



Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2020-2021
ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
2 March 2022

Asked by **LEANNE CASTLEY MLA** on 2 March 2022: Ms Karen Grace took on notice the following question(s):

In relation to:

Ms GRACE: There is no maternal and child health nursing course offered in the ACT. So we have an agreement with South Western Sydney University to support nurses through that program. And we do that in partnership with the Office of the Chief Nurse, who provides financial support through scholarships for those nurses.

We are also able to offer scholarships for mental health nursing courses to help support that area of needs within our workforce.

And we have just closed the current round of scholarship applications. And I was really pleased to see quite a lot of applications coming through for areas of need, such as mental health, women's and children's, and some of our critical care areas.

MS CASTLEY: Okay. I thought surely somebody would know the employment.

All right. I think—there was one other question going back to Karen Grace, with regard to the scholarships for the mental health nurses and the maternal and child health. I am wondering if—maybe just take this on notice, how many scholarships and applications for those two areas do you have?

RACHEL STEPHEN-SMITH MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

The number of scholarships available depends on the program or course of study, and the type of scholarship. The number of scholarships awarded varies from year to year. Scholarships are awarded for a calendar year not a financial year.

At Canberra Health Services the Mental Health Division, Maternal and Child Health and Paediatrics have had targeted workforce development postgraduate programs to provide training and skill development for their nurses and midwives.

A total of 16 applications for the workforce development scholarships were received and awarded in 2021.

A total of 14 applications for the workforce development scholarships have been received to date in 2022 and will be awarded for the first semester in 2022.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing

Signature:



Date:

22 / 3 / 22

By the Minister for Health, Rachel Stephen-Smith