



## 2017 MDA National and RDAA Rural Health Bursary Information Sheet and Application Form

### What is the 2017 MDA National and RDAA Rural Health Bursary?

MDA National, the major medical defence organisation (MDO) sponsor of the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (RDAA), is generously offering a bursary again in 2017 as part of its ongoing relationship with RDAA. The initiative is supported by a partnership with the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (AIDA).

The Bursary is intended to assist **an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander medical student currently in the second or third year of their medical degree** with travel, accommodation and other living/study expenses during the following year of their study, related to any of the following:

- relocation, living and/or study expenses to support their study
- undertaking a rural or remote clinical placement to experience this rewarding area of medical practice or to develop skills in a particular area of medicine in order to assist a rural or remote community
- any other activity (including research) that would benefit rural/remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander patients and/or rural/remote health.

The Bursary will also support attendance at RDAA's and the Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine's Rural Medicine Australia (RMA17) conference to be held in Melbourne from **19–21 October 2017**.

The bursary is valued at up to \$7,000 (plus GST) and will contribute to the cost of:

- relocation and other travel and study/living expenses during the third or fourth year of a medical degree; and
- travel, accommodation and/or other expenses for attendance at the RMA17 conference.

The successful applicant will come from a rural and remote area and/or have a demonstrable commitment to rural or remote practice and/or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health practice.

### What will the successful applicant be required to do?

The recipient will be required to:

- obtain and provide written confirmations of enrolment and other necessary approvals from their training institution, including for attendance at RMA17, prior to travel arrangements being made

- write a 500 word article for use in RDAA, MDA National and AIDA publications on a mutually-agreed topic (for example, a rural clinical placement they have undertaken)
- provide a short report/article/interview outlining primary learnings from, and benefits of, attendance at RMA17
- be available to undertake media interviews relating to the Bursary and how they will use it

RDAA will organise the registration, travel and accommodation for attendance at RMA 2017. A payment schedule will be negotiated with the successful applicant.

### **Who can apply?**

Applicants must be a current member of AIDA by the closing date for applications to be eligible for consideration.

Applicants may be based either in rural/remote or urban locations as long as there is a specific rural or remote focus to the proposal.

### **Application process**

Applications for the bursary must address the selection criteria in the attached application form. Clinical placements or research may take place in urban areas as long as the learned skill or research is of demonstrable benefit to rural or remote medical practice and patients.

Please note that the application should be emailed to **both** Patrick Daley (at [media@rdaa.com.au](mailto:media@rdaa.com.au)) and Anita Rodrigues Macias (at [policy@rdaa.com.au](mailto:policy@rdaa.com.au)) by **Friday 07 July 2017**. All applications will be acknowledged by return email.

### **Selection process**

RDAA will work with AIDA and MDA National in assessing each application and selection of the successful applicant. The selection committee may request more information and/or a telephone interview in support of the application if necessary.

The selection committee's decision is final. There will be no appeals process.

The successful recipient will be notified by Tuesday 01 August 2017 and will be announced at the RMA17 conference in October 2017.

Further information is available by contacting RDAA on (02) 6239 7730.

**[Application form follows next page]**

## 2017 MDA National and RDAA Rural Health Bursary Application Form

First name:	Last name:		
Email:		Gender:	DOB:
Home phone:	Mobile phone:		
Postal address:			
Please indicate below whether you identify as:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/> Torres Strait Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander			
Please indicate AIDA membership status:			
<input type="checkbox"/> I am currently an AIDA member <input type="checkbox"/> I will seek AIDA membership by the application closing date			
I agree to provide a short report/article/interview outlining primary learnings from and benefits of attendance at RMA17 and a 500-word article on an agreed topic. These may be used to inform relevant organisational articles, reporting and social media.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
I consent to having my photo taken, and consent that these photos can be used in organisational products.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
I agree to obtain and provide written confirmations of my enrolment and other necessary approvals from my training institution.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
<b>What university are you attending?</b>		<b>What year are you enrolled in?</b>	
<b>What special interests do you have in rural and remote health and/or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health? (up to 200 words)</b>			
<b>How will the Bursary be of benefit to you and to rural or remote health and/or rural or remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health? (up to 300 words)</b>			
<b>Why do you think it would be beneficial for you to attend the RMA17 conference? (up to 200 words)</b>			
<b>Other comments (optional – up to 500 words)</b>			

**[ENDS]**

***MDA National Limited (ABN 56 058 271 417), the Rural Doctors Association of Australia (ABN 57 062 176 863) and the Australian Indigenous Doctors' Association (ABN: 84 131 668 936) collect this personal information for the purposes of administering and promoting the Rural Health Bursary process.***