

# RURAL CLINICAL PLACEMENT GRANT

**Guidelines 2021 - 2022**

For:

**VICTORIAN STUDENTS**

**PLACEMENT IN MMM 2 - 7**

**MEDICINE**

**ALLIED HEALTH**

**NURSING**

## **Grant Purpose**

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) is a not-for-profit government-funded organisation improving healthcare for rural, regional and Aboriginal communities in Victoria. RWAV's Rural Clinical Placement Grants support medical, nursing and allied health students to undertake placements in regional or rural Victoria.

This grant is designed to support students undertaking clinical placements who cannot access university, hospital or clinic accommodation or are ineligible for alternative grants due to the location of their placement.

## **Selection**

Applicants will be assessed on their ability to meet the grant requirements, and the amount of funding granted will depend upon the applicant's individual placement circumstances. The application must be received prior to the commencement of the clinical placement.

This grant offers financial assistance for travel and accommodation costs up to \$800 (including GST) associated with the clinical placement. A clinical placement is considered as a continuous period in one location.

## **LIST OF ELIGIBLE PROFESSIONS**

- **Nursing**
- **Medicine**
- **Physiotherapy**
- **Occupational therapy**
- **Dietetics**
- **Speech pathology**
- **Optometry**
- **Sonography**
- **Exercise physiology**
- **Psychology**

## Eligibility

All applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Full-time or part-time study at a Victorian university campus or Charles Sturt University Albury/Wodonga campus in undergraduate, graduate or postgraduate.
- or full-time/part-time study with a Victorian Vocational Training provider in a discipline that offers a clinical health qualification e.g. Diploma of Nursing.
- Clinical placement must be undertaken in regional or rural Victoria (MMM 2-7). See <http://www.doctorconnect.gov.au/> for MMM 2-7 location information.
- Clinical placement will be completed in the 21/22 financial year.
- The application must be received prior to the commencement of the clinical placement.
- Written evidence of the clinical placement location, dates and duration must be supplied. This must include correspondence from the registered training organisation or health service.
- Placements must be at least four consecutive days in duration with no more than two days between each block in one location.
- Applicants who are recipients of any other scholarships or grants received within the 21/22 FY relating to this clinical placement are not eligible to apply for the RWAV Rural Clinical Placement Grant. This includes the Going Rural Health – Student Support Scheme.
- Applicants are only eligible to apply for one RWAV Rural Clinical Placement Grant per financial year.
- Applicants from Federation University receiving KickStart funding are not eligible for this grant.

## Considerations

Prior to applying all applicants should consider the below;

- If university or health service accommodation is available in the placement location, applicants must utilise this accommodation. University accommodation can be any university (including those that the student does not attend). Applicants accessing university or health service accommodation are not able to claim this form of accommodation as it is provided at a heavily discounted rate. If the university or health service accommodation is not available in your placement location, you will need to provide written evidence from the registered training organisation/ university/and or health service. Students can still claim travel costs.
- Ensure that all required documentation includes the student's name; this includes accommodation quotes, invoices etc. If a group booking is made, ask that the invoice includes all guest names.
- This grant opens on a semester basis and only applications for the corresponding semester will be assessed.
- Car travel includes one return trip, within Victoria, from the applicant's permanent residence to the health service. It does not include back and forth travel from the health service to the applicant's temporary accommodation while on placement. As per ATO guidelines car travel will be calculated at a rate of 0.72 cents per kilometre.
- Maximum accommodation costs payment is \$140 per night
- Considerations regarding placement length will be made for students studying Aboriginal Health, considering their placement schedules can differ from other health disciplines.
- Successful applicants are required to complete a post-evaluation survey. Applicants who do not return their surveys may be liable to return their grant funding.
- If a placement does not go ahead, successful applicants must inform RWAV as soon as possible.

*\*While RWAV aims to provide an excellent service, students are required to read the RWAV Complaint Management Policy document <https://www.rwav.com.au/contact-us/complaint-policy/>. Any complaint must be reported to the Future Workforce Program Officer on [FutureWorkforce@rwav.com.au](mailto:FutureWorkforce@rwav.com.au)*

## Round 2 2021

**Applications open:** 26/10/2021 at 9:00am

**Applications close:** 31/12/2021 at 5:00pm

## How to apply

1. Complete the Rural Clinical Placement Grant Application Form and submit prior to the commencement of the clinical placement. The application form can be accessed via the RWAV website: [New link to be updated](#)
2. Attach written evidence of clinical placement location, dates and duration. This must be an official letter from your registered training organisation or health service with your name on it. Screenshots of dates etc. will not be accepted.
3. Payment of the grant will not be paid until after the placement has concluded and/or copies of the accommodation tax invoice and receipt submitted. Ensure that all documentation includes the student's name for verification. Payment will not be made without the correct documentation.
4. If subsidised accommodation is not available in your placement location you will need to provide written evidence from the registered training organisation, university/and or Health Service.

## Grant allocation

- All applications will be assessed, and successful recipients will receive a payment of grant upon submission of required documentation.
- Assessment will include a review of the responses to the questions posed, the location of the clinical placement, and the setting of the clinical placement.
- Applications submitted after the placement commencement date will not be accepted.
- Applications submitted after the grant closing date and time will not be accepted.
- Please note applications may take up to four weeks to be assessed, approved and processed. All applicants will be notified via email of the outcome of their application.

## Grant payment

The grant amount will be paid via electronic funds transfer after the placement has concluded and copies of the accommodation tax invoice and receipt submitted. Funds can take up to ten (10) business days to process after submission of the evidentiary documentation.

## More information

For more information about the RWAV Rural Clinical Placement Grants, contact:

**Future Workforce Program Officer, RWAV**

**T:** 03 9349 7800

**E:** [FutureWorkforce@rwav.com.au](mailto:FutureWorkforce@rwav.com.au)

