

Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Student Placement Allowance

Guideline

1. Purpose

The Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Student Placement Allowance (NMRRRSPA) was developed to address the cost-of-living challenges experienced by students and to attract a health workforce to regional, rural and remote Queensland.

Effective from 1 January 2024 for four years, this one-off allowance of \$5,000 is available to assist with the cost-of-living expenses for final year placements undertaken in regional, rural and remote locations. Eligible pre-registration nursing and midwifery students will receive the allowance on completion of their clinical placement in the final stage/year prior to qualifying as an Enrolled nurse (EN), Registered nurse (RN) or Midwife.

Eligible Students must attend their Placement in Queensland (Qld) within a location identified in the [Modified Monash Model \(MMM\)](#) as MMM 2 to MMM 7 and outlined in [Appendix A](#).

The purpose of this Guideline is to clarify the details of the allowance scheme.

2. Scope and application process

The student must be an Eligible Student, including completing their clinical placement in the final stage/year prior to qualifying as an Enrolled nurse (EN), Registered nurse (RN) or Midwife in a location in categories MMM 2 to MMM 7 for four (or more) weeks in a Hospital and Health Service (HHS) (Placement) to receive:

- a \$5,000 one-off allowance payment.

Students must complete and submit to Queensland Health a [Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Student Placement Allowance Student - Details Application Form](#) and [Student Deed Poll - Funding form](#) prior up to six weeks prior to commencing the Placement.

Once the Placement has been completed, the student must finalise their [Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Placement Allowance - Payment Form](#) for the payment of the \$5,000 allowance and have the Payment Form endorsed by the education provider delegate and then sent to Queensland Health for processing and payment.

This Guideline is for informational purposes only, relating to the application process and eligibility for the allowance. Students may need to pay income tax on the allowance, so it is recommended students seek independent financial advice before submitting tax returns.

It is also recommended students seek independent financial advice if receiving any Centrelink payments, as it may affect the income threshold. It may also affect any levy surcharges such as the Medicare levy surcharge.

3. Eligibility

Variation 1: Students completing four or more weeks of placement from 1 September 2024, are no longer required to reside 100 km away from their placement. Eligibility requirement for students to reside 100 km away from their placement remains in place from 1 January 2024 to 31 August 2024.

To be eligible, the education provider must have an approved Deed of Variation to the existing Student Placement Deed with Queensland Health, the placement must be in accordance with the Student Placement Deed, and the student must meet the following criteria:

- The student must be a Queensland resident (this includes international students [considered by the education provider] to be Queensland residents for the purpose of study).
- The student must be currently enrolled and completing the final stage/year of their nursing or midwifery pre-registration studies. A student may be studying with an interstate registered education provider who has executed the Deed of Variation.
- The student must be undertaking their placement in a MMM 2 to MMM 7 location (confirmed with the education provider as per list provided in Appendix A)
- The student must have completed placement of four (or more) weeks.
- The student must have completed and submitted to Queensland Health a Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Student Placement Allowance Student Details Application Form and Student Deed Poll – Funding up to six weeks prior to commencing the Placement.
- The student must, within three months after completing the placement, finalise their application in the Nursing and Midwifery Regional, Rural and Remote Student Placement Allowance Payment Form, have it endorsed by the education provider delegate and submitted to Queensland Health for processing and payment.
- The Placement must have been completed within the period 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2027.

This program will be continually reviewed for quality and assurance purposes.

4. General payment information

The allowance payment is to be paid to individual students via Queensland Health Accounts Payable Services.

5. Definitions

Deed of Variation	The Deed of Variation enables eligible nursing and midwifery students to receive the NMRRRSPA. All education providers with a current Student Placement Deed with Queensland Health were invited to execute the Deed of Variation to the Deed. Until the Deed of Variation has been signed by the education provider the NMRRRSPA will not be available to their students, irrespective of whether they are eligible.
Eligible Student	Means a student eligible under section 3 of this Guideline.
Hospital and Health Service (HHS)	A statutory body established under the <i>Hospital and Health Boards Act 2011</i> responsible for the provision of public sector health services for a geographical area, which includes one or more health facilities.
Modified Monash Model (MMM)	The Modified Monash Model (MMM) is an Australian Government metric to define whether a location is a city, is rural, remote, or very remote. The model measures remoteness and population size on a scale of MMM category. The MMM categories for locations for Eligible Student are set out in Appendix A.
Variation 1	Students completing four or more weeks of placement from 1 September 2024, are no longer required to reside 100 km away from their placement. Eligibility requirement for students to reside 100 km away from their placement remains in place from 1 January 2024 to 31 August 2024.