

The Dr Dakhina Mitra Scholarship 2025

Applicant Information Pack

Introduction

The Dr Dakhina Mitra Scholarship 2025, established by the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, honours the memory and work of Dr Dakhina Mitra, a passionate advocate for children's rights and welfare.

This pack contains all the details for applicants interested in applying for the scholarship.

Background

The Dr Dakhina Mitra Scholarship commemorates the dedication and legacy of Dr Dakhina Mitra, who served at the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare until her passing in 2022. Dr. Mitra's work focused on improving the lives of children and families, emphasising their voices, rights, and safety.

Purpose

The scholarship aims to support individuals in the child and family services sector committed to improving outcomes for children and young people. It honours Dr Dakhina Mitra's passion for learning and using research to drive positive change.

Scholarship Details:

- The scholarship offers an annual grant of \$5,000.
- It can be used for various purposes, such as books, tuition fees, study resources, or technology related to professional development.
- Open to individuals working in Victoria's child and family services sector, including those employed by a Centre Member Organisation.

Eligibility:

- Applicants must be current employees or volunteers of a Member Organisation.



Application Process:

- Complete all sections of the application form on the Centre's website: www.cfecfw.asn.au/dakhina-mitra-scholarship
- Submit supporting documents, such as your CV/Resume and support letters, if applicable.
- Applications must be submitted via the online application form.
- Deadline for applications: midnight, 31 December 2024.

Referees:

- One referee is required, preferably one external to the applicant's workplace.
- References for shortlisted applicants will be checked.

Judging Panel:

- Comprised of representatives from the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare and the child and family services sector.
- The judging period will run from 1 January – 31 January 2025.
- Winners will be notified by phone and email, and bank details for the grant payment will be requested.
- Winners will also be publicly announced on 3 February 2025

Selection Criteria:

- **Commitment to Child Welfare:** Demonstrated dedication to improving the lives and well-being of children and young people, as evidenced by past professional experiences, projects, or initiatives.
- **Relevance of Study or Professional Development Activities:** Clarity and relevance of proposed study or professional development activities to enhancing outcomes for children and young people in the child and family services sector.
- **Impact and Innovation:** The proposed activities have the potential to create tangible and innovative solutions, interventions, or practices that address challenges or gaps in the field of child welfare.
- **Leadership Potential:** Evidence of leadership qualities and the ability to inspire and collaborate with others to effect positive change within the child and family services sector.
- **Achievements and Contributions:** Recognition of past achievements, contributions, and accomplishments in child welfare, including any awards, publications, presentations, or community involvement.
- **Alignment with Dr Dakhina Mitra's Values:** Alignment with the values and principles exemplified by Dr Dakhina Mitra, including integrity, compassion, respect for children's rights, and a commitment to social justice and equity.

Definitions:

- **Award:** Dr Dakhina Mitra Leadership Award, valued at AUD 5,000 annually over three years.
- **CFECFW:** Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare.
- **Member Organisation:** Paid-up member organisation of CFECFW.
- **Applicant:** Person applying for the Award.

Privacy Statement:

Consistent with Victorian Government policy and legislation and the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare in Child Privacy Policy, the Centre endorses fair information handling practice. Private and personal information supplied will be used by the Judging Panel to assist their decision-making only. Information will not be disclosed or used for any other purpose without the express consent of the person to whom it relates unless otherwise required by law. Refer to the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare [Privacy Policy](#) for further information.

Important Dates:

- Scholarship applications open on 24 October 2024.
- Scholarship applicants close at 11:59 pm on 31 December 2024
- Winner announcement: 3 February

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Who is eligible to apply for the Dr Dakhina Mitra Scholarship?

- The scholarship is open to individuals working in Victoria's child and family services sector, including those employed by a Centre Member Organisation.

2. What can the scholarship funds be used for?

- The scholarship funds can be used towards books or study resources, tuition fees, technology for study purposes, or other costs related to undertaking study or professional development aimed at improving the lives of children.

3. How much is the scholarship award?

- The scholarship offers an annual grant of \$5000.

4. What is the application deadline for the scholarship?

- The deadline for submitting applications is midnight, 31 December 2024.

5. How are applications evaluated?

- Applications are evaluated based on how well they address the criteria outlined in the application form. This includes the proposed study or professional development activities and their relevance to improving outcomes for children and young people.

6. Can I submit supporting documents with my application?

- Yes, applicants are encouraged to submit supporting documents such as CV/resume, academic transcripts, certificates of training, letters of recommendation, etc.

7. Who makes the final decision on scholarship recipients?

- The Judging Panel, comprised of representatives from the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare and the child and family services sector, decides on scholarship recipients.

8. When will the scholarship recipients be announced?

- The scholarship recipients will be announced on 3 February 2025.

9. Is there a limit to the number of scholarships awarded?

- The number of scholarships awarded may vary depending on the application quality and available funds.

10. Can I reapply for the scholarship if I am not selected this year?

- Yes, unsuccessful applicants are welcome to reapply for the scholarship in subsequent years, provided they still meet the eligibility criteria.

11. How can I obtain the application form?

- Applications for the scholarship are to be made via the online form:
www.cfecfw.asn.au/dakhina-mitra-scholarship

12. Who can I contact for further inquiries about the scholarship?

- For further inquiries, email memberships@cfecfw.asn.au, with 'Dr Dakhina Mitra Scholarship' in the subject line.