertiary education institution

What do the above Authorised Officers need to do to certify your documents?
• Certify that each document is a true copy of the original
• Certify that the photograph on the photographic documentation (e.g. licence or passport) is a true likeness of the applicant
• Witness the signature of the applicant.
8. The Statutory Declaration

Where the applicant claims one of the three selection criteria (Rurality, CaLD, Aboriginality) they must provide certified documents to prove this. When documentary evidence is not available the applicant can provide a sworn statement (Statutory Declaration) that explains in detail and in a verifiable way why they cannot provide evidence for the information provided in the online application. Just declaring that you are either CaLD, live in a rural location or are of Aboriginal descent in a statutory declaration will not be accepted.

Example for the wording on the Statutory Declaration

“I cannot provide my school reports that prove I undertook my primary schooling in an ASGC-RA location because these records were located at my parent’s house that was inundated in the 2010 Queensland floods. My parents address is XX Kingsford Smith Drive Albion”.

The details in the Statutory Declaration must be verifiable.

As part of the funding agreement with the Commonwealth of Australia, as the administrator of the NAHSSS Allied Health Streams, SARRAH is required to keep financial records so as to enable the audit of these records in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Scholar files and the Acceptance of Offer documents are subject to annual audit.

9. Commencement of Scholarship Payments

Scholarship recipients must commence study within the identified year for which the scholarship is awarded. The time period for which the scholarship applies will be identified based on the information provided in the application form and the scholarship entitlement will be calculated accordingly. For instance if you have completed 50% of your study program at the beginning of the scholarship calendar year, your scholarship entitlement is for the remaining 50% of your study program.

10. Commonwealth Supported Places

The scholarship recipient receiving a Commonwealth Supported place will not affect scholarship payments.

11. Duration of Scholarship

Subject to the conditions below and the scholar’s compliance with the terms of the scholarship, a scholarship will generally be continued for the FTE of 12 months or two academic semesters of the scholar’s course of study or the approved activity, and not extended beyond that time.

In order to remain eligible for the scholarship, the scholarship recipient must:

- Continue to be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident.
- Be enrolled in an eligible course that results in an Australian nationally recognised and accredited qualification.
- Contribute to evaluation surveys conducted by the Administrator, as required.
- Provide proof of continuing enrolment each semester.
12. Change in Course of Study
Where a scholarship recipient wishes to change their study or the approved funded activity in any way from that identified in their Application Form, for instance changing the location, duration or type of study or activity, the recipient must seek written approval from the Administrator.
In considering its response, the Administrator will have regard to:

- Identified geographical and priority areas.
- Whether the scholar is enrolled in an accredited/approved course of study supported by the NAHSSS.
- Whether the scholar has yet received any NAHSSS payments.
- Any other matters the Administrator considers relevant.

A scholarship must be surrendered if an applicant discontinues a course of study or enrolls in a different course or activity without prior approval to continue their scholarship. The applicant may reapply for a NAHSSS scholarship in the next academic year.

13. Scholarship Payments
The Scholarship is worth $15,000 for one year full time study and $7,500 for a maximum of two years for part-time. Scholarship payments will be on a full-time or part-time basis. Part time payments are calculated as half of the full-time payments. Scholarship payments will be paid on semester basis upon the receipt of the evidence on continued enrolment status from the university. Scholarship funding will only be paid into the personal bank account of the successful scholar and not to a business, institution, trust account or organisation. The only exception is holding an account jointly with a spouse.

14. Deferment
A scholarship holder may request a deferral of their scholarship. The Administrator may grant this request subject to:

- The scholarship holder having commenced their course of study and commenced receiving scholarship payments.
- A maximum of 12 months (or two academic semesters) deferral being permitted during the course of study.
- Deferrals being for whole periods of only one or two semesters (i.e. not for part of the semester, weeks or months).
- The deferral being supported by documentation from the university confirming that study has been deferred.

Deferrals may be granted to assist students in balancing their study, family and work needs. Students are not required to justify their need to defer or give detailed reasons.

The scholarship cannot be deferred if the applicant did not secure a candidature in an eligible course.
15. Withdrawal or failure in study

The scholarship forfeits from the date the scholar withdraws from the funded program of study.

The scholar is required to repay any part payment if withdrawal occurs before they commence their studies. For instance, if your received your first scholarship payment at or before beginning your studies and then you withdraw you will be required to refund the scholarship payment made to you. If you withdraw part way during a semester, you will be required to repay any funds paid in advance. Scholars should contact the Administrator to discuss if they will need to repay funds immediately they decide to withdraw from their course of study.

If a scholar fails a complete semester, the scholarship will be withheld until the failed semester is repeated. The scholarship will not be extended to account for any failed units of study throughout the degree.

16. Repayment of funds

If the scholarship recipient ceases to fulfil the terms of their scholarship and fails to inform the Administrator, they will be required to repay funds received from the time they ceased to be eligible. Ceasing to fulfil the terms of the scholarship may include:

- Withdrawal from study or funded activity at any time including after enrolment but before commencement of study or funded activity.
- Change in course of study or funded activity.
- Ceasing to be an Australian citizen.
- Acceptance of another scholarship or bursary for this Clinical Psychology, such as for example the Western Australia ‘Go Rural’ program, on the Queensland Office of Rural Health Subsidy Scheme,
- Acceptance of another scholarship or bursary funded by the Department of Health (except the NAHSSS Clinical Placement Scholarships)
- Acceptance of another scholarship or bursary that is valued at more than $7,000 per annum.

17. Payment reconciliation

Scholars will not be required to provide documentary evidence of how they utilised scholarship funds. They will, however, be required to provide evidence of continued enrolment/academic progression/progress in the funded activity, as relevant, to ensure ongoing payment of the scholarship.

18. Scholarship payments and Tax/Centrelink benefits

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. Depending on the scholarship and the mode of study, scholarship payments may be
taxable. Information is available from the Australian Taxation Office and from Centrelink at www.centrelink.gov.au.

19. Commencing and Completing Scholar Survey
All scholars are required to participate in a survey. The purpose of the survey is to find out:

- To what extent the Scholarship encourages Clinical Psychologist to provide clinical services in rural and remote areas
- What factors affect the decision to work in rural and remote areas – regardless of whether the respondent received a scholarship for their Clinical Psychology study
- The causal relationship between the scholarship scheme and the number of Clinical Psychologists practicing in rural remote or regional Australia

If you have further enquiries, please contact:
NAHSSS Allied Health Scholarship Administration team at:
Phone: 02 6285 4960
E-mail: psychology@sarrah.org.au

Glossary of Terms and Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DoH</td>
<td>Commonwealth, Department of Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>NAHSSS</td>
<td>Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARRAH</td>
<td>Services for Australian Rural and Remote Allied Health. The Scholarship Administrator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHPRA</td>
<td>Australian Health Practitioners Regulation Agency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APAC</td>
<td>Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CaLD</td>
<td>Cultural and Linguistically Diverse.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASGC-RA</td>
<td>Australian Standard Geographical Classification - Remoteness Area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTE</td>
<td>Full Time Equivalent study.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td>A person who has applied for, but not yet received a NAHSSS Clinical Psychology scholarships</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholar</td>
<td>A recipient of a NAHSSS Scholarship.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deferment</td>
<td>Where Scholarship recipient delays commencement of their study program and the scholarship payments.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Termination</td>
<td>SARRAH’s decision to end the NAHSSS Scholar’s scholarship payments before the completion of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal</td>
<td>When a NAHSSS Scholar chooses to cease their scholarship before completing the course of study.</td>
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