

Northern Queensland Regional Training Hubs (NQRTH) Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) Summer Research Bursary Guidelines

Details

Bursary Name:	<i>NQRTH MBBS Summer Research Bursary Program</i>
Duration of research program:	<i>4 - 6 weeks</i>
Availability:	<i>Summer Break (December 2025 – March 2026)</i>

Intent

This document provides information for Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) students who would like to apply for a NQRTH MBBS Summer Research Bursary.

Purpose

In 2017, the Australian Federal Government provided funding for 26 Regional Training Hubs across Australia, as part of the Rural Health Multidisciplinary Training Program, aiming to create a sustainable future health workforce across rural, remote, and regional Australia. NQRTH collaborates with Health Service providers to promote regionally based training pathways to medical specialist careers (including in general practice) and beyond. The Northern Queensland Regional Training Hubs connects medical students, interns, and junior doctors with a range of opportunities and resources to create a supportive and clear path to specialist training.

As part of this initiative, NQRTH has allocated some funding to promote research opportunities for both students and graduates to address health issues in tropical, Indigenous, rural, and underserved communities and to foster career interests as future clinician-researchers. Several summer research bursaries have been established to allow medical students an opportunity to learn more about research and to gain some research experience in a variety of settings. The bursaries' main objective is to allow medical students to gain experience and exposure to research with an established researcher/research team. Research topics/projects available will vary from year to year and may include areas such as medical research, community development, infectious diseases (especially Typhoid and/or Dengue fever) clinical or health services research. This bursary is subject to the provisions of JCU's Coursework Scholarships, Bursaries and Grants Policy.

Bursary Details

Value of the prize: **\$500**

The number of bursaries available are outlined in the table below:

MBBS Year	Number of Bursaries
Year 1	3
Year 2	3
Years 3/4	4

Award Details:

If you are a successful applicant for this bursary, you will receive \$500 and will complete 4–6 weeks of research experience. After completion of the summer research program, you will be required to give a presentation or write a report outlining your experiences and what you have learned from participating in this program. Students are permitted to apply in subsequent years, but preferences will be given to students who have not received this bursary in previous years.

Applicant Eligibility:

To meet eligibility for application of the NQRTH MBBS Summer Research Bursaries you must be:

- Admitted to the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery at JCU;
- Enrolled full-time (12 credit points per teaching period); and
- have good academic and professional standing.

Assessment of Applications:

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Your NQRTH MBBS summer research program application form including the written personal statement component of the form (80%);
- Your CV (20%)

Application Submission

You will need to submit a completed online application form by the closing date. A copy of your curriculum vitae and a personal statement must be uploaded as part to the online form (via Qualtrics). If you have any issues with the application submission process, contact nqrth.admin@jcu.edu.au

It is important to note that late applications and incomplete applications will not be considered.

All documents relating to the NQRTH MBBS Summer Research Bursaries can be found on the Northern Queensland Regional Training Hubs (NQRTH) [website](#).

The application closing date is Friday 26th September 2025. Applications must be submitted by 5:00pm.

Selection Panel:

The award of the bursaries shall be made at the discretion of the RTH Research Bursaries Selection Committee, which comprises of the following members or their nominees:

- Dean, College of Medicine, and Dentistry (chair)
- Program Manager, Northern Queensland Regional Training Hubs,
- Associate Dean -Research Education, College of Medicine and Dentistry
- CMD Research Officers/Senior Research Officers

The Selection Committee reserves the right not to award the bursaries in any year if in the opinion of the Selection Committee, there are no applicants of sufficient merit to warrant an award. The Selection Committee will determine all matters relating to the bursaries.

Approval Details:

Program sponsor: Associate Dean Research Education

Custodian: Medicine Impact Research Advisor, College of Medicine and Dentistry

Approval authority: Dean, College of Medicine and Dentistry

Advisory bodies: Rural Research Bursaries Working Group.

Version no: 2

Date for next review: June 2026