



Elective Grants Program for medical students



10 grants of \$3,500
\$2,000 for you +
\$1,500 for the community

Together we can make a difference!



The MIGA Elective Grants Program

When you choose to undertake an elective in a developing community, not only are you giving yourself the opportunity to experience medicine from a different perspective, you have the potential to make an enormous impact on the community you visit.

In these communities, where often medical staff and resources are extremely limited, you will be an invaluable extra set of hands and can make more of a difference than you ever thought possible.

“As long as poverty, injustice and gross inequality persist in our world, none of us can truly rest.”

Nelson Mandela

At MIGA, we share your commitment to developing communities and encourage you to apply for our Elective Grants Program to maximise the benefit of your placement. Through the Program, MIGA provides financial assistance to medical students undertaking their university elective in developing communities. Since the Program's launch in 2004, we have supported over 100 medical students who have participated in electives all around the world.

Through the provision of funding, MIGA aims to:

- Bring medical skills to communities in desperate need
- Provide medical or other aid to the community in a key area as identified by you, and
- Enrich your learning experience through exposure to new cultures and the delivery of health care in a different setting.

Inspired by the passion so many students have shown for global health, this year we have increased the number of grants available. We are proud to offer the Elective Grants Program and are excited by its potential to provide immersive learning experiences and bring much needed medical skills to even more communities around the world.

Supporting medical students in developing communities

For the purpose of the program, we consider 'developing communities' to be those that are poor and marginalised, where people struggle to:

- Control their own development
- Achieve equitable treatment, and
- Maintain a healthy and sustainable environment.

Whilst there are many countries overseas that meet these criteria, there are also Indigenous communities within Australia and its territories that are considered 'developing'. We encourage applications from students undertaking electives in developing communities both in Australia and overseas.



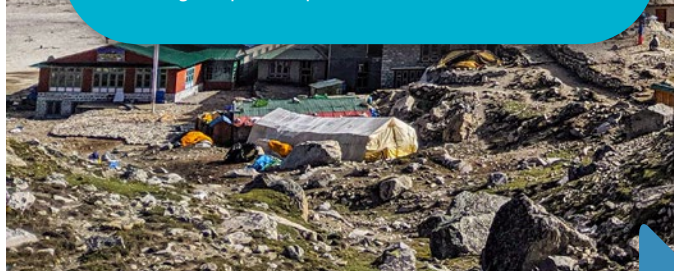
For more information
and to apply visit
www.miga.com.au

"My time at TVTH was, as the cliché goes, an eye-opening experience. In some areas I was surprised by the similarities — similar infections treated with similar antibiotics. Yet in other areas I was shocked by the differences — as 50 patients lined the walls of the single ED room, no curtains for privacy and only a few beds to share.

I found it incredible that the local doctors could take the chaos in their stride, and I felt inspired to take home some of their courage with me."

Angus Taylor

Tribhuvan University
Teaching Hospital, Nepal



MIGA offers TEN grants of \$3,500 each consisting of:

\$2,000 for medical students

to assist in funding their personal elective costs, including travel, accommodation, and vaccinations.

\$1,500 for developing communities

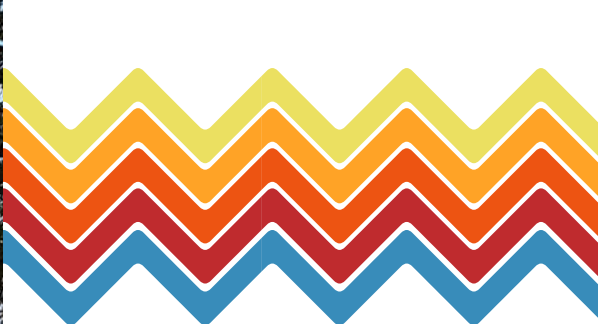
to assist in the purchase of medical or other aid for the community visited by the student.

Dedicated grant for Indigenous students

At MIGA we are passionate about ensuring Indigenous people are better represented in the medical profession.

To support this, we introduced a dedicated Indigenous Grant in 2013. Indigenous students are eligible to receive any of the ten grants, but as part of this initiative we set aside one grant to award specifically to an Indigenous medical student.





Am I eligible?

The Elective Grants Program is open to current medical students in Australia who:

- Are medical student members of MIGA
- Are enrolled in an accredited course of medical study in Australia for the purpose of obtaining registration as a medical practitioner
- Are willing and able to complete an elective Program in a developing community between Wednesday 1 March 2023 and Thursday 29 February 2024. The elective must be recognised by your university or medical school as part of your studies. We highly recommend that you visit the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Smartraveller website for the latest travel safety advice when planning your destination and before departing.



Not insured with MIGA?

Thankfully, student membership is free!

To join, simply visit our website and complete the online application form for automatic and immediate confirmation.

Note: MIGA is unable to accept joint applications for grants. Students travelling together are able to submit their own individual proposals for an Elective Grant, however, there is no guarantee each of the students will receive a grant.

Full details of the Program's terms and conditions are available from our website.



How do I apply?

To be considered for an MIGA Elective Grant you will need to:

1 Prepare your Proposal – this is a key component of your application that allows you to communicate what's different about you and your elective. Before commencing, make sure you review the 'Preparing my Proposal' section.

2 Complete the Elective Grants Program online Application Form available on our website at miga.com.au/elective-grants-program – this form requires your contact and elective details and asks you to nominate your proposal submission method.

3 Submit your Proposal by one of two methods

Electronic submission:

The Proposal can be submitted electronically by uploading it, and up to three other supporting documents, using the online Application Form.

Hard copy submission:

To submit your Proposal in hard copy select this option on the online Application Form and send it by mail to MIGA using the cover sheet available from our website.

Preparing my Proposal

The Proposal is a matter for you to consider, as we do not define a required format, word count, or set layout to follow. Instead, we encourage you to be creative and really show us what's different about you, your elective and what you plan to achieve.

No matter how you choose to prepare your Proposal, to assist our Judging Panel in their decision making we do encourage you to cover the following points as a minimum:

- When and where you will be undertaking your elective
- Full details of your interest in medicine in the developing community and/or country where you are proposing to undertake the elective
- How you will help to make a difference
- Your aims in completing the elective, including what you hope to learn and achieve in the community
- Any previous experience in developing communities or countries
- Specific details about how you propose the \$1,500 donation to the hospital or community will be used
- Any additional information you believe will help to support your submission.

The \$1,500 donation should be used for a purpose that supports the needs of the hospital, clinic or health unit where your elective will be undertaken. For example, it could be used for a cache of drugs or medical supplies, surgical equipment, or to support a specific program.

Both your online Application Form and Proposal (regardless of submission method) must be received by MIGA by 5pm (ACST) on Thursday, 31 August 2023.

Key dates

Each year, the Program is open for applications between May and August, with recipients announced in October.

The specific dates for the 2023 program are:

Applications open

Monday, 1 May 2023

Applications close

Thursday, 31 August 2023
at 5pm (ACST)

Application outcome announced

Mid-October 2023

Eligible elective dates

Wednesday 1 March 2023
to Thursday 29 February 2024
(or as otherwise agreed in writing
with MIGA)

Please note: If you are undertaking your elective within the eligible dates but before the recipients are announced, you will be awarded the grant retrospectively if your application is successful.

"I found this placement to be very significant in affirming my passion for primary care. India's healthcare providers must navigate a complex combination of poverty, limited resources, conflicting politics, multiple religions and vast landmasses. The way CMC is tackling this task, with primary care and health education at the heart of its ethos, is truly inspiring."

Jessica Mitchell

Christian Medical
College, India



Past MIGA Elective Grant Recipients

Lachlan Davis

University of Queensland
Green Pastures Hospital
Pokhara, Nepal

\$1,500 community donation use:
Donation to the Poor Patient Fund – to provide medications, wheelchairs, walking frames, prosthetics, pressure area air mattresses for spinal cord injury patients and rehabilitation sessions.

Jess Medland

University of Notre Dame (NSW)
Rift Valley General Provincial Hospital
Nakuru, Kenya

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of an orthopaedic drill.

Kaspar Fiebig

University of New South Wales
Hopitaly Vaovao Mahafaly (Good News Hospital)
Mandritsara, Madagascar

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of an anaesthetic suction, which will be used in the new operating theatres.

Emily Fitt

Monash University
Effia Nkwanta Regional Hospital
Takoradi, Ghana

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of a suction machine for theatre, two foetal heart monitors, eight digital blood pressure machines, and eight digital thermometers to be used across the pre-natal, labour, post-natal and gynaecology wards.

Brieanan Nolan

University of Western Australia
Western Visayas Medical Centre
Iloilo, Philippines

\$1,500 community donation use:
Donation to the hospital.

Sidonie Matthew

University of Tasmania
Simien Mountains Mobile Medical Service
Simien Mountains, Ethiopia

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of a Haemo-Cue, a device that enables patient haemoglobin to be tested with a finger prick.

Jessica Mitchell

University of Adelaide
Christian Medical College
Vellore, India

\$1,500 community donation use:
Donation to the Jawadhi Hills Program to educate and rehabilitate men battling with alcohol misuse.

Marlee Paterson

University of New South Wales
Port Moresby General Hospital
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of Malaria drugs and insecticide-treated bed nets.

Angus Taylor

Monash University
Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital
Kathmandu, Nepal

\$1,500 community donation use:
The purchase of wheelchairs for the Emergency Department.

Rebekah Kwa

University of Sydney
Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital
Apia, Samoa

\$1,500 community donation use:
A donation to the Samoan Family Health Association to run family planning and reproductive health education programs.



Be inspired by their life-changing experiences

To see the potential of an Elective Grant we encourage you to view the reports of our past recipients available on our website. These students visited regions all over the world and have incredible stories and photographs to share.



"Undertaking my elective in Ghana is probably the best decision I've made since deciding to pursue medicine as a career. I was exposed to a completely different cultural and medical environment than anything I will ever see in Australia, and had the opportunity to learn about customs and traditions rarely encountered in Melbourne hospitals. I definitely recommend undertaking an overseas elective and think that it was by far the most valuable placement I undertook as a medical student."

Emily Fitt

Effia Nkwanta Regional Hospital, Ghana



"I used my medical elective as an opportunity to gain insight into an area of medicine to which I had not been previously exposed, namely practising medicine in an under-resourced context.

Now returned home, I reflect on the placement feeling a deep sense of privilege at having had such an elective opportunity at Hopitaly Vaovao Mahafaly (The Good News Hospital) in Mandritsara, learning first-hand what it is like to provide medical care in a sometimes, quite difficult, context.

This placement offered everything that I had hoped for in an elective plus a whole lot more!

Kaspar Fiebig
Good News Hospital, Madagascar

MIGA's free insurance protection for medical students

Why do students need insurance?

As a medical student you never quite know when you could become involved in a medical emergency. Even if you consider yourself a sensible, conscientious student you are not immune to legal or disciplinary action. It's important to remember you don't need to be at fault – you might unknowingly get on the wrong side of someone or simply be in the wrong place at the wrong time. It can happen easily and quickly escalate out of your control.

Why take unnecessary risks when you can ensure you're covered by MIGA at no cost to you?

*MIGA reserves the right to withdraw this offer or to vary it in the future, such as by changing the period for which free cover is provided. We will notify any change in advance and it will not take effect until the next renewal so that you can consider it when making future decisions about your cover.

Insurance policies available through MIGA are issued by Medical Insurance Australia Pty Ltd (AFSL 255906). MIGA has not taken into account your personal objectives or situation. Before you make any decisions about our policies, please read our Combined Financial Services Guide and Product Disclosure Statement and Policy Wording and consider your personal needs. Call MIGA for a copy or visit our website.

What's in it for me?

MIGA offers free insurance protection for medical students, with automatic cover for:

- Elective and scholarship placements
- Clinical placements
- Emergency medical assistance you provide (also known as Good Samaritan Acts)
- Medical Board and Tribunal matters
- Coronial inquiries and criminal investigations.

There are also many other benefits relevant to your study and future as a doctor:

- Access to the Elective Grants Program
- Free 24/7 medico-legal support and advice
- Free intern insurance*
- Regular emails including easy-to-enter online competitions
- Access to our Bulletins and other educational material.



What are you waiting for?

Your medical skills are needed desperately.

Submit your application today, because *together* we can make a difference.



Join online today

To be protected by our FREE medical student insurance, visit www.miga.com.au and complete our simple online Application Form.

It only takes a few minutes, with confirmation sent straight to your inbox.



About MIGA

MIGA is a national provider of medical indemnity insurance and associated services to the medical profession across Australia. We have been supporting and protecting the medical profession for over 120 years.

At MIGA, our philosophy is focussed on being there for our clients.

'Always' expresses our commitment to providing the highest level of personal service and professional support. Whether it is arranging your insurance, dealing with a claim or seeking advice or information, you can always rely on us.

Always the first choice for
your medical indemnity
insurance and protection



**General Enquiries
and Client Service**

Free Call 1800 777 156

Facsimile 1800 839 284

Claims and Legal Services

(During Office hours and 24 hour
emergency legal support)

Free Call 1800 839 280

Facsimile 1800 839 281

miga@miga.com.au

www.miga.com.au