

### WorkUP Queensland Scholarship Program

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Key information**

The list below are frequent questions we receive about the scholarship program.

Scholarships are available to workforce of organisations funded by the Queensland Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety through Women's Safety and Violence Prevention to deliver services to domestic and family violence, sexual violence, and women's health and wellbeing services.

Scholarships up to the value of \$15,000 can be granted towards fees for accredited training and higher education for workers of any level across organisations. Read about the <a href="Scholarship Program">Scholarship Program</a>, on our website. This includes:

- Examples of programs supported by a scholarship
- Additional Scholarship and Study Assistance Opportunities

We hold information sessions when rounds open to help you learn more and decide if this is the next step in your career. The Scholarship application and Guidelines are ONLY available when a round is open. We encourage you to read the guidelines carefully if you are considering / are applying.

Please contact us at <u>workforce@healingfoundation.org.au</u> for any other information. We invite you to subscribe to our events and newsletter for updates about professional development and opportunities that may support your career in the specialist sector.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. I work in a service that is funded by the Queensland Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety.

#### How do I know if it is an eligible service for the Scholarship Program?

Eligible organisations are listed below. If you are working in one of the funded domestic and family violence, sexual violence and women's health and wellbeing "target" services listed below, the scholarship program is an educational opportunity to gain, or upgrade qualifications, or advance your professional practice within the sector. Please check with your employer who can confirm if you work in this target group.

- State-wide Helplines
- Women's Refuges
- Counselling and Support Services
- Specialist Sexual Assault Services
- Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Family Violence Services
- Court Support Services
- Legal Support Services
- Perpetrator Intervention Initiatives



#### Q. My role is supporting business administration in a target service – can I apply?

Yes! The scholarship is available for ALL levels / roles in the "sector", so we encourage you to apply. Check our website for more details.

#### Q. Can I apply for a scholarship if I am currently studying / working in Australia on a visa?

Scholarship eligibility requires an applicant to be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident. Visas granted by the Australian Government for study, work and other purposes within Australia are unable to be considered. The program will prioritise applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and applicants who are working in a regional, rural or remote location.

#### Q. Can I apply for a scholarship if I was unsuccessful in an earlier round?

Yes! Be sure to check your eligibility via our website and when we release the guidelines when rounds open. WorkUP also holds an information session before a round opens – you can subscribe to WorkUP for updates.

#### Q. How is an application decided?

Scholarships are awarded through a staged application and assessment process. This includes a panel who will score applications in-line with the guidelines and funding criteria. Due to funding, the panel is limited in the number of successful scholarships they can award each round. Rounds are competitive, so spend time on your application, speak with your employer, and be sure you have read the guidelines!

# Q. I received a WorkUP scholarship in an earlier round for a course and have used the total amount on fees. Can I reapply in a new round for the same program to help with the continuing costs of my program?

The Scholarship program has limited funding and aims to help grow a specialist sector workforce, now and into the future. Scholarships are unable to be awarded again for the same program of study. If you are continuing studies in a different program, and meet eligibility criteria, you can consider applying in a new round. For WorkUP data collection, the application form asks if you have received a scholarship in a previous round.

#### Q. Do I need to be accepted into a program before applying?

You can apply for the program you have identified in your application after you receive a scholarship. The study must start in the financial year that your scholarship is granted. We will ask for confirmation of enrolment if you receive a scholarship.

## Q. My scholarship application was successful however I was not accepted into my course. Can I change my program/course and keep the scholarship?

Please let us know if your circumstances change. The panel will accept a qualification change if it still meets the eligibility criteria. You can confirm your eligibility in the guidelines released when the round is open.

#### Q. Will the scholarship help pay for my internet costs, laptops and textbooks?

No, the scholarship covers the tuition and student fees of the qualification <u>only.</u> The "Additional scholarship and study assistance opportunities" above may help with supports that may be available to you. We encourage you to connect with your education provider for further information.



#### Q. Are there any time limits accessing the scholarship?

The scholarships are funded to grow our specialist sector workforce and support workers to gain qualification, upskill or expand their work skills. To support this, scholarships must be accessed within two years of being awarded. If your personal or professional circumstances change, please let us know – we are here to support your career!

#### Q. Can I study a qualification through an education provider outside Queensland?

Yes! The application will ask you to share more about the impact the qualification will add to your role. The provider can be located outside Queensland. Check the guidelines above for further information about eligibility.

#### Q. How will I know if I am successful in my scholarship application?

WorkUP will inform all applicants about the outcome by a due date in that round. If you are successful, WorkUP will support you with an agreement for you to review, sign and return. Be sure to check that the email on your application is correct so we can contact you.

#### Q. How will my tuition/ study costs be paid if I do receive a scholarship?

When you receive your tuition invoice for the study period, send it to the WorkUP email in the key information section of this resource, as soon as possible after you receive it. WorkUP's finance team will make payment directly to the education provider by due date. It is your responsibility to ensure you provide the invoice in a timely manner.

#### Q. Will the program pay for study costs I have already completed in the same qualification?

The scholarship cannot reimburse course fees already spent / completed, or fees incurred via Fee-Help schemes. The scholarship can pay for fees after the start of the scholarship for courses you are YET to begin studying, in in the same continuing program /qualification. For example, if you are awarded a scholarship in November and your next course unit starts in the following February, you can send in the course fee invoice for that unit and any others you do start after November, up to the amount awarded in the scholarship.

#### Q. What happens if I need to take a break from my study – will that cancel my scholarship?

We recognise circumstances may change while you study. Please reach out to us. A project officer will liaise with you throughout the duration of the scholarship journey. WorkUP contact details are in the key information section of this resource.

## Q. I am moving into a role that is no longer in the "target" service group. What happens to my scholarship?

It is important to contact us if your circumstances do change. If your eligibility changes, your scholarship may be cancelled. This means that you will need to organise other payment arrangements (e.g. HECS-HELP, direct payment etc.), through your provider.

We wish you the best in your sector career!