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SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN FOR DIPLOMA OF ENROLLED NURSING

School leavers, those looking to change careers or people with an interest in caring for others are being encouraged by South Eastern Sydney Local Health District to apply for 300 scholarships for the Diploma of Enrolled Nursing program which are now on offer through NSW Health.

NSW Health in partnership with the Department of Education and Communities are running the program which will see students training at metropolitan and rural TAFE NSW Colleges as well as the NSW Health Registered Training Organisation at Rozelle and Liverpool.

Director of Nursing and Midwifery Services, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District, Kim Olesen said Enrolled Nurses play an important role in all hospitals in the district.

“Our health system relies on the dedicated work of Enrolled Nurses who are trained to care for patients in a wide range of specialties,” Ms Olesen said.

“The Diploma of Enrolled Nursing program gives NSW students of the TAFE course hands on experience through clinical placements in hospitals and other health facilities which will be organised as part of their training.”

Students who successfully complete the course will be guaranteed a job offer at a NSW public hospital.

“These 300 scholarships provide a real head start for anyone who wants a career in nursing. As an added bonus, the scholarships will cover the course fees for the Diploma of Enrolled Nursing qualification.”

Selection for the scholarship involves a written application, a basic literacy and numeracy test and interview.

“A career in nursing is very rewarding. Enrolled Nurses work right across the health system in a range of settings from acute hospital wards, mental health units, aged care facilities, in paediatrics, emergency and operating theatres.

“This work brings them into contact with healthcare professionals including doctors, pharmacists, physiotherapists and registered and specialist nurses,” Ms Olesen said.

Scholarship Applications opened on 9 December last year and close on 12 February, 2014.

Applications are invited from HSC school leavers, mature age applicants or those who have already completed a Certificate III or equivalent qualification.

Successful scholarship applicants will commence the TAFE course in April this year and the course runs for between 12 and 18 months.

Information on enrolled nurses and details on the scholarship application process are on the Nursing and Midwifery pages of the NSW Health Website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing