



DEPARTMENTS OF
Primary Health Care & General Practice, University of Otago Wellington
General Practice & Rural Health, University of Otago Dunedin

Postgraduate Study Subsidy for teaching practices/ organisations (PGSS)

Postgraduate Study Subsidy Scholarships (PGSS) for general practices/ organisations who teach students and /or undertake research in the community.

Does your general practice, Māori health provider organisation, or similar organisation (eg community pharmacy, community physiotherapy) teach Otago University pre-registration health or social care students OR has your practice or organisation taken part in University of Otago research?

We offer a contestable 50% fees reduced scholarship subsidy to acknowledge the contribution you make to our students learning or research with a specified minimum teaching or research commitment made in any one year. We recognise that many staff are involved with pre-registration teaching or research at practices/organisations.

While one staff member takes prime responsibility for the student's learning and assessment (in the case of medical students a nominated GP) , teaching or research is often undertaken by several professionals and staff in the practice/organisation (this includes nurses, pharmacists, social workers etc or practice/organisation managers). Therefore staff eligibility is the contribution that the general practice/organisation provides, not necessarily what the applicant staff member themselves has undertaken. For example, staff may have contributed to providing 'release teaching/research time' for other staff members.

To apply, you must meet the following criteria:

1. Be enrolling in a qualifying paper
2. Be a member of staff at a qualifying practice or organisation

Qualifying papers

A postgraduate paper taught by the Department of Primary Health Care & General Practice in Wellington or the Department of General Practice & Rural Health in Dunedin. The PGSS Scholarship is not available to the Rural & Provincial Hospital Practice (RPHP) or Clinical Performed Ultrasound (CPU) papers.

Qualifying general practices or organisations

To qualify a practice or organisation must either:

- a. hold a contract to provide substantial* clinical or similar placements for University of Otago dental, dietetics, medical, pharmacy, or physiotherapy students or social care students. For example teaching: 4/5th year medical students (from Dunedin, Christchurch or Wellington campuses) for more than 10 half-day sessions in the last year OR at least one 6th year (trainee intern) student for 4 weeks or more in the last year OR an equivalent time for all other health sciences or dietetics students

or

- b. currently be substantially involved in a UOW research project involving recruitment and trialling of an intervention or collecting data (other research activity will also be considered).

Exclusions:

The practice or organisation will not be awarded more than one PGSS in any one academic year. .
The PGSS does NOT apply to staff who work directly for a DHB (either as a contractor or employee).

The Departments of Primary Health Care & General Practice in Wellington and General Practice & Rural Health in Dunedin reserve the right not to offer the PGSS in any particular year if our budgets do not allow.

Application and selection process:

For semester one papers, applications must be received by 20th January in the year of enrolment. For semester two papers, applications must be received by 19th May in the year of enrolment.

1. Enrol through evision in the paper you wish to study. At this stage you will not be required to pay fees and you have the option to withdraw without penalty at this stage.
2. Email your interest to the PG Coordinator at (primarycare.distance@otago.ac.nz) (Wellington) or (gp.postgrad@otago.ac.nz) (Dunedin) with your name, work place details and your paper code and, where applicable, a declaration of application for or receipt of partial funding from other sources.

You will also need to provide from your practice or organisation a letter (on letterhead) or email (from a named practice/organisation address) giving details of pre-registration student teaching for University of Otago students OR the nature of the UOW research over the previous 3 years. This will be verified by PG Coordinator.

3. You will be notified of the result of your PGSS application within two weeks of the application close-off.
4. The Department running the Paper will inform the Scholarships Office and the PGSS rebate will be applied.

Please note that this is a 50% FEES subsidy; students are still responsible for the entire cost of various other charges.

The scheme has a fixed budget and is distributed according to the following guidelines. Priority is given to those applying for Post Graduate Primary Health Care papers over those applying for other qualifying papers. Then in general, fees subsidies are distributed first to health professionals who have not received a subsidy before, to those who have received a PGSS in a previous year, and to those who are receiving partial funding for a paper.

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