

# Expression of Interest

## Funded Immunisation Course for Gold Coast Practice Nurses

### What are we looking for?

Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN) is currently seeking EOIs from Gold Coast general practice nurses (Registered Nurse Division 1, Enrolled Nurse Division 2) who are willing to complete the following Australian College of Nursing (ACN) course:

- [347 National Immunisation Program Course for Healthcare Practitioners](#)

### 1. About Gold Coast Primary Health Network (GCPHN)

GCPHN is an independent, not-for-profit company, one of 31 Primary Health Networks established by the Australian Government on July 1, 2015, to identify the health needs of local communities and fund and improve primary health services, to keep people well and out of hospital. We work closely with public, private and non-government organisations in the primary healthcare sector and across the acute care sector to improve the health and well-being of the Gold Coast.

GCPHN's vision is to *"Build on world class health system for the Gold Coast"*.

Our strategic goals include:

- **Improve coordination of care** to ensure patients receive the right care, at the right place, at the right time and by the right person.
- **Increase efficiency and effectiveness** of medical services particularly for those at risk of poor health outcomes.
- **Engaging with stakeholders to improve our health system.** Actively engage and advocate for general practice and other stakeholders to facilitate improvement in our local health systems.
- **Being an accountable organisation.** Operate as a high performing, efficient and accountable organisation.

### 2. Background

Vaccinations are a safe and effective way to protect our most vulnerable population from serious, preventable diseases. When enough people are vaccinated against a disease to prevent it from spreading, "herd immunity" occurs and offers indirect protection to:

- Unvaccinated people including children too young to be vaccinated.
- People unable to be vaccinated for valid medical reasons.
- People for whom vaccination has not been fully effective.

The more people vaccinated in communities, the less likely that vaccine preventable diseases will spread (DoHAC). One of GCPHNs planned focus areas for 2023 is to support the critical role of nurses in general practice in the delivery of vaccinations recommended in the Immunisation Schedule Queensland 2023.

The Australian College of Nursing has been funded by GCPHN to provide 30 education scholarships for eligible nurses located within the Gold Coast PHN region to complete the National Immunisation Program Course for Health Practitioners. View the details at [347 National Immunisation Program Course for Healthcare Practitioners](#)

### 3. Eligibility

To be eligible for this scholarship, nurses must:

- Hold current AHPRA registered nurse (Division 1) or enrolled nurse (Division 2) qualification.
- Be employed in a Gold Coast general practice/s and provide vaccinations as part of the role.
- Agree to have their details supplied to the training provider for enrolment purposes and to allow the training provider to notify GCPHN on the enrolment status.
- If unable to meet the course requirements (see section 4, *Models of Service*), the next available eligible person on the waitlist will be offered the scholarship.

### 4. Models of Service

General practice nurses are expected to design and deliver a program to engage patients in the chosen population groups of either childhood (0-5yrs); adult vaccinations; pregnant woman; or COVID vaccinations to promote vaccine awareness and the uptake of vaccinations to improve health outcomes. This could include identifying patients due for vaccination and reminding patients to receive vaccination by usual communication methods within the general practice, upskilling nurses in having conversations with vaccine hesitant patients, and engaging with vaccine hesitant patients to have a conversation with their healthcare provider.

Successful applicants will be required to complete the following activities:

- Sign and return an agreement to GCPHN that outlines the terms and conditions of the scholarship prior to course enrolment.
- Completion of the online immunisation course within 90 days, or no later than 16/12/23.
- Implement a quality improvement activity in 2023/24 with a focus on immunisation and provide the QI action plan to GCPHN on commencement and completion of the QI activity.
- Attend a [Gold Coast Public Health Unit \(GCPHU\) community immunisation clinic](#), to observe the vaccination process for a range of consumers and the extensive skills that GCPHU nurses have in supporting a seamless, person-centered approach to vaccination.
- Provide evidence of successful completion of the immunisation course with a copy of the certificate

to GCPHN.

- Complete an online evaluation form following completion of the course as this will provide GCPHN with invaluable learnings that will inform planning to towards any future scholarships offered.
- Subscribe to GCPHN publications including the Nurse in General Practice (NiGP) email network. This includes contributing to the NiGP email network through sharing information and connecting with your nursing colleagues across Primary Health Care on the Gold Coast.

## 5. What the Scholarship includes:

- Nurse sponsorships to complete a '[347 National Immunisation Program for Healthcare Practitioners](#)' through ACN.
- A one-off payment of \$1084.00 to applicant at completion of the course to support the time taken to complete the course. Proof of course completion (certificate) and receipt of an electronic tax invoice needs to be submitted to GCPHN along with completion of the post scholarship evaluation.
- Dedicated support from a QI Project Officer to implement the immunisation quality improvement (QI) activity in your practice.
- Opportunity to attend a Gold Coast Public Health Unit (GCPHU) vaccination clinic, (30mins – 3hrs duration) to observe the vaccination process for a range of consumers and gain exposure to the extensive skills that GCPHU nurses have in supporting a seamless, person-centred approach to vaccination.

## 6. Discontinuation of the Course

If an applicant who has been awarded a scholarship fails to attend the course or needs to discontinue the course, the applicant will be required to reimburse GCPHN \$500.00 being the full cost of the course.

If personal or exceptional circumstances prevent an applicant from starting or completing the course within the designated time limit, they are to discuss options with GCPHN.

## 7. Privacy Policy and Information Management

GCPHN collects personal information for the purpose of assisting its activities and functions in the primary health care sector. If your contact details are collected, they may be used to forward information and notifications from GCPHN. In some circumstances we may provide information to our funding agency (Department of Health and Aged Care) or to service providers that enter legal contracts with us which are bound by confidentiality. A link to GCPHN Privacy policy can be found [here](#).

Please find [here](#) the guiding principles that encompass the intent of the Gold Coast Primary Health Network's (GCPHN) Information Management Policy Framework (IMPF).

## 8. Timeline

Milestone:	Due by:
EOI released	4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Deadline for EOI application submission	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Deadline for successful applicants to sign/return agreement	25 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
QI activity (immunisation focused) action plan	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2023
Touchpoint meeting (phone/virtual) with QI Project Officer	Early November 2023
Final meeting (phone/virtual) with QI Project Officer	Early-Mid December 2023
Final date for completion of course	19 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Final date for submission of invoice	20 <sup>th</sup> December 2023

## 9. How to apply

Please complete EOI scholarship application [here](#)

Applications close: 5.00pm on **Monday 18 September 2023** or earlier if the scholarship allocation is exhausted. Scholarships will be granted on a **first in basis to eligible applicants**.

Any questions relating to the EOI can be directed through to our practice support team:  
[practicesupprt@gcphn.com.au](mailto:practicesupprt@gcphn.com.au)