

Crohn's & Colitis Australia Nurse Practitioner Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

Crohn's & Colitis Australia (CCA) is offering a Nurse Practitioner Scholarship to the total value of \$20,000 to commence in 2026.

Purpose of Scholarship

The Crohn's & Colitis Australia Nurse Practitioner Scholarship is created to address the CCA strategic priority of building inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) research capacity in Australia whilst we search for a cause or cure for IBD.

The award is designed for candidates who are undertaking an accredited master's degree leading to registration as a Nurse Practitioner. CCA recognises that nurses enrolled in such a course may be undertaking a specific research project or may be developing research skills through clinical innovations or practice improvement projects.

CCA anticipates the benefits of Nurse Practitioner involvement in research to be:

- Improved patient care: Research findings can lead to more effective and efficient healthcare delivery.
- Advancement of the NP role: Research can support the definition and strengthening of the NP role and scope of practice.
- Healthcare system improvement: Research can inform policy decisions and contribute to a more efficient and equitable healthcare system.
- Professional development: Participating in research can enhance NPs' knowledge, skills, and leadership abilities.

Eligibility

To be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must:

- Be an Australian citizen or hold permanent Australian resident status; and
- Hold current registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA)
- Be undertaking an accredited master's degree leading to registration as a Nurse Practitioner in the field of inflammatory bowel disease
- Not hold a concurrent grant of equivalent or greater value for the course

CCA Research Priorities

Preference will be given to proposals that address any of the Top 17 IBD Research Priorities identified by consumers and clinicians in CCA's 2022 [IBD Research Priorities Report](#) :

Research into cause or cure of IBD is not excluded but only outstanding projects in areas of unmet need will be considered. The Scientific, Medical and Quality of Care (SMQOC) Advisory Committee reserves the right to evaluate each application on a case-by-case basis. The decision of the CCA board is final.

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Funding

The Scholarship makes a provision of \$20,000 per annum for up to (1) year full-time or equivalent part-time with funding commencing in 2026.

The scholarship is awarded to an individual to support completing their Nurse Practitioner program, attending education and conferences, and taking leave from clinical responsibilities for study purposes in the Nurse Practitioner program.

Funding will be provided in two payments of \$10,000 or equivalent part-time. The First payment will be awarded upon acceptance of enrolment confirmation. The second payment will be provided upon receipt of evidence of completion of 50% of the course.

Application Process

Timelines

- Applications open: Wednesday 25 February 2026
- Applications close: Sunday 5 April 2026
- Academic referee reports due by: Sunday 19 April 2026
- Notification to successful candidate: 2 May 2026

Enquires

- Phone: 1800 138 029 (option 0) or
- E-mail: ceo@crohnsandcolitis.org.au

Submission of Applications

- E-mail to ceo@crohnsandcolitis.org.au
- Only a completed official application form will be accepted; and
- Late or incomplete applications will NOT be accepted.

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REQUIREMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS, CRITERIA FOR DECISION and REPORTING

Applications

Applicants are required to complete the application form attached. Please adhere to strict word number specifications if indicated.

Your application must be received by e-mail no later than midnight, **Sunday 5 April 2026**. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Criteria for assessment

- Quality of the candidate (35%)
- Quality of research project or research skill development proposed (35%)
- Impact on people living with IBD (20%)
- Alignment with CCA research priority areas (10%)

Confidential Academic and Clinical Referee Reports

As part of your application, you are required to nominate one academic and one clinical practice referee. They should not be the same person. Following the shortlisting process, CCA will contact the nominated referees for preferred candidates to obtain a confidential academic referee report. This report will be required for your application to progress for consideration. Your referees will be required to send these reports directly to CCA.

Reporting Requirement for Successful Scholarship Recipient

A requirement of the successful scholarship recipient will be to provide the CCA Board with a concise summary of their progress including academic record of completion of planned units at the midway and end of the course.

Late or non-submission of these reports will result in payments being withheld by CCA.

The CCA Board shall have the right to publish or use in such a manner as they see fit, any such progress report, in whole or in part, providing due acknowledgement of the source is made.

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APPLICATION FORM

PERSONAL DETAILS

Full name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email: _____ Date of Birth: [dd/mm/yyyy]

ACADEMIC DETAILS

Current/Proposed

Institution: _____

Type of Study (Course name): _____

Project name: _____

Enrolment status: Enrolled – start date: [dd/mm/yyyy] / completion date: [dd/mm/yyyy]
 Pending – start date: [dd/mm/yyyy] / completion date: [dd/mm/yyyy]
 Full time / Part-time

Duration of course: _____

Previous Degree(s)

Please provide details of qualifications, names of Institution and year of completion:

Academic Transcript

Please attach your complete academic transcript/s.

CITIZENSHIP

Are you an Australian citizen YES / NO; or
 Hold permanent Australian Resident status? YES / NO (If yes, please attach evidence of residency)

HEALTH/PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

Please attach proof of AHPRA or other professional body registration currency.

OTHER SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

Do you currently hold another scholarship or salary support grant for this study?

No Yes

(Concurrent applications with no known outcome do not exclude you from applying for this grant)

Please provide details of support grants)

Grant name and funder	Grant period	Value
		\$
		\$
		\$

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CAREER - CHRONOLOGY FROM BEGINNING OF TERTIARY STUDIES

Please list details of employment, study and positions held in chronological order, including date and institution. In particular include details of any research undertaken.

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RESEARCH PROJECT or RESEARCH SKILL DEVELOPMENT DETAILS

If you are **undertaking a research project** as part of your studies outline the research project including background, hypotheses and aims, experimental plan, data analysis, and significance as relevant. Which CCA Research Priority/Priorities does this project address (Priority 1-17)?

If you are **not undertaking** a research project as part of your studies, describe how your research expertise will be developed through your studies.

(in lay language: 500 words max.)

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RELEVANCE TO IBD and the IBD COMMUNITY

Describe how your completion of the course will benefit the care of people with IBD through clinical practice and research.

(500 words max.)

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Applicant name: _____

CONFIDENTIAL REFEREEs

Academic Referee

Title: Professor / Associate Professor / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Ms / Other (please specify)

Name: _____

Position: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

_____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Email: _____

Clinical Practice Referee

Title: Professor / Associate Professor / Dr / Mr / Mrs / Ms / Other (please specify)

Name: _____

Position: _____

Institution: _____

Address: _____

_____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Telephone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Email: _____

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RESEARCH CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

All research undertaken under the auspices of this Scholarship must comply with all Institutional and legislative requirements with respect to human and animal ethics, gene technology, and workplace health and safety.

No award will be made until evidence is provided that all necessary clearances have been obtained.

Does this project:

- Include research involving humans? Yes No
- Include research involving animals? Yes No
- Involve organisms being genetically manipulated such that the research falls under current Office of Gene Technology regulator Guidelines? Yes No
- Involve the use of carcinogenic or highly toxic chemicals? Yes No

Signatures

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Supervisor

Date