

# Karen Orr Nurse Immunisation Education Scholarship

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The [National Centre for Immunisation Research and Surveillance \(NCIRS\)](#) is pleased to announce the launch of the Karen Orr Nurse Immunisation Education Scholarship dedicated to late Karen Orr who was a highly valued staff member of NCIRS.

Throughout her career, Karen Orr was an exemplary role model for nurses and a passionate advocate for vaccination, who made significant contributions to the fields of paediatric nursing and immunisation.

In her role as a clinical nurse consultant at NCIRS, Karen was instrumental in establishing the [New South Wales Immunisation Specialist Service \(NSWISS\)](#), providing an expert phone advice line for clinicians and a specialist immunisation clinic for children and their families. She also led the development of the Drop-in Immunisation Clinic at The Children's Hospital at Westmead, providing opportunistic immunisation for patients and visitors.

Karen recognised the importance of research through her active role in a national NHMRC-funded research project on febrile seizures post vaccination and provided valuable input to the Australian Government Department of Health publication, '[Questions About Vaccination](#)'. She also contributed to NCIRS publications on vaccine coverage and evaluation of measles-mumps-rubella-varicella vaccines in Australia and shared her knowledge at public health and primary health conferences, where she was an inspiring speaker.

This annual scholarship is offered to a nurse or a midwife to the maximum value of \$1,000 in funding for further education by attending a conference or a course to enhance their immunisation practice.

## **Eligibility and conditions**

To be eligible for the scholarship you must:

- be an Australian citizen or have permanent residency
- be a registered nurse or midwife (A List) with current registration with AHPRA
- have an appropriate post-registration qualification as an authorised nurse immuniser
- identify a specific course/conference to attend and describe how this will enhance clinical practice
- provide a brief report (1 to 3 pages) and a photo of the conference or the course you attended and its impact on your practice, which will be published in the NCIRS newsletter and on the website.

### **Application requirements**

- Complete the application form, including providing a personal statement outlining your background, what motivates you, the reason why you are applying for the scholarship and how the scholarship will assist you in your studies.
- All documents must have your name clearly marked.
- Provided evidence of AHPRA registration and qualifications, and registration receipts.
- Provide a brief overview of what the scholarship funds will be used for, consistent with information below (e.g. conference registration fee, accommodation at conference).

### **Important dates**

- Applications open on 28 February 2020 and close on 22 March 2020.
- All applicants will be notified approximately 4 weeks after the closing date.

### **Further information**

- Each application is assessed on the relevancy and completion of the application.
- Applications will be reviewed by a panel of independent assessors appointed by NCIRS who have no direct relationship to any specific applicant.
- The successful applicant will be notified by email.
- The scholarship is a reimbursement and all fees must be paid upfront and receipt of purchase provided.
- The scholarship contributes only to the cost of the educational event. Only applications less than and up to \$1,000 will be considered.
- The scholarship does not cover travel or food expenses and may not cover the full cost of your chosen course/conference.
- You must notify us in writing if you wish to withdraw, defer or change the course being studied or conference attending.

Please contact NCIRS by email ([SCHN-NCIRS@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SCHN-NCIRS@health.nsw.gov.au)) or phone 02 9845 1414 if you require further information.

## Karen Orr Nurse Education Scholarship application form

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<b>SECTION A: APPLICANT DETAILS</b>		
<b>First Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	
<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Mobile</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Email</b>		
<b>Current position</b>		
<b>Organisation</b>		
<b>Employment type</b>	<b>Full-time</b>	<b>Part-time</b>
	<b>Casual</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Total length of service as an RN</b>		
<b>Date of application</b>		
<b>Is this a new application</b>	Yes	No
<b>AHPRA registration supplied</b>	Yes	No
<b>Registered Nurse Immuniser evidence supplied</b>	Yes	No
<b>Conference/course registration documentation supplied</b>	Yes	No
<b>Amount requested/receipt attached</b>	Yes	No
<b>SECTION B: EDUCATION DETAILS</b>		
Title of conference/course		
Date attending		
Location		

**Additional description of request (including how the funds will be used)**

**Describe how attendance will support and enhance your current practice and how you will put into practice what you have learned**

**PART C: Applicant statement**

**I have read and understand the terms and conditions provided in the Karen Orr Nurse Immunisation Education Scholarship Application document and have provided evidence of qualifications.**

**Name**

**Signature**

**Date**

Office use only

<b>Date reviewed</b>		
<b>Reviewed by</b>	1. 2. 3.	
<b>Approved</b>	Yes	No
<b>Applicant notified date</b>		

## Appendix 1. Karen Orr Nurse Immunisation Education Scholarship Process

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