HECS help to grow WA's regional nursing and midwifery workforce

The WA Government is providing grants of up to $12,000 over 3 years for newly qualified registered nurses and midwives who go to work at remote and regional public hospitals.

Eligibility criteria:

- Applicants must be Australian citizens or permanent visa holders who meet the HECS-HELP loan eligibility
- Newly qualified registered nurses and midwives commence employment to a position through GradConnect with WA Country Health Service (WACHS) on or after 1 July 2023
- Employees must work for a minimum of 12 months continuous service with WACHS before they are eligible to claim the first incentive payment
- Employees must work for a minimum of 2 years continuous service with WACHS before they are eligible to claim the second incentive payment
- Employees must work for a minimum of 3 years continuous service with WACHS before they are eligible to claim the third incentive payment
- Only applicable to permanent or fixed term contracts for 12 months or longer
- Casual contracts and fixed term contracts less than 12 months are ineligible.

Important information:

- Applicants must provide evidence of their current HECS-HELP loan balance*
- Find out more about HECS-HELP
- Employees can be seconded to different hospitals across WACHS and remain eligible
- Find out more about WACHS graduate programs
- Payments will only be made after 12 months of continuous service
- Moving from a WACHS site to a metro site renders employees ineligible for payment
- If the NQNM has previously received a CNMO scholarship to cover tuition fees during their undergraduate degree that is equal to, or exceeds, $12,000 the grant will be proportionate to the difference of the scholarship amount and the $12,000).

Payment schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>12 months^</th>
<th>2 years^</th>
<th>3 years^</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payment amount</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative amount</td>
<td>$4,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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^continuous service

*To access your HECS-HELP loan balance, please contact the Australian Taxation Office. Any non-HECS-HELP costs incurred by the employee are not covered by this scheme.