

Jillian Skinner MP

Minister for Health Minister for Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

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SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN FOR DIPLOMA OF ENROLLED NURSING

Health Minister Jillian Skinner today reminded school leavers or those interested in a career change to take advantage of 300 scholarships for the Diploma of Enrolled Nursing program now on offer by the NSW Government.

NSW Health, in partnership with the Department of Education and Communities, is running the program in which students will train at metropolitan and rural TAFE NSW colleges as well as the NSW Health Registered Training Organisation at Rozelle and Liverpool.

Mrs Skinner said enrolled nurses play a vital role in supporting patients on their way to recovery.

"Enrolled nurses work with health care professionals such as registered nurses, specialist nurses, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, doctors, social workers and pharmacists," Mrs Skinner said.

"They care for and support patients in a range of facilities including aged care centres, operating theatres, paediatric hubs or mental health units.

"I strongly recommend anyone with the essential skills to provide preventative, curative and rehabilitative nursing apply for these scholarships.

"Most importantly, there will be a guaranteed offer of a job at a NSW public hospital upon successful completion of the course.

"I am delighted that these scholarships will cover the course fees for the Diploma of Enrolled Nursing qualification for up to 300 students."

Scholarship applications opened on 9 December last year and close on 12 February 2014. Applications are invited from HSC school leavers, mature age applicants or those who have already completed a Certificate III or equivalent qualification.

Selection for the scholarship involves a written application, a basic literacy and numeracy test and interview. Successful scholarship applicants will commence the TAFE course in April this year and the course runs for between 12 and 18 months.

Information on enrolled nurses and details on the scholarship application process are on the Nursing and Midwifery pages of the NSW Health Website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing