



Health
Sydney
Local Health District

Sydney Local Health District Nursing and Midwifery Service

Graduate Research Honours Scholarship

2018 Program Guidelines

Background

Research and development is fundamental to quality patient and family centred care. The Sydney LHD Nursing & Midwifery Service is continually developing, building and supporting research capacity across the District.

Building research capacity is a strategic priority for the SLHD Nursing & Midwifery Service with a particular focus on the following key areas::

- Expanding Nursing & Midwifery research capacity
- Increasing publishing output
- Increasing external funding research
- Supporting the translation of research into practice

Objective

The SLHD Graduate Nursing Research Honors Scholarship program aims to support Bachelor of Nursing Graduates, who are interested in making research a part of their nursing career, by providing them with part-time employment as a new graduate whilst they undertake the Research Honours program.

The goal of the program is to promote research in nursing and support a successful transition from undergraduate student to Registered Nurse. Together with the University Of Sydney School Of Nursing, research opportunities with the SLHD will explore the movement of patient and family centred care within the following domains;

- Patient and Family Centre Care
- Clinical Practice
- Workforce and Leadership
- Information and Communication Technology

The scholarship program aligns with the SLHD Nursing & Midwifery Strategic Plan and the SLHD Research Plan by supporting the translation of research into practice; building strong relationships and collaborations with university partners; developing a body of innovative research and celebrating Nursing & Midwifery research and novice research nurses.

Program Overview

1. 2 year Part time Research Honours Course (including a Research Project) – The University of Sydney
2. 2 year Part time Transition to Professional Practice (TPP) Program within SLHD
 - o 0.5 FTE /40hours per fortnight, rotating roster.
 - o 2 x 12 month rotations

SLHD Commitments:

- Four week block of Full time work at the beginning of the first placement in March 2018, which will include;
 - o Ward Orientation and documentation (ie: Handbook for the area)
 - o A preceptorship model to enhance support in the clinical area.
- The block is intended to support transition into the clinical environment, routine and team as well as begin the process of the consolidation of clinical skills and knowledge gained to date.
- The first 4 weeks will consist of Monday to Friday morning and afternoon shifts to facilitate increased support from the Clinical Nurse Educator and Nursing Unit Manager.
- At the completion of the 4 week block rostering will be week on and week off (40 hours per fortnight) to allow for ongoing transition and socialisation into the clinical environment.
- The week off will allow for adequate time to undertake required course work and research for the university.
- It is recommended that no night shifts are rostered for the first 12 – 16 weeks.
- During the first 12 months of the program the Research Honours graduates will attend study days in addition to the participant’s clinical hours.
- On commencement of second rotation in 2019 they will require a further 2 week full time roster to once again allow transition into the new ward environment, routine and team as well as ongoing consolidation of new clinical skills and knowledge.

University Commitments

Key Dates	Times	Program
Monday 19 th February 2018 to Thursday 22 nd February 2018	09:00 – 13:00	University Orientation
Monday 12 th March 2018 Monday 26 th March 2018	14:00 – 16:00	Seminar Program
Monday 16 th April 2018 Monday 30 th April 2018	14:00 – 16:00	Seminar Program
Monday 14 th May 2018 Monday 28 th May 2018	14:00 – 16:00	Seminar Program
Monday 4 th June 2018	13:00 – 17:00	Research Proposal presentation

Participant Support

- **University Supervisor**
As per The University of Sydney Course requirements

- **SLHD Research Clinical Nurse Consultant**
This position will provide research mentorship and methodologically support

- **SLHD/University Research Fellow**
This position will provide research mentorship and methodologically support

- **Clinical Mentor**
○ A clinical mentor for each of the participants will be identified by the Director of Nursing in their local facilities/service. The mentor role is best suited to a senior professional such as a Clinical Nurse Consultant with research experience. The role of the mentor is to share knowledge and expertise to support the professional development of the mentee.
○ *(For further information regarding Mentorship roles and responsibilities, please refer to the Health Education and Training Institute (HETI) The Superguide: A Supervision Continuum for Nurses and Midwives).*

- **Nursing Unit Manager (NUM)**
The NUM will provide support to the participant and manage requirements of the program within the clinical unit. Rostering according to the SLHD commitments is a requirement of the NUM role.

- **Clinical Nurse Educator**
The CNE will provide education support to the participant within the clinical unit

- **Graduate Coordinators**
The participants are part of the Transition to Professional Practice (TPP) Program in each facility/service

- **SLHD Nurse Manager Workforce and Innovation**
This position is responsible for the coordination of the Program. The position is the contact person for the participants, facilities/services and Sydney University

Scholarship details

Participants will receive \$5,000 per year for degree fees and/or education related costs from Sydney Local Health District.

The full payment of \$10,000 will be received by the students within the first 3 months of commencing the program.

Students who do not complete the Honours program will be required to repay any scholarship funding.



Health
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THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Graduate

Nurse Honours Scholarship Program

Expressions of Interest are sought for a

Part-Time Transition to Professional Practice (TPP) Program

(0.5 FTE Sydney Local Health District)

with

Part-time Honours Degree

(Sydney Nursing School)

Your TPP placement and study will take place over 2 years.

Possible placements include:

- SLHD Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- SLHD Canterbury Hospital
- SLHD Concord Hospital
- SLHD Mental Health Nursing
- SLHD Balmain Hospital

Your part-time paid work will be complemented by a scholarship of \$5,000 per years towards your study costs.

The Bachelor Honours degree combines coursework units with research skills development for the conduct of an independent research project, leading to the submission and examination of a 15,000 word thesis. Students are guided through the program by an academic supervisor. A minimum weighted average mark (WAM) of 65 is required from your undergraduate degree.

Please note: Students who do not complete the Honours program will be required to repay any scholarship funding

Expression of Interest

New Graduate/Honours placement

First Name Surname

University where you will completed your undergraduate training

Name of pre-registration degree

****Please attach a copy of your most recent transcript from your pre-registration course**

Where have you applied for the TPP Program?

- SLHD Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
- SLHD Canterbury Hospital
- SLHD Concord Hospital
- SLHD Mental Health Nursing
- SLHD Balmain Hospital

Please state in 250 words or less- I am interested in this new Graduate / Honours placement because:

All research projects associated with this scholarship program will require a patient and family centered care focus in line with SLHD priorities.

Expressions of interest close Friday 3rd November 2017

And must be submitted with a copy of your most recent transcript from your pre-registration course

By Mail: Jennifer Thorncraft, Nursing and Midwifery Workforce Manager

Level 11, KGV Building, RPAH, Missenden Rd, Camperdown, NSW 2050.

Or email: Jennifer.Thorncraft@sswahs.nsw.gov.au

For further information on part-time new graduate honours placements

Please contact Jennifer Thorncraft via Phone 9515 9647 or by email.

For specific information on the Bachelor Honours program

Please contact the Honours Coordinator Christopher Gordon christopher.gordon@sydney.edu.au

Or go to the Sydney Nursing School Website

http://sydney.edu.au/handbooks/nursing/postgraduate/research/b_nursing_honours.shtml