



Albury  
Wodonga  
Health

# SPARK Scholarship

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Growth, Innovation and Impact



# SPARK Scholarship

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The SPARK Scholarship (also known as the Supporting Professional Advancement & Regional Knowledge Scholarship), provides \$10,000 to engage in further medical study.

Albury Wodonga Health recognises the importance of professional self-development in medicine and the value of what participation in skills and knowledge development and research can bring to the health service and the region. This applies at all stages of a medical career which is why the scholarship is open to all levels of medical officer engaged by AWH – from intern to consultant



# Scholarship Purpose

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The SPARK Scholarship empowers eligible, registered medical practitioners, including contracted VMOs, to pursue advanced education, specialised training, or research that strengthens their practice and enhances health outcomes for rural and regional communities.

By investing in our clinicians, we aim to ignite innovation, inspire professional progression, and ensure our region continues to benefit from high-quality, locally informed medical expertise.

## Eligibility Criteria

You must be a registered medical practitioner and have/will have been permanently employed with AWH for 12 months or more by the time of the grant of scholarship. This includes contracted VMO's.

The applicant must have been employed 0.6 FTE or more, or contracted by AWH, for 12 months or more by the time of grant of the scholarship. Consideration will be given to the applicant's future career path and commitment to AWH or the region.

## Scholarship Value and Selection Criteria

One scholarship of up to \$10,000 will be awarded annually.

### **The application must be for:**

- a. An activity not yet undertaken (retrospective funding requests are ineligible)
- b. An activity/course of study that will be commenced within six months of the award of scholarship
- c. Professional development, education (such as postgraduate study, conference attendance, training/skills workshops, clinical placements), or research activities that have a clear potential to contribute to innovation and improved health outcomes in regional healthcare services

Please note – the following are ineligible for the award of a scholarship:

- Requirements for specialty training
- Short courses that are a part of requirements to apply for specialty training
- Costs that are also reimbursed by other funding or grants
- Costs that are transferred to the Australian Taxation Office as a HELP/VSL/similar loan
- Resources or consumables

## **Selection Process**

Applications will be assessed by a selection panel comprising:

- Chief Medical Officer
- Director of Medical Services and
- Three members of the medical staff appointed to the panel on an annual basis.

## Recipient Requirements

Successful recipients will be required to:

- Successful recipients will be required to provide a brief written report within six months of completion and present to the Clinical Directors and Divisional Medical Directors Forum.
- Recipients will also be required to present to the following year's Staff Awards event to share the impact of the scholarship award, and to acknowledge the scholarship in any published or presented work resulting from the award.

## How to Apply

Applicants must:

- Applicants must complete the online application form located on Your Say AWH, and submit a budget outline detailing how funds will be used.



## **For Further Information**

For questions or further details, please contact the Chief Medical Officer.