Western Victoria PHN’s Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network Pharmacist Pharmacotherapy Scholarship Grants (Barwon South West Region)

Grant guidelines and assessment criteria

This document should be used to assist applicants in applying for the Grant. It provides background information, guidelines and assessment criteria.
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Important dates and information at a glance

- Applications open: 1st June 2016 at 8am
- Applications close: 17th June 2016 at 5pm
- Completed applications must be submitted electronically to aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au
- Applicants must address the Selection Criteria and provide evidence of registration of training
- Applicants will be notified of the outcomes of the selection process by 21st June 2016
- The scholarship grant is to the value of $5000 (gst exc)

Background and aims

The Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has established five area based pharmacotherapy networks across the state. The networks have been established to ensure a more local approach in connecting care, driving best practice and improving opioid replacement therapy (ORT) client outcomes. The networks aim to improve service coordination, including referral pathways, and enhance the capacity of the workforce.

The Victorian ORT model is a ‘community based’ model that promotes the prescribing and dispensing of ORT in a general practice and pharmacy settings as research identifies better outcomes in this setting than public ‘clinic’ based settings. Primarily due to the emerging issue of pharmaceutical opioid dependence, there has been a rapid increase in service demand with the current workforce finding it difficult to absorb this demand. The DHHS are promoting a tiered service model that aims to deliver a more efficient and effective pharmacotherapy service that responds to fluctuating levels of client need.

The Barwon South West Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network (PABN) provides support to ‘community based’ practitioners as outlined in appendix 1.

One component of the pharmacotherapy network project is the implementation of a scholarship program. The pharmacotherapy networks are aiming to attract motivated pharmacists to the field and support and develop their capacity through the provision of scholarship funding.

Eligibility

As the lead agency for the Barwon South West Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network, the PHN is seeking applications from AHPRA registered pharmacists practicing in the Barwon South West region. Applicants must have an interest in Pharmacotherapy and a willingness to expand their knowledge and skill base in this area.

Applicants will need to provide evidence of registration for
  - Part 1: Pharmacotherapy training (online or face-to-face)
  - Part 2: Pharmacotherapy training (face-to-face workshop or webinar)

Click on the links to register for the next free training in Melbourne here
7 CPD Group 2 credit points will apply on successful completion
**Scholarship value and requirements**

Scholarships to the value of $5,000 (gst exc) will be awarded to successful applicants.

This scholarship will be provided to a Pharmacist who has registered for:
  - Part 1: Pharmacotherapy training (online or face-to-face)
  - Part 2: Pharmacotherapy training (face-to-face workshop or webinar)

At completion of training the scholarship awardee will be required to commence dispensing ORT and become a pharmacotherapy Pharmacist Champion in their pharmacy group [if 3 or more pharmacies in your group] or local network of pharmacies.
- As a champion the Pharmacist will:
  - Promote ORT training and the benefits of ORT dispensing;
  - Promote the PHN’s Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network with colleagues;
  - Engage colleagues to undertake pharmacotherapy practice and training.

The PABN will assist to co-facilitate these activities.

**How to apply**

The Pharmacist Pharmacotherapy Scholarship Grant application form must be used. Applications that do not use this application form will not be assessed.

The completed application form should be emailed to
- Email: aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au

Applications open: 1st June 2016 at 8am
Applications close: 17th June 2016 at 5pm

**Responsibilities**

PHN is responsible for:
- Providing the scholarship funds to an eligible recipient via a transparent process.
- Monitoring the use of scholarship funds to ensure the aims of the Pharmacotherapy project are met.

Scholarship recipient is responsible for:
- Completing activities awarded under the scholarship aligned with the aims of the Pharmacotherapy Project.
- Notification to PHN if discontinuing scholarship activities for any reason.

**Application and assessment process**

**Selection Criteria**

Applicants must provide a concise plan on how they will meet the requirements of the scholarship as indicated below.
Commence dispensing ORT and become a pharmacotherapy Pharmacist Champion in your pharmacy group (if 3 or more pharmacies in your group) or local network of pharmacies. As a Pharmacist champion you will promote ORT training and the benefits of ORT dispensing;

- Promote the PHN’s Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network with colleagues;
- Engage colleagues to undertake pharmacotherapy practice and training

Note: The PABN can assist to co-facilitate these activities and this should be included in your plan. Refer to appendix 1 or call 5564 5888 to learn more

**Assessment Process**

Applications will be assessed by the PHN. Funding recipients will be selected on the basis of their written applications. These applications will be assessed against the stated selection criteria and evidence of registration of training.

It is anticipated that all applicants will be advised of the outcomes of the assessment process by 21st June 2016

**Payment of scholarship grant**

Successful applicants will sign a Letter of Agreement (LoA) with the PHN to undertake scholarship activities as proposed in the Selection Criteria. The grant will be paid by the PHN on receipt of the LoA and tax invoice from the applicant. If the applicant does not have an ABN then they will be provided with an *ATO Statement of Supplier* to complete.

**Complaints**

If an applicant for grant funding is dissatisfied with the decision, or the process undertaken coming to the decision, an applicant can email the PHN and the complaint will be handled in accordance with the PHN Complaints Policy and Procedure. Complaints regarding the scholarship funding agreement that has been executed will be handled in accordance with the agreement.

**Contacts**

All inquiries about the application process can be directed to:
Aneill Kamath, Pharmacotherapy Network Coordinator
Email: aneill.kamath@westvicphn.com.au
Ph: 5564 5888
Appendix 1

Western Victoria Primary Health Network (PHN): Pharmacotherapy Area Based Network (PABN)

Information & Resources
- Website
  Up to date pharmacotherapy information and links to resources via http://westvicphn.com.au/health-professionals/alcohol-and-other-drugs/pharmacotherapy

- Westvic News
  Latest pharmacotherapy issues and Pharmacotherapy Network activities and events

- Geelong Region Health Pathways
  http://barwon.healthpathways.org.au
  Login: barwon
  Password: p4thways
  Opioid Dependence
  Opioid Replacement Pharmacotherapy
  Naloxone Pathway
  Pharmacotherapy Dispensing
  Chronic Pain

Clinical Support & Advice
- RAMPS
  Access to an Addiction Medicine Specialist

- General Practice staff training and support.

- Online Support
  Community discussion forum

- Transitional Shared Care Framework

- GP & Pharmacy Mentoring by experienced prescribers & dispensers

- Communities of Practice for GP’s and Allied Health Staff

Education
- Access to pharmacotherapy training

- Ongoing CPD addressing addiction and chronic pain topics.

- Scholarship Programs

- General Practice and Pharmacy staff education