



Supported by the Australian Government Department of Health under the National Continence Program

National Conference on Incontinence Scholarship Program 2019

Guidelines for Applicants

**~~CLOSING DATE: 5PM, Friday, August 23rd, 2019~~
EXTENDED to 5PM Wednesday, September 4th, 2019**

Background

Funded under the Bladder Bowel Collaborative, a key initiative supported by the Department of Health, 10 scholarships will be offered to support health professionals to attend the 28th National Conference on Incontinence on 13th-16th November 2019 in Melbourne, Victoria.

The scholarships are open to registered nurses and physiotherapists working in continence care in regional and remote areas of Australia (RA2-RA5).

Scholarship Program includes:

- Registration to the 28th National Conference on Incontinence including the Conference Dinner and Clinical Workshops (subject to availability)
- Travel and accommodation costs (conditions apply – see 3.2 for details).
- Entitled to state the following in their curriculum vitae:

Awarded the Continence Foundation of Australia 2019 National Conference on Incontinence Scholarship

1. Eligibility requirements

1.1. Applicants must be either a registered nurse or physiotherapist.

1.2. Applicants must be currently registered with their relevant professional registration board and supply proof with their application.

1.3. Applicants must be able to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to continence management and care although they are not required to be currently working solely in this area.

1.4. Applicants must work in a rural or remote setting as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification – Remoteness Areas (ASGC-RA). Applications will be accepted from applicants working in the categories listed below:

- RA2 – Inner Regional Australia
- RA3 – Outer Regional Australia
- RA4 – Remote Australia
- RA5 – Very Remote Australia

To check your classification please visit:

<http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/internet/otd/Publishing.nsf/Content/locator>

*Please note if you fall outside these categories but feel you are still eligible please contact the Continence Foundation of Australia to discuss, prior to submitting your application.

1.5. Previous conference scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply for the 2019 scholarship program.

2. Application, selection and offer process

2.1. Application process

Applicants are required to complete the Scholarship Application Form online, including two written pieces and supporting documentation.

Written Piece 1: Please outline how this scholarship will directly benefit your career interest in continence management and care and how you would use that information to enhance continence management and care in your workplace. (200 words max).

Written Piece 2: Please provide a written essay on an aspect of continence management and/or care which is of particular interest to you (Abbreviated referencing accepted. 1000 words max).

Supporting documentation: Two letter of references (from current employer/s or professional colleague/s that can provide supporting information regarding your application), Resume, Professional registration certificate.

2.2. Selection process

Applications are assessed by a selection panel comprised of representatives from Continence Nurses Society Australia, the Australian Physiotherapy Association and the Continence Foundation

of Australia. The selection panel will assess the written answers based on content, structure, originality and adherence to word length.

2.3. Offer process

Scholarship recipients will be announced on the Continence Foundation of Australia's website www.continence.org.au on Friday, September 13th, 2019. Successful applicants will be notified by telephone and/or email.

NOTE: Due to the extension of the deadline, this announcement date may change.

3. Conditions of scholarship

3.1 The successful applicants will be required to:

- Attend the conference program including workshops. Please note that workshops have limited places and cannot be guaranteed until scholarship winners are announced. Due to high demand it is recommended that you register early for any workshops that you wish to attend. Continence Foundation of Australia will reimburse your registration fee if you are successful in receiving a scholarship.
- Complete pre and post evaluation questionnaires.
- Submit a 300-word report/article by Friday 29th November 2019 using a report template provided by the Continence Foundation of Australia. This report may be published in the Australian and New Zealand Continence Journal, *Bridge* magazine and In the News (all publications of the Continence Foundation of Australia).
- Assemble for certificate presentation and a group photograph with other scholarship recipients at the Continence Foundation of Australia AGM on Thursday 14th November 2019.

3.2 The scholarship program will cover the following travel and accommodation costs:

- Return economy air fares to and from Melbourne, Victoria.
- Accommodation for the duration of the conference. This has been booked for scholarship winners in a standard room at a hotel close by to the conference venue selected by the Continence Foundation of Australia.
- Note: Meals and airport transfers are not included in the scholarship program and must be covered by the recipient.

4. Top scholarship applicant

The top scholarship recipient will have the opportunity to participate in a one to two-day placement at a continence service or services located within easy access of the conference venue in Melbourne. The placement will provide the top scholarship recipient with an opportunity to observe different continence services and develop networks with other clinicians. The placement will occur on Monday 11th and/or Tuesday 12th November 2019 (immediately prior to the conference). Accommodation to attend the clinical placement is included for the top applicant.

Please note that if you indicate you are unable to attend the placement, this **will not** impact on your application for the scholarship program.