



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

2023 – 2024 OTAC Scholarships Terms & Conditions

About

The Opioid Training Accreditation Course (OTAC) Scholarship supports general practitioners and nurse practitioners in New South Wales (NSW) to complete the OTAC, become accredited prescribers of opioid pharmacotherapies, and to prescribe opioid pharmacotherapies for the treatment of opioid dependence in NSW.

It aims to raise awareness and increase the uptake of the OTAC and accreditation placements among general practitioners and nurse practitioners in rural and regional NSW, as well as increase the number of general practitioners and nurse practitioners involved in delivering treatment services of opioid dependence in these areas.

This scholarship has a strong focus on applicants based in regional and remote areas of NSW; while metropolitan applicants may apply, as a minimum two of the three scholarships per quarter will be allocated to those in regional or rural areas. Regional, rural and metropolitan areas are defined as per the [regional and rural NSW Local Health District areas](#).

Fifteen (15) OTAC Scholarships are available during the Scholarship period. Three eligible applicants will receive an OTAC Scholarship per quarter, up to the value of \$2,000.00 per successful applicant.

More information about the OTAC Scholarships including a Scholarship payment schedule for 2023 – 2024 and key criteria, see <https://otac.org.au/scholarships>.

This a pilot initiative will run between October 2023 – December 2024, and is funded by the NSW Ministry of Health and administered by the University of Sydney, Specialty of Addiction Medicine.



Terms & Conditions

- Eligible applicants can only receive the Scholarship once. Scholarship payments are paid in instalments upon completion of key course milestones. (See the **Scholarship Payment** section on OTAC website for further details).
- The OTAC Scholarship Selection Committee will select successful applicants in its absolute discretion. The Selection Committee will make considered decisions based on need, (number of existing clients, and their capacity to better support future clients, with priority ranking to those working in regional/rural areas of NSW, and/or those who have never prescribed) along with the applicants' interest in providing opioid agonist treatments.
- Retrospective funding i.e., applying for a scholarship after they have completed the OTAC course and accreditation is not permitted under the OTAC Scholarships initiative.
- Accredited prescribers whose accreditation has lapsed are not eligible for an OTAC Scholarship. They can regain their accreditation through a different pathway that does not require a resit of the OTAC course or clinical placement.
- Regional, rural and metropolitan areas are defined as per the [regional and rural NSW Local Health District areas](#). Applicants working in a private or general practice setting on the area encompassing the NSW portion of Albury-Wodonga Health Service boundary are eligible to apply.
- Scholarships will only be awarded where applicants meet the eligibility criteria. The judging of the successful applicants by the Selection Committee will be final. The Committee reserves the right to award a scholarship, including in any instances where there is just one application.
- If less than three (3) applications are awarded for a quarter, the remaining scholarship funding will roll over to the next quarterly period.
- The Ministry of Health and OTAC Team will review the Scholarship Terms of Reference quarterly and reserve the right to change the conditions of the scholarship for future quarters to ensure it is administered fairly to support future OAT prescribers in areas of highest need. Whilst this scholarship was originally intended to address the need for more prescribers in regional and rural areas, eligible metropolitan prescribers are still welcome to apply.