



Memorandum

To:	All NSW Clubs and Branches
From:	Surf Life Saving New South Wales
Date:	7 January 2019
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Subject:	Scholarship opportunity – Round 5 AIDR Emergency Management Volunteer Scholarships (closing 4 Mar 2019)

On behalf of the Federal Government, the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is administering the **Emergency Management Volunteer Scholarship, closing 4 March 2019**. This million dollar scholarship fund recognises the complex service delivered by volunteers and the high-level skills and leadership required to respond to emergency situations. Please be aware that no future round of these scholarships are scheduled.

Funding is available for the reimbursement of education and training costs for volunteers in an emergency management agency that wish to undertake studies in accredited units or courses in emergency and disaster management vocational training and education, and higher education. In addition, AIDR may agree to pay reasonable accommodation and travel costs that are essential for study and must be approved in advance.

The amount of funding depends on the level and type of qualification intended and the number of units of study intended to complete in the funding period, with the maximum amount capped as follows:

- **Up to \$12,000 for vocational education and training**
- **Up to \$25,000 for higher education**

The scholarship is available to approved applicants who are active volunteers:

- Australian citizens or permanent residents that reside in Australia
- Volunteer in an emergency management agency, that is either a:
 - member of the Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum (or an affiliate of) and/or
 - government or non-government agency with a defined role in state or territory emergency management arrangements.

Key points to note:

- Successful recipients must complete all studies identified in their scholarship agreement during the time period 1 June 2019 – 2 December 2019. All reimbursement claims for Round Five scholarships **MUST** be received by AIDR before COB 20 December 2019; invoices received after this period **WILL NOT** be reimbursed.
- Funding is a reimbursement on successful completion of study, i.e. course fees must be paid upfront by the applicant.
- The chosen vocational education or higher education provider must be accredited in Australia; in most cases it is not possible for applicants to study overseas or undertake extensive fieldwork studies.
- The scholarship cannot be used to fund research degrees or associated expenses; it is only available for coursework.
- Applicants must have their application endorsed by the volunteer organisation; the CEO or their delegate is usually best placed to endorse this application in the form of a short letter (information on written reference and other documentation can be found at <https://aidr.org.au/programs/scholarships-for-volunteers/>)
- If an applicant holds a paid role (e.g. Branch administrator) and a volunteer role (e.g. volunteer lifesaver on weekends) within SLS, these two roles must be clearly demarcated in the application.
- If successful, before an applicant receives payments he/she will also need to participate in a verification of identity check, and provide proof of his/her current place of residence.

Further details and access to the application can be found at <https://www.aidr.org.au/education/scholarships-for-volunteers/>

Should you wish to apply, please contact <<our office>> to discuss the endorsement of your scholarship application.

Kind regards

**Surf Life Saving New South Wales
Partnerships Team**