



Country Allied Health Student Travel Grants

Sponsored by the WA Country Health Service and The Mental Health Commission

Background

Rural and remote student clinical placements are an important part of allied health student's undergraduate/graduate entry training. They are also a vital part of the future health workforce in rural and remote areas. In recognition of the contribution that students make to rural and remote health services both on placement and as future rural and remote health professionals the WA Country Health Service (WACHS) and the Mental Health Commission (MHC) offer two grants for eligible allied health students undertaking placements within country WA.

The WACHS Allied Health Country Student Travel Grant provides travel support in the form of a bursary to allied health students on placement within a WACHS site.

The Mental Health Commission Country Student Travel Grant and Living Away Allowance provides travel support and a living away from home allowance for students undertaking an approved mental health placement anywhere within country WA (including, government, non-government and private).

Eligible Professions & Universities

For both grants undergraduate/graduate entry students studying the following allied health professions within WA universities are eligible to apply:

Profession	University
Physiotherapy	Notre Dame, Curtin, ECU
Occupational Therapy	Curtin, ECU
Speech Pathology	Curtin, ECU
Dietetics	Curtin, ECU
Social Work	Curtin, ECU, UWA
Health Promotion	Curtin, ECU
Pharmacy	Curtin, UWA
Medical Imaging Technology	Curtin
Podiatry	UWA
Audiology	UWA
Psychology / Counselling	Curtin, Murdoch, ECU, UWA, UND



Level of Assistance

Travel Grants

Funding is allocated for both grants based on travel distance calculated from the student's university and the country placement town as below*:

Distance Travelled (one way) to Placement Site	Total Funding Allocation	Examples (from Perth)
75km-300km	\$150	Wheatbelt: Northam, Narrogin, Jurien, Merredin South West: Bunbury, Busselton, Manjimup, Collie Great Southern: Katanning
300-450km	\$200	Great Southern: Albany, Denmark Midwest: Geraldton
451-750km	\$250	Goldfields: Kalgoorlie, Esperance
751-1000km	\$350	Midwest: Carnarvon, Meekatharra
1001km+	\$550	Kimberley: Broome, Derby, Kununurra Pilbara: Karratha, Port Hedland, Tom Price, Newman

* Students completing placements within the Perth metropolitan or Mandurah area are not eligible to apply for these grants

Living Away Allowance

In addition to the above travel grant those students on an approved mental health placement will also be entitled to a \$300 living away allowance

Conditions of Funding

Eligibility for both the *WACHS Country Allied Health Student Travel Grant* and *The Mental Health Commission Country Student Travel Grant* and *Living Away Allowance*

1. Specified allied health undergraduate/graduate entry degrees (permanent resident students only). See eligible professions and universities.
2. Continuous residence (placement duration) of 4 weeks or more
3. Students who have secured bursaries or scholarships from other sources (most notably the NAHSS Clinical Placement Scholarships) are not eligible for the grant payment.
4. Students may not apply for both grants *for the same placement*

Additional eligibility criteria unique to each program



WACHS Country Allied Health Student Travel Grant

Placements within the WA Country Health Service only. Funding is not available for rural or remote placements with other organisations (e.g. private, non-government, other government agencies or health services etc). A list of eligible sites can be viewed at the WA Health - WA Country Health Service Directory at http://www.health.wa.gov.au/services/detail.cfm?Unit_ID=2283

Student may apply for one single grant per student per calendar year

The Mental Health Commission Country Student Travel Grant and Living Away Allowance

Placements may be within government or non government organisations across rural and remote Western Australia. The university must endorse the placement as a suitable “mental health” placement. Mental Health Placement’s may include organisations that provide Drug and Alcohol services. See Drug and Alcohol agency list for potentially suitable placement sites.

Students may apply for more than one grant per calendar year depending on available funding

****Please note that students can only apply for one grant for each student clinical training placement (either WACHS or MHC), however students are able to apply for a second grant so long as it meets the above conditions. For example, students can apply for a WACHS grant and a MHC grant within the same year for different placements.**

Administration of the Travel Grants

Grants will be administered by Rural Health West as follows:

1. During the first week of placement, the clinical supervisor and student will complete and submit a Country Allied Health Student Travel Grant request form. If the student is completing a mental health placement the form must also be endorsed by the clinical coordinator from the university.
2. The request for payment is received by Rural Health West.
3. Student and payment details are verified.
4. Process of payment is initiated.
5. Payment will take 3-4 weeks and is made by via EFT directly to the student’s nominated bank account.

For further details about the program, please contact:

Suzanne Spitz
Program Manager (Allied Health)
WA Country Health Service – Central Office
Suzanne.spitz@health.wa.gov.au
Ph: 9323 6622

For further details about travel grant payments, please contact:

Workforce Development Business Coordinator
Rural Health West
choosecountry@ruralhealthwest.com.au
Ph: 08 6389 4500



Country Allied Health Student Travel Grants 2014 Application Form

Student Details			
Name			
University		<input type="checkbox"/> Notre Dame <input type="checkbox"/> Curtin <input type="checkbox"/> UWA <input type="checkbox"/> ECU <input type="checkbox"/> Murdoch	
Degree (Undergraduate/Graduate Entry)			
Postal Address			
Email			
Phone Number			
Bank Account Details	BSB	Account Number	
Bank Account Name			
Terms and Conditions *both boxes must be ticked to be eligible		<input type="checkbox"/> I am an Australian Permanent Resident <input type="checkbox"/> I am not in receipt of any other scholarships or bursaries to support my clinical placement	
Student Signature		Date	
Grant applied for *select only 1		<input type="checkbox"/> WACHS Country Student Travel Grant (<i>1 per year only</i>) OR <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Commission Country Student Travel Grant and Living Away Allowance	

If applying for WACHS Country Student Travel Grant please complete the following			
WACHS Placement Details (all WACHS placements with exception of mental health)			
Unit/Site of Placement			
Town of Placement			
Distance Travelled (One way from University to Placement Site)		<input type="checkbox"/> 75km – 300km (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> 750 – 1000km (\$350) <input type="checkbox"/> 301 – 451km (\$200) <input type="checkbox"/> 1001+ (\$550) <input type="checkbox"/> 451 – 750km (\$250)	
Dates of Placement (start and finish date)			
Supervisor Name & Phone Number			
Supervisor Designation			
Supervisor Signature		Date	



If applying for The Mental Health Commission Student Travel Grant and Living Away Allowance please complete the following			
Mental Health Placement Details (all Mental health placements across WA)			
Organisation Name		Is the placement government or non government	
Town of Placement		<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Non government	
Distance Travelled (One way from University to Placement Site)	<input type="checkbox"/> 75km – 300km (\$150) <input type="checkbox"/> 301 – 451km (\$200) <input type="checkbox"/> 451 – 750km (\$250)	<input type="checkbox"/> 750 – 1000km (\$350) <input type="checkbox"/> 1001+ (\$550)	
Total Amount (travel grant plus \$300 living away from home allowance)			\$_____00
Dates of Placement (start and finish date)			
University Clinical Coordinator to complete below			
I endorse this placement as a university approved mental health placement <input type="checkbox"/> (please tick)			
Clinical Coordinator Name			
Clinical Coordinator Contact Details			
Supervisor on placement to complete below			
Supervisor Name			
Supervisor Designation			
Supervisor Email and Phone number			
Supervisor Signature		Date	

Please complete the above form on your first week of placement and send completed forms to:

Email (preferred):
choosecountry@ruralhealthwest.com.au

Fax: (08) 6389 4501
Post: Rural Health West
PO Box 433
Nedlands WA 6909

Payments will be made via EFT to the nominated bank account. Please allow 3-4 weeks for processing.

Students who apply for a Country Allied Health Student Travel Grant may be contacted by Rural Health West in relation to student rural health clubs or rural career pathways.



Internal Use Only

Job Code		Account Code	
Approved by		Amount for Payment (noGST)	
Manager Signature		Date	

Finance Use Only

Payment processed		Date	
Signed			