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***AMA Indigenous Peoples'
Medical Scholarship
2016
Application***

For the assistance and encouragement of Aboriginal and/or
Torres Strait Islander people studying for a medical degree at an Australian university.



AMA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP 2016

OVERVIEW AND CONDITIONS

1. Overview

- 1.1 The Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship Trust Fund was established in 1994 with a contribution from the Australian Government.
- 1.2 The Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship ("the Scholarship") aims to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors in Australia by supporting Indigenous students to complete a medical degree.

2. Scholarship Value

- 2.1 The value of the Scholarship is \$10,000 per annum (provided in one lump sum each year).
- 2.2 It is the responsibility of applicants to seek advice from Centrelink on how the Scholarship payment may affect ABSTUDY or any other government payments.

3. Scholarship Duration

- 3.1 The Scholarship is awarded for the full course of study of a medical degree, subject to satisfactory academic progress and continued full-time enrolment.
- 3.2 The Scholarship is tenable for each year of medicine that the recipient successfully completes.

4. Eligibility

- 4.1 To be eligible for the Scholarship, applicants must be:
 - 4.1.1 of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. For the purposes of this Scholarship, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person is someone of Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent, who identifies as an Australian Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives or has lived. Applicants must provide a letter from an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community organisation supporting their claim; and
 - 4.1.2 enrolled full-time at an Australian medical school and have successfully completed at least their first year of medicine. Students who are currently in their first year of medicine are eligible to apply for the Scholarship for their second year, but must provide evidence of successful completion of their first year in order to be awarded the Scholarship.

5. Applications

- 5.1 The AMA calls for Scholarship applications in November each year and normally closes applications at the end of January the following year.
- 5.2 Applicants must complete the application form and submit it, along with the required supporting documentation, to the AMA Federal Secretariat by the nominated closing date.
- 5.3 Incomplete or late applications may not be considered.

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6. Selection

- 6.1 The Scholarship will be awarded on the recommendation of an advisory committee appointed by the AMA's Taskforce on Indigenous Health. Selection of the Scholarship recipient will be based on:
- 6.1.1 a statement provided by the applicant describing his or her aspirations, purpose for studying medicine, and the use(s) to which he or she hopes to put his or her medical training;
 - 6.1.2 satisfactory academic performance judged on the results achieved; and
 - 6.1.3 reports from referees familiar with the applicant's work and suitability for a career in medicine.
- 6.2 In awarding the Scholarship, preference will be given to applicants who do not already hold any other substantial scholarship.

7. Scholarship Payments

- 7.1 Each year, payment of the Scholarship will occur following the AMA's receipt of the recipient's:
- 7.1.1 results for the academic year; and
 - 7.1.2 proof of full-time enrolment for the subsequent academic year.
- 7.2 The documents listed at 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 must be an official university document such as an academic transcript or a letter of endorsement from the relevant university.

8. Deferrals

- 8.1 Recipients must notify the AMA, in writing, of any intention to defer study.
- 8.2 The AMA may consider granting a deferral of study for a maximum of 12 months, whilst allowing the recipient to retain the Scholarship. This is subject to approval by the AMA.
- 8.3 Scholarship payments are not applicable to periods of deferred study and will be suspended for the duration of the deferral period.
- 8.4 Scholarship payments will resume when a recipient completes the (deferred) academic year and provides proof of full-time enrolment for the subsequent academic year.

9. Termination

- 9.1 The Scholarship terminates:
- 9.1.1 on successful completion of a medical degree; or
 - 9.1.2 if a recipient withdraws from a medical degree.
- 9.2 The Scholarship may also be withheld or terminated if a Scholarship holder's performance in any semester is unsatisfactory in the opinion of the head of the medical faculty or institution. The final decision to withhold or terminate a Scholarship is at the discretion of the AMA.

10. Publicity

- 10.1 Recipients may be contacted by the AMA to participate in publicity of the Scholarship from time to time. This may include, but is not limited to, an interview, a photograph and a formal Scholarship presentation ceremony. The AMA may also request written responses from recipients which can include a basic profile, descriptions of university experiences and information about how the Scholarship has supported recipients in undertaking their studies.

AMA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP 2016
APPLICATION FORM

NAME.....
 family name first name middle name

HOME ADDRESS.....
..... Postcode.....

Tel Home ()..... Mobile

E-Mail..... Date of Birth/...../.....

UNIVERSITY AT WHICH STUDIES ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN:
.....

TITLE OF COURSE.....

LENGTH OF COURSE YEAR COMMENCED

CURRENT YEAR OF STUDY

NAME OF CURRENT SCHOLARSHIPS OR BURSARIES
.....

SIGNED DATE/...../.....

Please attach to this form:

- A statement of your aspirations, describing your purpose(s) for studying medicine and the uses to which you hope to put your medical training (maximum 500 words);
- A short *curriculum vitae* including any employment experience, and the names and contact details of two referees (maximum two pages);
- A letter from an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander community organisation (to which you are well known) supporting your application as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person;
- An official record or letter of endorsement of your tertiary education results for your first year of medicine, and any subsequent year of medicine completed; and
- Proof of current full-time university enrolment in a medical course.

Please send this form and attachments by **31 January 2016** to:

Indigenous Peoples' Medical Scholarship
Att: Ms Alyce Merritt
Australian Medical Association
PO Box 6090
KINGSTON ACT 2604
Email: sriley@ama.com.au