

Maternal and Child Health Nurse

Scholarship Guideline

2026-27



Mansfield Shire

Mansfield Shire Council **Maternal and Child Health Scholarship Guideline**

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Mansfield Shire Council **Maternal and Child Health Scholarship Guideline**

Purpose

The Mansfield Shire Council Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Nurse Scholarship Program aims to support the development and sustainability of a skilled local MCH workforce. The program provides financial assistance to a local Registered Nurse and Midwife to undertake a recognised postgraduate course leading to qualification as a Maternal and Child Health Nurse.

The scholarship is funded through the Department of Health MCH Workforce Support Grant and is intended to support the ongoing provision of high-quality Maternal and Child Health services within the Mansfield Shire.

Scholarship Details

The MCH Nurse Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to an eligible Registered Nurse and Midwife who intends to undertake an approved course of study leading to qualification as a Maternal and Child Health Nurse in Victoria.

Mansfield Shire Council reserves the right to award one scholarship, no scholarship, or a partial scholarship, depending on the applications received and available funding.

The scholarship provides financial assistance of up to \$8,000 to an eligible Registered Nurse and Midwife undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Maternal and Child Health Studies at Federation University, RMIT University or La Trobe University Victoria.

Preference will be given to applicants who:

- are residents of Mansfield Shire; and
- upon obtaining their MCH qualification, commit to working for a minimum of 12 months with Mansfield Shire Council, subject to the availability of a suitable position.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the MCH Nurse Scholarship Program, applicants must:

- be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- reside within Mansfield Shire or a surrounding municipality
- hold current registration as a Registered Nurse and Midwife with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (AHPRA) and provide evidence of a current practising certificate
- have a minimum of five years' combined nursing and midwifery experience
- be enrolled in one of the approved Graduate Diploma of Maternal and Child Health courses outlined in this guideline
- complete the approved course of study within a maximum period of two years

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- where a suitable position is available, be willing to accept employment with Mansfield Shire Council under the Victorian Maternal and Child Health Nurse Scholarship (VMCHNS) employment model following completion of 150 hours of clinical experience within the MCH program and the required theoretical content supporting Universal MCH nursing practice.
- The scholarship is available to applicants who have already commenced their course of study, and students currently receiving funding from another scholarship are also eligible to apply.

Application Process

Applications for the scholarship program must be submitted to Mansfield Shire Council

Applications must:

- Include a recent resume and covering letter outlining why they wish to participate in the program
- Provide acceptable evidence of enrolment in one of the above-mentioned courses
- Provide proof of course fees or HECS confirmation

Selection Criteria

Following the closure of the application period, a short-listing process will take place. Eligible candidates will be contacted regarding their application and asked to attend an interview.

Selection Criteria:

- Demonstrated commitment to working in Maternal and Child Health
- Connection to and commitment to the Mansfield Shire community
- Understanding of the role of an MCH Nurse
- Commitment to working for Mansfield Shire Council following completion of the qualification, subject to an available position
- Relevant nursing and midwifery experience

Payment

Upon providing copies of their enrolment documentation and evidence of course fee payment, the successful applicant will be eligible to receive an initial scholarship payment of **\$2,000**.

A further payment of **\$2,000** will be made upon the successful completion of a minimum of **48 credit points**.

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The remaining **\$4,000** will be paid upon successful completion of a minimum of **96 credit points**.

For the purposes of this scholarship, successful completion of the accredited course requires the applicant to complete a minimum of **96 credit points**, comprising:

- A minimum of **84 credit points** from selected core courses; and
- A minimum of **12 credit points** from selected elective courses.

For each scholarship payment, the successful applicant must provide their academic transcript to a Mansfield Shire Council MCH coordinator as evidence of the required course progress before payment can be processed.

Scholarship payments will be made by bank deposit to the account nominated by the applicant, unless otherwise advised by Mansfield Shire Council.

Further Information

Please contact Council's Coordinator of Maternal and Child Health Services

Email: MCH@mansfield.vic.gov.au

Telephone: 03 5775 8537