

**UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF RURAL HEALTH**  
**GOING RURAL HEALTH STUDENT SUPPORT SCHEME**  
**BURSARY POLICY**

**Overview**

The Going Rural Health Student Support Scheme (GRH SSS) has been developed to assist students with the associated costs of accommodation and travel when completing a clinical placement in a rural setting across the Hume, Ovens, Murray, Goulburn, Ballarat and Grampians regions.

[Regional GRH - UDRH map](#)

**1. Bursary & Accommodation**

The bursary can be a payment of up to \$30 per day of attendance (capped at \$2,500)

**OR**

Subsidised accommodation at University of Melbourne owned housing, for \$50 per week (subject to availability) can be offered [GRH - Student Accommodation Information](#)

The amounts allocated will be decided on a case by case basis and will be at the discretion of the Going Rural Health team.

**\*Virtual or online placements**

For those students completing an online or virtual placement, for the days where students are not required to be physically present, no bursary will be applied. Payment of funds will not apply for online or virtual placement days. Proof of attendance will be required with the supply to GRH of a proof of placement form signed by the supervisor.

**2. Application Process**

All applicants will automatically be considered for a Bursary.

Upon review of an application, the applicant will be advised if their application has been accepted or declined with 10 working days of receipt of the application. Where a student is accepted, the bursary is guaranteed as long as the successful student provides all required documentation and post placement requirements as detailed in Section 6.

**3. Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible to apply for the Going Rural Health Bursary and Accommodation Support the applicants must:

- a. Be enrolled in a Nationally recognised nursing, allied health or other health science undergraduate or postgraduate degree with a recognised Australian University which requires the applicant to complete a compulsory placement.
- b. Be an Australian or New Zealand resident or have refugee status (evidence to be provided).
- c. For RN and Allied Health students, placement must be a minimum of 2 weeks full time (no less than 4 days per week).
- d. NOTE: Enrolled nursing students must complete a placement of minimum **4 weeks** or more full time (no less than 4 days per week).
- e. Register all details with the Going Rural Health team either prior to, during or within 30 days of completion of your clinical placement [Rural Living Portal](#)
- f. Successfully complete clinical placement requirement and length.
- g. Submit Proof of Placement form/s - [Proof of Placement Form](#) and complete the Student Placement Survey - [Student placement survey](#) within 30 days of

completion of your placement -

- h. Have not received any other scholarship or financial assistance to complete the clinical placement in which the student is applying for.
- i. Students must meet a travel requirement of at least a minimum of 50km one way from their home to the location of their clinical placement

#### 4. Selection of Applications

To be considered, all applications need to meet all eligibility criteria.

Processing and review of applications will be completed by the University Department of Rural Health, Going Rural Health team.

In the event that more applications are received than there are bursaries available, the UDRH may consult with the applicants' education provider to determine the most suitable candidates.

#### 5. Going Rural Health Bursary Support package.

##### a. Financial – Student Obligations:

- I. Payment will occur at the successful completion of the clinical placement upon receipt of a 'Proof of Successful Completion of Placement' [Proof of Placement Form](#) signed by your placement Clinical Supervisor
- II. Completion of the Student Placement Evaluation Survey as provided by the UDRH [Student placement survey](#)

##### b. Placement Support:

- i. Access to Cultural Awareness in Aboriginal Health training [GRH Registration](#)
- ii. Access to further online or face to face learning, mentoring, peer assisted learning and student mental health support - [GRH Online Education](#), [Health and Wellbeing Service](#)

#### 6. Duration of the Bursary and Placement Support Program

- a. The program support is for the duration of the clinical placement period.
- b. The bursary will be terminated in the event of any of the following:
  - i. Student ceases to be enrolled, withdraws from or defers their course.
  - ii. The student does not successfully complete the placement requirements.
  - iii. The clinical placement ceases.
  - iv. The student failing to submit the required paperwork to the UDRH as requested, including documentation for proof of domestic status and proof of enrolment, Proof of Placement documents, and required financial institution details for payment.
  - v. The student does not submit required documentation within 30 days of the completion of their placement