

Alison Bush Memorial Trust Fund



The Alison Bush Memorial Trust Fund Scholarship was established in 2010 in tribute to one of NSW and Royal Prince Alfred's longest serving and most influential midwives.

About Alison Bush AO

Sister Bush, as she was affectionately known, died in October, 2010, at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, her workplace and second home since 1969.

In her role as an Aboriginal Liaison Midwife at RPA, Sister Bush worked as a 'cultural broker', helping to ensure Aboriginal women and babies were cared for in a culturally respectful, safe and secure way. Sister Bush provided expert input into policy and service delivery at a local, state and national level.

During her career, Sister Bush delivered more than 1000 Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal babies from across NSW.

In 1999, Sister Bush became an Officer of the Order of Australia, and in 2002 received the Centenary of Federation medal. One of her proudest achievements was becoming the first, and only, midwife and nurse to be made an honorary fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetrics and Gynaecologists.

About the scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide opportunities through clinical placements in Sydney Local Health District for the purpose of updating knowledge and skills of clinicians providing or supporting maternity care.

Clinical placements will take place at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital's Women and Babies unit, a major tertiary referral centre serving the inner Sydney population as well as patients referred for specialty services from across the state.

RPA Women and Babies provide care for all women and their babies, including those with increased chances of complications during their pregnancy, birth or after birth. Services include antenatal, birthing and postnatal services; Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Department of Obstetric Ultrasound and Fetal Medicine and a Fertility service. RPA enjoys close links with Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service and provides shared obstetric care for their patients.



Observational placements of two to three weeks duration will be negotiated to provide either general experience or experience within a specialty service to build on areas of clinical interest. The scholarship will cover costs for travel, food and accommodation during the placement.

Other support in the form of educational tools, texts and DVD resources or attendance at relevant professional conferences or short courses will also be considered. The value of this support is to the value of \$5,000.

Who is eligible?

Applications are invited from medical and midwifery clinicians with an Aboriginal background as defined by the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983 who are currently working in Aboriginal communities. This is an identified Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander position.

Preference will be given to those working in communities greater than 200 kilometres from the nearest tertiary obstetric centre.

Application process

Applications are now sought from interested clinicians who meet the scholarship criteria. Application forms, along with a covering note including details of the type of support required can be sent to:

Clinical Manager

RPA Women and Babies
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Missenden Road, Camperdown
NSW 2050

Applications close June 30 and November 30 each year.

More information

For more information, contact the RPA Women and Babies Clinical Manager, on **02 9515 8416** or email Jan.White@sswahs.nsw.gov.au.

Alison Bush Trust Scholarship Application form



Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

Phone number: _____

Qualifications: _____

Current employment: _____

Referee(s): _____

Preference for area(s) for clinical observation (specify type of experience that would assist):

- Fertility
- Early pregnancy clinic
- Antenatal care - midwifery (mcp/ bc / anc) / medical obstetric clinics
- Fetal medicine
- Birthing/intrapartum care
- Births in operating theatre
- Newborn care/ neonatal intensive care/ including home visiting and follow up
- Postnatal care - inpatient / home visiting
- Contraceptive clinic

Please attach:

- Covering letter outlining details of the type of support required and how the experience would help support clinical skills in your current role
- Statement of support from current clinical manager/supervisor
- Current CV (optional)