

2026 RAPHS MEDICAL AND NURSING UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

The RAPHS Scholarship was established in 2008 with funds donated by Rotorua Area Primary Health Services Ltd to the Health Rotorua Charitable Trust.

Rotorua Area Primary Health Services (RAPHS) is an independent health management organisation committed to health care excellence in the Rotorua area. Established in 1993 by a group of forward-thinking general practices, RAPHS today manages a range of multi-disciplinary clinical programmes and support services, and provides business, administrative and technology support for primary healthcare providers in Rotorua.

Each year, two RAPHS Undergraduate Scholarships are offered to Rotorua residents in their first year of medical or nursing training, with the intent of supporting the training and retention of local medical practitioners.

- One scholarship is available to a student who has been accepted into the first year of a nursing degree; and
- One scholarship is available to a student who has successfully completed their first year of study at The University of Auckland or University of Otago and has been accepted into the first professional year of the medical degree programme

Eligibility

- Candidates must:
 - be a New Zealand citizen or a New Zealand permanent resident
 - have attended secondary school in the Rotorua District
 - be normally resident in the Rotorua District (excluding out-of-district residence during University term)
- A student who has held the scholarship may apply again for up to a further two years, provided that they continue to make satisfactory progress in all respects.
- Academic ability and commitment to a career in general practice will be the primary criteria by which recipients are selected, as well as consideration of financial barriers to attending medical school.

Value

- Each scholarship has a value of \$2000.

Tenure

- Each scholarship is awarded for a period of one year.
- In exceptional circumstances, the selection panel may consider an application to extend the scholarship for more than one year, provided that the student continues to make satisfactory progress in all respects.
- Subject to approval, if part-time study is undertaken, the scholarship may be paid on a pro-rata basis up to a maximum value of \$2,000.
- Each scholarship must be taken up in the year in which it is awarded.
- Subject to approval from the selection panel, each scholarship may be held concurrently with other awards.

Requirements

- Each holder of a scholarship must submit a report on their year's activities to the Health Rotorua Charitable Trust by the 1st December of that year.

Publicity

- The Health Rotorua Charitable Trust and Rotorua Area Primary Health Services Ltd reserve the right to use the names, photographs, and details of successful applicants for the purpose of promotion.
- Scholarship holders must agree to be reasonably available to participate in interviews and promotional activities if requested by RAPHs or the Trust.

Application and Selection Process

- Applications for the 2026 RAPHs scholarships must be submitted by 12 March 2026.
- Every application must:
 - be on the prescribed application form;
 - include statements from two referees (normally a staff member of the applicant's most recent college or university and another person who can attest to the character of the applicant);
 - Applicants may be required to attend an interview with the selection panel, either in person or by telephone. The Trust will meet reasonable expenses associated with participation in an interview.
- Nominees for the scholarships will be selected by a panel appointed by the Health Rotorua Charitable Trust.