

**Bila Muuji Oral Health Scholarship Scheme
Bachelor of Oral Health
Charles Sturt University**

The Bila Muuji Oral Health Scholarship Scheme will be available for a student studying the Bachelor of Oral Health degree who has a demonstrated interest in, and commitment towards improving Aboriginal health.

The scholarship is available for students entering their second year of the Charles Sturt University (CSU) Bachelor of Oral Health (BoH) program in 2010 and is worth \$7,000 in total, with \$3,000 provided in the second year of undergraduate study and \$4,000 provided in the third and final year of undergraduate study.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are strongly encouraged to apply.

This scholarship has been funded by the Bila Muuji Inc; a partnership of Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations in western New South Wales, and administered by the Charles Sturt University Foundation.

Two further scholarships valued at \$7,000 each will then be offered to suitable candidates entering the second year of undergraduate study in the BoH program in 2011, and in 2012.

SCHOLARSHIP CONDITIONS.

Selection will be based on criteria including:

1. Demonstrated interest in Aboriginal health.
2. Demonstrated commitment to improvement of oral health in Aboriginal communities.
3. Academic achievement in Year 1 of the BoH program, based on a clear pass level or higher.

Payment of the award

The scholarship funds will be allocated as below:

- 50% of second year funds (\$1,500) on 1st April 2010
 - first day after the deadline for cancelling Autumn Semester enrolment of second year of the BoH
- 50% (\$1,500) on 1st September 2010
 - first day after the deadline for cancelling Spring Semester enrolment of second year of the BoH
- 50% of third year funds (\$2,000) on 1st April 2011.
 - first day after the deadline for cancelling Autumn Semester enrolment year of the BoH
- 50% (\$2,000) on 1st September
 - first day after deadline for cancelling Spring Semester enrolment of third year of the BoH

Funds will be paid by electronic funds transfer into the student's nominated bank account.

The continuation of the awarding of the scholarship funds depends on continuing academic enrolment and academic achievement at pass level or higher by the selected candidate.

Use of scholarship funds

The scholarship funds must be used for educational expenses, and not for living and associated expenses. Acceptable education expenses may include books (textbooks and notebooks), laptop, protective clothing (laboratory coat, protective glasses, scrubs and / or clinical coat) and / or dental instruments etc. The student will be required to provide an annual summary of expenses with receipts for expenses associated with the scholarship funds.

For students in receipt of Centrelink payments (Austudy, Abstudy or Youth Allowance) you are required to notify the Centrelink that you are in receipt of the Scholarship. Depending on individual student circumstances, this **may** affect your Centrelink payments.

Conditions associated with the scholarship

The successful applicant will need to agree to the following:

- Attend a Bila Muuji Executive meeting for the awarding of the scholarship, and to meet the members of the Bila Muuji Executive.
- Provide progress reports to be tabled to the Bila Muuji Executive at the end of Autumn Semester, and the end of Spring Semester, for each year of the scholarship. The end of Spring Semester report will include your summary of expenses with receipts.
- Attend a work placement of one (1) week's duration at one of the Bila Muuji sites as part of the BoH elective placement program. The site visit will allow the recipient to gain valuable work experience in an Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service.
- To attend other important functions on occasion as requested by the Bila Muuji Executive.
- Upon graduation the student will be provided with a Graduate Work Placement undertaking Oral Health Therapy work for a guaranteed minimum of 12 months with the Greater Western Area Health Service (GWAHS). The graduate will be based in Dubbo for the first six (6) months and will receive mentorship from GWAHS senior clinicians. The second six (6) months and any subsequent time will be spent providing services to Bila Muuji sites in order to provide necessary clinical care and oral health promotion as directed by GWAHS and the Bila Muuji Executive.

Application for the scholarship

The application for the scholarship includes an application form with written responses addressing the selection criteria, followed by an interview. You are also required to attach a copy of your academic transcript for your previous year of study.

Interested students must submit a written application by the first week of the first Semester 2010. An interview will then be arranged, with the interview panel comprising representatives from the CSU and Bila Muuji Executive.

*Applicants that identify as being Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander may be required to substantiate their identity via Aboriginality Confirmation documentation.