

National Continence Health Conference Scholarship Program 2026

Guidelines

Background

Funded under the National Continence Program, a key initiative supported by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing, up to 10 scholarships will be offered to support registered health professionals to attend the 34th National Conference on Incontinence on 13 -16 May 2026 in Melbourne, Victoria.

The scholarships are open to registered health professionals working in continence care in regional and remote areas of Australia (RA2-RA5) as defined by the [Australian Statistical Geographical Classification – Remoteness Area](#).

Scholarship Program includes:

- Registration to the 34th National Continence Health Conference including the Conference Dinner and Clinical Workshops (subject to availability)
- Travel and accommodation costs* (conditions apply – see 3.2 for details).
- Entitled to state the following in their curriculum vitae:

Awarded the Continence Health Australia 2026 National Continence Health Conference Scholarship

1. Eligibility requirements

- 1.1. Applicants must be a registered health professional.
- 1.2. Applicants must be currently registered with their relevant professional registration board and supply proof with their application.
- 1.3. Applicants must be able to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to continence management and care although they are not required to be currently working **solely** in this area.
- 1.4. Applicants must work in a rural or remote setting as defined by the Australian Standard Geographical Classification – Remoteness Areas ([ASGC-RA](#)). Applications will be accepted from applicants working in the categories listed below:

- RA2 – Inner Regional Australia

- RA3 – Outer Regional Australia
- RA4 – Remote Australia
- RA5 – Very Remote Australia

To check your classification please visit:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/health-workforce-locator/health-workforce-locator>

- 1.5. Must be a current financial member of the Continence Health Australia
- 1.6. Previous conference scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply for the 2026 scholarship program.

2. Application, selection and offer process

2.1. Application process

Applicants are required to complete the Scholarship Application Form at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NFZ3CS7>

Applications open 19 January and close at midnight 6 March 2026.

2.2. Selection process

Selection will be made based upon existing exposure to continence work, ability to apply learning and responses to specific questions within the application, based on content, structure, originality and adherence to word length.

Applications will be screened for plagiarism and the extent of AI usage.

2.3. Offer process

Scholarship recipients will be announced on the CHA website

www.continence.org.au on **13 or 20 March 2026**. Successful applicants will be notified by email.

2.4. Unsuccessful applicants will be automatically entered into their respective state scholarship scheme offered by the Organisations State and Territory Advisory Committee.

2.5. Unsuccessful applicants will be eligible to attend the conference at the Ultra Early Bird rate.

Conditions of scholarship

3.1 The successful applicants will be required to:

- Attend the conference program including workshops if available. Please note that workshops have limited places and cannot be guaranteed until scholarship winners are announced. Due to high demand, it is recommended that you register early for any workshops that you wish to attend. Continence Health Australia (CHA) will reimburse your registration fee if you are successful in receiving a scholarship.
- Submit a 300-word report/article by **26 June 2026** using a report template provided by CHA. This report will allow the scholarship recipient to describe the benefits to practice provided by one of the presentations they attended during the conference. The report may be published in the Australian and New Zealand Continence Journal, *Bridge* magazine and In the News (all publications CHA).
- Assemble for certificate presentation and a group photograph with other scholarship recipients at NCHC 2026 (Date and time to be confirmed).

3.2 The scholarship program will cover the following travel and accommodation costs:

- Return economy air fares to and from Melbourne, Victoria.
- Accommodation for the duration of the conference. This has been booked for scholarship winners in a standard room at a hotel close by to the conference venue selected by the Organisation.
- **Note:** Meals and airport transfers are not included in the scholarship program and must be covered by the recipient.

3. Top scholarship applicant

The top scholarship recipient will have the opportunity to participate in a one-to-two-day placement at a continence service or services located within easy access of the conference venue in Melbourne. The placement will provide the scholarship recipient with an opportunity to observe different continence services and develop networks with other clinicians. **The placement will occur on Monday 11 and/or Tuesday 12 May 2026**

(immediately prior to the conference). Accommodation to attend the clinical placement is included for the top applicant.

Please note that if you indicate you are unable to attend the placement, this **will not** impact on your application for the scholarship program.