

**GWEN SCOTT GRANT PROGRAM (2023) for diabetes professional development.****APPLICANT INFORMATION & CRITERIA**

The *Gwen Scott grant program* provides financial grants to health professionals to enable them to undertake professional development activities to increase their diabetes knowledge and/or skills and to address important issues in diabetes care and education within their community.

This annual program is named in honor of Gwen Scott who was Australia's first nurse employed as a specialist in diabetes education, and the first employee of the Victorian Diabetics Association, known today as Diabetes Victoria. Gwen Scott is best known for her contribution to diabetes education and for establishing the role of diabetes educators in Australia.

This year's focus will be on applications seeking a more significant sized grant that will have the potential to create greater impact in the sector.

Applicants will be *eligible* to apply if they meet all of the following criteria:

- must be registered as a qualified health professional with the *Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)* or relevant Association membership number;
- must currently be/or join as a health professional member of Diabetes Victoria (*if unsure, please contact 1300 437 386 or email: [membership@diabetesvic.org.au](mailto:membership@diabetesvic.org.au) to confirm your status*);
- must commence their professional development activity in the 2023/24 financial year;
- must currently work in clinical practice (*at least part-time*) in Victoria; and
- submit their application form no later than 5pm on the due date: Friday 14 July.

Applicants will be *ineligible* if any of the following criteria apply:

- is a full-time researcher/academic (*with no time currently working in direct clinical practice*);
- is enrolled full-time in a higher degree by research, e.g. doctorate or PhD (*with no time currently working in direct clinical practice*); or
- was successful and received funding in the 2022 *Gwen Scott grant* round.

Preference will be given to applications that:

- demonstrate the value of the activity to your professional development, with priority given to small research, evaluation and quality improvement projects; and
- demonstrate the value of the activity to improving the health and quality of life of people affected by diabetes in Victoria, or in your local community. Activities or projects relating to improved community access to healthcare, education, treatment, technologies, or any other projects helping people to self-manage, treat/prevent complications, or diabetes prevention may receive a higher funding allocation. Activities should align with Diabetes Victoria's Strategic Priorities 2018-2021.)

In any given year, the total value of the *Gwen Scott grant program* is subject to change by Diabetes Victoria. The size of the individual grant amount is based on merit and in some cases could be up to \$10,000.

Please note: The decisions of the Gwen Scott grant selection panel are final, though feedback may be available upon request.

Within three months of the completion of their professional development activity, Gwen Scott grant recipients will be required to provide a short, written report to Diabetes Victoria (via an email), which outlines the learnings and value to the applicant. This information may be used in future promotions with articles potentially appearing in an edition of Circle magazine, and across Diabetes Victoria's social media channels at the same time. Sharing of information will be encouraged within the applicant's organisation through appropriate internal channels such as articles, presentations or social platforms.