



29 October 2014

## Media release

### Applications for 2015 pharmacy scholarships now open

Students from rural and remote locations who are studying pharmacy or are intending to study pharmacy are invited to apply for scholarships worth up to \$40,000. Applications opened today and close at 5pm AEDT on 30 January 2015.

The Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme provides financial support to encourage and assist students from rural and remote communities to undertake undergraduate or graduate studies in pharmacy. Up to thirty fulltime scholarships are available each year valued at \$10,000 per year over a four year period (up to \$40,000 per student over four years). The study must lead directly to registration as a pharmacist and scholarship recipients are encouraged to seek employment in rural and remote areas following graduation.

Three Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Pharmacy Scholarships are also available. This scheme aims to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to undertake undergraduate or graduate studies in pharmacy at University. Three fulltime scholarships are available each year valued at \$15,000 per year over a four year period (up to \$60,000 per student over four years).

The National President of the Guild, George Tambassis, said: "This is a tremendous scheme which makes a significant contribution to the profile of community pharmacy in rural and regional areas. There are around 425 towns in Australia which have only one pharmacy, so it is vital that those pharmacies remain viable and that there are young pharmacists committed to operating these important health care hubs."

"I thank the Government for funding this great initiative which helps students achieve their goals and supports community pharmacy in rural and remote areas," he said.

Applications can be made via [www.5cpa.com.au](http://www.5cpa.com.au), click on the Rural Pharmacy Initiatives tab.

Both Scholarships are funded by the Australian Government Department of Health as part of the Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement.

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