



Aboriginal Health Painting by Jillie Nakamarra

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**AMA**

Indigenous  
Medical Scholarship

**Prospectus**



The significant gap in life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians is of great concern to the AMA.

Closing this gap and achieving health equality should be a national priority.

The AMA believes that Australian governments, the private and corporate sectors, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people all have a part to play in ending the cycle of disadvantage.

## You can contribute to the solution

### What is the solution?

The AMA recognises that there are no easy fixes. Success will only come from maintaining long-term commitment, proper resourcing and strengthened capacity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to identify and resolve these health challenges.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people do not access health and medical services at a level appropriate to their needs. However, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are far more likely to attend health and medical services that reflect their own values and perspectives. The health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people fares better when they are involved in the planning and delivery of their own health and medical care.

Having an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander doctor at a clinic can often make the difference between a community member turning up to the clinic for their scheduled appointment and never visiting the clinic at all.

### About the AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship

The AMA recognises the critical importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander doctors through the AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship (the Scholarship). Each year since 1994, the AMA has offered at least one Scholarship to eligible Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who have entered an Australian university to study medicine.

The health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people fares better when they are involved in the planning and delivery of their own health and medical care.

A range of skills and qualities contribute to someone becoming successful as a doctor. Academic ability is one of them. However, as the AMA realises from working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, cultural understanding and commitment to one's community are also very significant factors in providing best practice health and medical care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

### Who is eligible?

The Scholarship targets Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander medical students who demonstrate a commitment to their community and to medicine, and who may not have the financial means to realise their dream.

The AMA relies on its Taskforce on Indigenous Health to assess candidates for the Scholarship and select the winners. The Taskforce is chaired by the AMA President and is comprised of doctors, and other health professionals working in Indigenous health contexts, and peak Indigenous health organisations across Australia. The combined experience on the AMA Taskforce ensures that candidates of sound quality and commitment are chosen.

## Past scholarship recipients

A number of past winners have gone on to become prominent leaders in health and medicine after completing their medical degrees, including Associate Professor Kelvin Kong, Australia's first Aboriginal surgeon, and Professor Alex Brown, Theme Leader Aboriginal Health Research at the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute. Others have taken up worthwhile careers in medical practice.



### 2018 – Pirpantji Rive-Nelson

"I am extremely eager to find a pathway in medicine that will ... have a meaningful impact on the health disparities between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people."

### 2017 – James Chapman

"...I take comfort in knowing that I can contribute and make a difference to my fellow Indigenous people's lives; prolonging and preserving a culture that holds a very important place, both to myself and to many others."

### Increasing demand for the AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship

In recent years there has been an increased effort to encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school students to consider health and medicine as viable careers. As a result, there is a rising number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students studying medicine, the latest figures indicate 286 (as at 2017). This number will continue to rise, and the number of potential candidates for the Scholarship will increase.

# Your contribution

Your support for the training of an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander medical practitioner to provide culturally appropriate care is invaluable.

By supporting an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander medical student throughout their medical training, you are positively contributing to closing the gap in life expectancy between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and other Australians.

The Scholarship is advertised in November each year, and applications close in January the following year. The winner is chosen and the Scholarship is usually presented at the AMA's National Conference in May.

It costs around \$10,800 to attend one year of university studying medicine and students typically undertake four to six years of study to complete their degree and become a registered medical practitioner.

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## Deductible Gift Recipient Status

The AMA hopes to receive sufficient donations to allow for at least two Scholarships to be offered per year.

It is hoped that the Deductible Gift Recipient status of the Scholarship will attract more philanthropic donations and ensure the future sustainability of the Scholarship.



# Sponsorship Packages



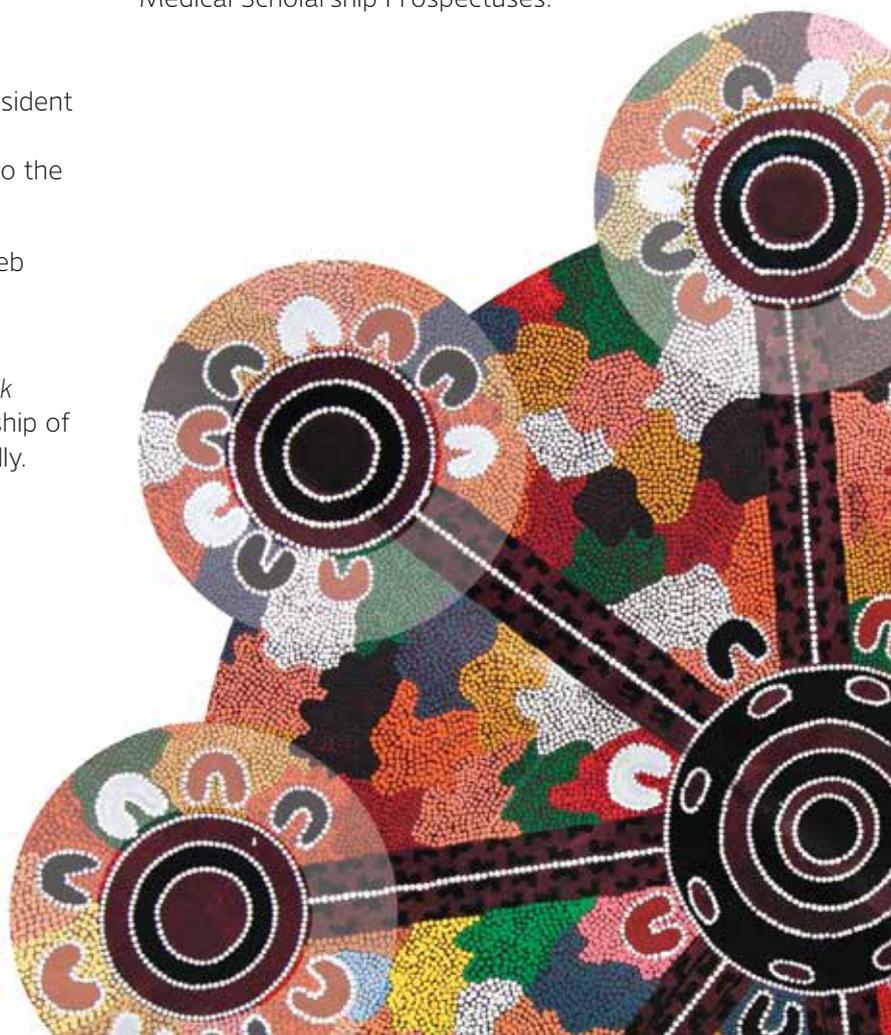
Note: Sponsorship must be consistent with AMA policy. The assessment of whether a particular sponsorship conflicts, or is inconsistent with AMA policy, will be undertaken by the AMA Federal Secretariat.

## DEDUCTIBLE GIFT RECIPIENT TAX STATUS NOW AVAILABLE

### Premier Scholarship Partner - \$20,000

#### Inclusions:

- Acknowledgement on the AMA National Conference website, program and conference handbook, displaying the sponsoring organisation's logo.
- Feature article by sponsor with image and logo in an issue of *Australian Medicine* online reaching a readership of almost 24,500 medical professionals, nationally. Maximum 600 words on why you sponsored.
- One full page advertisement in *Australian Medicine* (print).
- Sponsorship of the Scholarship featured on the homepage of the AMA's website with a congratulatory message from the AMA President reaching an audience of more than 12,000 unique visitors per month, nationally. Links to the dedicated Scholarship web page.
- Acknowledgement and logo on the AMA web page dedicated to the Scholarship.
- Feature article, which is relevant to General Practitioners, in *General Practitioners' Network News*, logo and artwork, reaching a readership of almost 9,000 General Practitioners, nationally.
- Social media promotion of the sponsorship.
- Coverage in *Australian Medicine* (print) reaching around 31,000 AMA members around Australia.
- Materials provided to the sponsoring organisation to promote the Scholarship and their partnership through their own communication channels, includes photographs from Scholarship presentation and links to feature articles (as above).
- Acknowledgement in AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship Prospectuses.



# Sponsorship Packages



## Scholarship Partner - \$10,000

### Inclusions:

- Verbal acknowledgement at the AMA National Conference.
- Written acknowledgement in the conference handbook with logo.
- Acknowledgement on the dedicated Scholarship web page on the AMA's website with logo.
- Half page advertising placements in *Australian Medicine* (print), reaching a readership of more than 31,000 doctors, nationally.
- Two week web-tile advertising placement in *Australian Medicine* online reaching an audience of 24,500.
- Web-tile and web-banner advertising placement in *General Practitioners' Network News*, including 200 word editorial (which is relevant to General Practitioners) and logo, reaching a readership of almost 9,000 General Practitioners, nationally.
- Social media promotion of the sponsorship.
- Acknowledgement in AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship Prospectuses.

## Scholarship Sponsor - \$1,000 - \$3,000

### Inclusions:

- Verbal acknowledgement at the AMA National Conference.
- Written acknowledgement in the conference handbook.
- Acknowledgement on the dedicated Scholarship web page on the AMA's website with logo.
- Quarter page advertising placement in an issue of *Australian Medicine* (print) reaching a readership of almost 31,000 medical professionals, nationally.
- Two week web-tile advertising placement in *Australian Medicine* online reaching an audience of 24,500.
- Acknowledgement in AMA Indigenous Medical Scholarship Prospectuses.

## Scholarship Donations

The AMA seeks your support of the Scholarship. Please contact the AMA should you wish to discuss a package tailored to your organisation's needs or to simply make a donation to the Scholarship.

For sponsorship enquiries and payment details please contact the AMA via email at [indigenousscholarship@ama.com.au](mailto:indigenousscholarship@ama.com.au) or phone (02) 6270 5400.

Information regarding the Indigenous Medical Scholarship can be found at <https://ama.com.au/advocacy/indigenous-peoples-medical-scholarship>.

To donate go to: <https://ama.com.au/donate-indigenous-medical-scholarship>.

**The AMA would like to acknowledge the contributions of the following donors: Reuben Pelerman Benevolent Foundation; the late Beryl Jamieson's wishes for donations towards the Scholarship; Deakin University; The Anna Wearne Fund and B B & A Miller Fund, sub-funds of the Australian Communities Foundation.**

