

**Headline:** New Scholarship to Boost Representation of Indigenous Healthcare Professionals

**Subheadline:** GlobalHealth Education’s AU\$5,000 Scholarship Aims to Address Healthcare Workforce Diversity

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**[Melbourne, August 27 2024]** – In an effort to enhance diversity within Australia’s healthcare workforce, GlobalHealth Education has launched a Healthcare Education Scholarship dedicated to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. This AU\$5,000 scholarship is part of a broader initiative to address the underrepresentation of Indigenous individuals in healthcare professions.

“Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities have historically faced significant barriers to accessing higher education, particularly in the healthcare sector,” said Nina Paulus, Operations Director at GlobalHealth Education. “Our scholarship aims to remove some of these barriers by providing financial support and encouraging Indigenous students to pursue undergraduate or postgraduate healthcare education.”

According to recent data, Indigenous Australians comprise only 1.7% of the health workforce despite representing 3.2% of the total population (based on self-reported data from the ABS 2021 Census of Population and Housing). This significant underrepresentation reduces access to culturally appropriate health services for the broader Indigenous population ([AIHW Indigenous HPF](#)) ([Health Gov](#)).

The scholarship offers flexible funding for various educational expenses, including tuition fees, learning materials, course equipment and travel costs. Eligible applicants must be Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students enrolled in or accepted into a bachelor’s or master’s program in healthcare at an Australian university.

“Diversity in healthcare is essential for providing culturally competent care and addressing the unique health needs of Indigenous communities,” Nina Paulus explained. “Through this scholarship, we aim to support the next generation of Indigenous healthcare professionals who can bring valuable perspectives and expertise to the field.”

The underrepresentation of Indigenous healthcare professionals is a barrier to achieving health equity. Research has shown that Indigenous health staff can improve healthcare outcomes by establishing better connections and trust with Indigenous patients, reducing anxiety and enhancing communication ([AIHW Indigenous HPF](#)) ([AIHW Indigenous HPF](#)).

Applications for the scholarship are open until February 28, 2025. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://globalhealtheducation.com/au/resources/healthcare-education-scholarship>.

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**About GlobalHealth Education:**

GlobalHealth Education partners with leading Australian universities to connect prospective students with healthcare courses. Our mission is to support students throughout their educational journeys and to promote diversity and inclusion within the healthcare sector.

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