



alliedhealthworkforce

Queensland Health

Allied Health Scholarships

Prosthetics & Orthotics

Information Kit

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Queensland
Government
Queensland Health

This document contains general information only.
The only authoritative statement of the scholarship terms is set out in the
scholarship agreement.

General Information

Queensland Health Allied Health Scholarships provide financial assistance to Prosthetic & Orthotic students in their **final** year of undergraduate study.

Prosthetic & Orthotic Scholarship holders, are guaranteed temporary full time employment with Queensland Health for the duration of their bonded service at either the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital or Princess Alexandra Hospital.

Eligibility for Scholarship

You are eligible to apply for this scholarship if you are:

1. An Australian resident, or possess permanent residency, **and**
2. Applicants need to be a full time university student in your last year of your under graduate course

Selection

Information Kits

Information Kits are available on the website www.health.qld.gov.au/orh or by contacting **Rural Health Connections** on 1800 680 291.

All students who are interested in applying for a Queensland Health Allied Health Scholarship must complete a written application addressing the selection criteria.

Applications received will be short-listed and successful applicants will be offered an interview.

Interviews

Students who are successful in obtaining an interview will be contacted by Rural Health Connections to arrange an interview time. Every effort is made to ensure that interviews cause minimal disruption to academic studies. At the completion of the interview process, all interviewees will be notified in writing of the outcome of their interview. Successful applicants will then be offered a scholarship contract with Queensland Health.

Placement

Following graduation, scholarship holders need to obtain their degree and registration through their affiliated associations.

Scholarship holders are then contracted to be employed by Queensland Health to provide the communities with essential health services needed.

Placements for Orthotics and Prosthetics students will be limited to Brisbane at either:

- * Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital
- * Princess Alexander Hospitals.

Financial Assistance

All components of the financial assistance are taxable

Payments commence and are back dated from 1st January in the year the scholarship is awarded and you are taxed on all amounts paid to you. As the Queensland Health Allied Health Scholarship Scheme guarantees you employment upon graduation, your financial assistance is classed as taxable income.

» ***Students are advised to contact their local Centrelink office to discuss how these payments may affect them*** «

Each student will receive financial assistance totalling \$21,000 in the final year of their degree. This includes a living allowance of \$544.27 per fortnight and a lump sum payment paid at the commencement of the academic year to assist with tertiary fees, travel expenses and conference costs. Students will be expected to meet the travel and accommodation expenses associated with clinical placements or work experience weeks out of this allowance.

Living Allowance:	\$544.27 per fortnight
Tertiary Grant:	\$5800.00 per year
Travel Allowance:	\$500.00 per year
Conference Assistance:	\$500.00 per year

Scholarship Total: \$21000

Experience Week

All scholarship holders **must** complete one (1) Experience Week. Where possible, Experience Weeks should be undertaken in an area where the student is interested in completing their bonded service. This is recommended to familiarise students with the area and assist with networking and relationship building. Students are encouraged to include the Experience Week as part of their University clinical placement requirements, but this will depend on placement availability.

Prosthetics and Orthotics students must completed their experience week in Queensland.

Contractual Obligations

- * A student who accepts a scholarship must complete a contracted service period after graduation.
- * Continuation of the scholarship is dependent upon satisfactory progress in university coursework.
- * Scholarship holders are required to work in a Queensland Health facility for a period equal to the period of assistance given.
- * If a scholarship holder fails to complete the course or does not satisfy the obligations of contracted service, a financial liability may be incurred.
- * Scholarship holders are required to complete one Experience Week placement whilst at university.

Scholarship Support

Queensland Health offers a range of support measures to assist scholarship holders, including:

- * A support network of health advisors and past scholarship holders
- * Regular teleconferences
- * Assistance with the transition from university to the workplace

Frequently Asked Questions

What if I want to move, my circumstances change or I need to defer?

There is flexibility within the scholarship scheme. A Contract Variation can be prepared when scholarship holders wish to defer or extend their contract in some way. This can be at undergraduate or post graduate level. At undergraduate level an extension may be given with or without additional financial assistance. At post graduate level a deferral or extension will vary the length of the return of service period therefore a contract variation is required. A contract variation is required for any reason that varies the original contract signed at the commencement of the scholarship. All scholarship holders circumstances are assessed on a case by case basis.

Can I still work while I am at University?

Yes. Remember your financial assistance is considered as income for taxation purposes. Scholarship payments can impact upon any Centrelink payments you may be in receipt of therefore you should seek individual financial advice prior to signing the scholarship contract.

Can I apply for a Scholarship if I am not at a Queensland University.

Yes. However you **must** do your Work Experience Week in Queensland each year and after graduation you will be placed at a Queensland Health Facility for your period of bonded service.

What happens if I fail a subject?

Some allowance is made for students to repeat subjects. In this instance you may require a contract variation with an extension of your financial assistance and bonded service period.

When will my scholarship payments commence/cease?

Payments commence from 1st January in the year the scholarship is awarded and continue until the 31st December in the year of graduation.

When will I receive my Tertiary Grant payments?

50% of your Tertiary Grant will be paid to you at the commencement of the academic year and 50% to be paid on or before 31 July.

Can my Tertiary Grant be paid in fortnightly instalments?

No.

Does the Rural Health Connections pay my Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) fees?

No. The Tertiary Grant is recommended to be used to help off set your HECS fees, but it is entirely up to you how you spend it.

Will the scholarship payments affect my Centrelink payments?

Possibly. As the Queensland Health Scholarship Scheme guarantees your employment upon graduation, your financial assistance is considered taxable income. You will need to contact your local Centrelink office to discuss how this may affect you.

Why are the scholarship payments taxed?

The financial assistance received by scholarship holders is taxed due to the guarantee of employment upon graduation.

Can I combine my Work Experience Week Placement with my University clinical placement?

Yes. Queensland Health may be able to assist with accommodation for placements if available.

Does my Work Experience Week Placement have to be completed in a hospital?

Yes. The idea of the Work Experience Week Placement is to gain experience and an opportunity to network.

Do I have to do my Work Experience Week Placement and my period of bonded service within Queensland?

Yes. Your Work Experience Week Placement and bonded period of service must be served in Queensland.