

Hamilton Centre Scholarships for Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) and Mental Health and Wellbeing (MHWB) workers to undertake the Graduate Certificate of Addictive Behaviours in 2026

Hamilton Centre is offering scholarships (approximately valued at \$10,000 each) to workers within the Victorian AOD and Mental Health sectors to undertake the Graduate Certificate of Addictive Behaviours. This course is online, February 2026 to November 2026, and is delivered in partnership with Monash University. The scholarships are an opportunity for workers within the Victorian AOD and MHWB sectors to gain access to a specialised AOD qualification at a postgraduate level.

The Graduate Certificate of Addictive Behaviours is designed to broaden your knowledge and skills related to the theory and practice of responding to problematic substance use disorders and other addictive behaviours. In the first semester unit, you will explore models and theories of addiction, examine research evidence to strengthen your understanding of how this informs contemporary policy and public health responses within a harm minimisation framework. In the second semester unit, you will develop practice-relevant skills in identifying, screening and assessment for addictive behaviours, providing brief interventions and referrals for treatment within the context of AOD treatment systems. A particular emphasis will be placed on developing communication, client engagement, professional practice, and interpersonal skills important for all AOD, MH and community service practitioners.

Eligibility

To be considered for a scholarship you must:

- Currently work within a Department of Health (DH) funded AOD or MHWB agency in Victoria.
- Have worked in the AOD or MHWB sector for at least two (2) years.
- Commit to completing the course in 2026 and pay any outstanding fee to Monash University.

Selection criteria

In addition to the scholarship eligibility requirements listed above, the following Monash University (M4018) Graduate Certificate of Addictive Behaviours Course 2026 selection criteria must also be met:

- English language Monash minimum: Level A, that is: IELTS (Academic): 6.5 overall (no band lower than 6.0); or Pearson Test of English (Academic): score of 58 overall.
- Hold an Australian bachelor's degree or equivalent in a cognate discipline with at least a pass average.
*Cognate disciplines include medicine, psychology, nursing, health science, occupational therapy, social work, social and community welfare, science, policy, law, criminology, research, teaching, arts (multidisciplinary), and other health and social sciences.

Further information found here: www.monash.edu/study/courses/find-a-course/addictive-behaviours-m4018

Scholarship and Fee Information

The scholarship is valued at approximately \$10,000 per person. Students may be eligible for a FEE-HELP loan. Further information found here: <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help>

Selection process

- A selection panel consisting of representatives from Hamilton Centre and Monash University will review all expressions of interest. Selection will be based on meeting the eligibility criteria for the course as well as reviewing the statement of purpose and occupational and academic achievements.
- The panel will ensure that the allocation of scholarships is fairly distributed across the Victorian AOD and MH sector.
- Priority will be given to those in a clinical role.
- Priority will be given to those who have not previously received a scholarship from DH for this course.

How to apply

- Complete the "Scholarship Expression of interest form" (over page).
- Submit a curriculum vitae.
- Submit a 500-word statement of purpose outlining reasons for undertaking the course. This should include your academic and professional interests, how you believe you will add value to the graduate program and why you believe you should be awarded a scholarship.
- Submit your application with your supporting documentation via email to education@hamiltoncentre.org.au by **Sunday 26th October 2025**.

Successful applicants will be notified in writing via email and will be required to apply to Monash University to be accepted into the course and submit the following documents by **Sunday 30th November 2025**:

- Copy of Academic Transcript (graded) with evidence of completion.
- Proof of Citizenship/Residency or ID – Australian Passport OR Birth Certificate OR Australian Citizenship Certificate OR Permanent Resident Visa Notification.

If your application to Monash University has not been received by Sunday 30th November 2025 your scholarship offer will lapse.

SCHOLARSHIP EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM 2026

Closing Date: Sunday 26th October 2025

Email: education@hamiltoncentre.org.au

Personal Details:

Family Name:		
First Name:	Second Name:	
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Post Code:
Email:		
Phone:	Mobile:	

Employment Details:

Current Organisation:		
Current Position:	Years working in AOD or MHWB Sector:	
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Post Code:
Email:		
Mobile:	Phone:	

Please answer the following and provide the relevant documents as listed above with your application:

- Do you have an Australian undergraduate degree or higher qualification in a relevant discipline or equivalent with at least a pass average? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, please specify _____
- Do you currently work within a Victorian Department of Health funded AOD or Mental Health and Wellbeing agency? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you worked in the AOD or MHWB sector for at least two (2) years? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are you able to commit to completing the course in 2026? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are you able to pay the outstanding fee (approximately \$6,750.00) to Monash in 2026? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you included your current curriculum vitae with this form? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you included a 500-word statement of purpose outlining reasons for undertaking the course and why you believe you should be awarded a scholarship? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Have you verified on the Monash link provided that you meet the criteria to be accepted into (M4018) Graduate Certificate of Addictive Behaviours at Monash University? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- If successful in completing your Graduate Certificate in Addictive Behaviours, are you willing to take part in a 1 hour mentoring session with new students in the following year? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Signature: _____

Date: _____