



National Divisions Nursing in General Practice Program

Innovative Grants Program

Introduction:

The Network Nursing in General Practice Program is a key program funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Health and Ageing, delivering support for the role for nurses in general practice. The program has been led and co-ordinated by AGPN and the SBOs since 2005.

The Nursing in General Practice Program 2009-2010 is one of number of programs that now form a consolidated scholarship and support scheme for nursing and allied health professionals funded through the Department of Health and Ageing.

Provision has been provided in this year's budget to fund a number of innovative high level projects to support the role for nurses in general practice. This funding is in addition to that provided through SBO agreements.

Aims:

The aims of the Nursing in General Practice Innovation Grants Program is to:

- build capacity of the network to deliver workforce solutions to support the recruitment and retention of nurses in general practice; and
- build the capacity of the network to optimise the role for nurses in general practice to improve access to quality, integrated patient care.

Purpose:

The purpose of the Nursing in General Practice Innovation Grants program is to enable SBOs and/or divisions to apply for funds to undertake a high level project with the potential for national applicability, to:

- deliver workforce solutions to support the employment of more nurses in general practice

or

- develop tools, resources or strategies to support an extended role for nurses in general practice , which may include the development of an education or training program.

Funding levels:

AGPN are looking to fund a small number of strategic projects of up to a maximum value of \$50,000 per project. The total funding pool available is \$270,000.

Eligibility:

This round of grants will be offered to SBOs / divisions / or consortia of SBOs and or divisions, which can demonstrate the following:

- evidence of a good track record in working in the area of promoting and supporting the nursing workforce in general practice
- evidence of the ways in which the grant will support the aim and objectives of the Nursing in General Practice Program.

Selection criteria:

In addition to meeting the eligibility criteria outlined above, applicants will be assessed against how well their application had addressed all of the following five key criteria:

1. Relevance	The applicant demonstrates that the proposed project activities are clearly relevant to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- supporting recruitment of more nurses in general
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	<p>practice</p> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - supporting an extended role for nurses in general practice
2. Need	The applicant demonstrates the need for the proposed project including supporting evidence, and provides reasons for not being able to meet this need in others ways or via alternative funding sources.
3. Potential outcomes	<p>The applicant specifies the extent to which the proposed activities would benefit the SBO or division (or consortia) and either</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have the potential to impact on the number of general practices employing nurses and demonstrate innovation in the area of workforce recruitment strategies <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have the potential to impact extended roles for nurses in general practice and demonstrate innovation in the area of support for the role for the nurse in general practice.
4. Sustainability	<p>The applicant identifies how the proposed activity or knowledge and skills gained will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - benefit general practice - benefit patient care in general practice - be transferred and shared at the state and local level - have relevance at a state and national level to support the aims of the nursing in general practice program.
5. Evaluation	The applicant identifies how the proposed activity will be evaluated and includes measurable outcomes.

Successful applicants may be required to present progress of their project at the National Divisions Nursing in General Practice Forum to be held in February 2010 at a date and venue to be advised.

Submission of applications

Applications from SBOs and/or divisions are to be lodged with AGPN by 5pm (EST), Wednesday 9th September 2009.

Applicants must address each of the eligibility and selection criteria, providing a maximum of 200 words for each individual criterion.

Applications should be sent by email to:

Julie Porritt

Principal Network Adviser Nursing in General Practice

at: jporritt@agpn.com.au

Receipt of applications will be acknowledged via return email.

Further information or enquiries can be directed to:

Toni Rice

Network Support Officer

Phone: (02) 6228 0850

Email: trice@agpn.com.au

Applications will be reviewed by a panel which will include representation from AGPN, SBOs, practice nurses and general practitioners.

6. Summary of timeframes

Due date	Action
Wednesday 9 th September 2009	Applications for innovation grants due to AGPN
By Friday 18 th September 2009	Successful and unsuccessful applicants notified by AGPN
By Friday 2 nd October 2009	Successful applicants will receive agreement for signing
October 2009 – June 2010	Project activity to be undertaken
Wednesday 7 th December 2009	First Progress report to AGPN
February 2010 (date TBA)	Potential presentation on progress to national divisions NIGP Forum
Wednesday 26 th May 2010	Second Progress report to AGPN
Wednesday 22 nd October 2010	Final report to AGPN