

Guidelines

Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei

Seek the treasure you value most dearly: if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain

Introduction

Adult educators who work in the literacy/language/numeracy/critical thinking/essential learning areas work in an exciting and challenging space. They may work with a broad range of learners whose engagement in the learning relationship is governed by a range of individual, social, and economic factors, including widely varying past educational experience, age and gender, health and disability, income, agency, culture, colonisation, language background, and so on. Learners may be working at different levels, from foundation to advanced, and in a range of programme areas. Educators may be part of a supportive team, but they may also be working in isolation. The demands on educators are consequently high and multi-faceted. Professional development is an essential part of mindful, effective, growing and satisfying practice.

Purpose

Literacy Christchurch valued access to high quality professional learning for educators and believed that the more challenging the work, the more professional learning needs to be supported and made accessible.

Literacy Christchurch and Risingholme Learning have made this one-off scholarship fund of \$5000 to support access to professional learning chosen by the educator(s) to support their practice at this point in their career.

This fund is designed to provide individual educator/s a professional development opportunity they may otherwise find difficult due to financial limitations or because the type of learning may not be prioritized by their institution/organization or employer.

Note: This fund is not available to institutions/organisations or to support an individual's professional development already planned and/or funded.

Eligibility

- Be either a New Zealand citizen or permanent resident
- Be a Canterbury based adult educator who works (paid or unpaid, full-time, or part-time) in the literacy/language/numeracy/critical thinking/essential learning areas of adult education
- Be applying for support to participate in new learning relevant to your practice and its context, including that to address a particular challenge you have identified and/or challenges you have identified.

What the scholarship covers?

- Course fee and/or course related costs, ie text book, travel, accommodation etc up to a maximum value of \$2,000
- Cannot be redeemed for cash

How to apply?

- Submit an application form, including providing a personal statement (750–1000 words) and two referees that can speak to your work.
- **Personal Statement must include -**
 - Introduce yourself and include an overview of your career to date
 - Describe the context of work you do and how it aligns with your work in the literacy/language/numeracy/critical thinking/essential learning areas of adult education.
 - Tell us the contribution your chosen professional learning for will make to your practice. You may wish to describe a particular challenge you have identified and are wishing to address.
 - Provide supporting evidence you think will help us understand who you are as an educator at this point in your career, the challenges in your practice, and where you would like to take your career.
- Provide a summary and evidence of all expected costs related to the professional development activity applying for, eg course fees and/or course related costs, ie materials, travel, accommodation etc applying for up to the maximum value of \$2000
- Dates of the proposed professional development activity
- Provide two referees that can speak to your work (Your referees must not be an immediate family member, friend, or flatmate). For example, work colleague, employer etc
- Please include evidence that you been accepted into the course and pre-enrolled, if applying for support with course fees
- Applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis
- Applications close on **Thursday 30 November 2023**
- Applicants will be notified of the decision by email by **Friday 15 December 2023**
- Decision made by the Scholarships Approval Panel is final

Once you have submitted your application and supporting document you may be contacted to discuss your application at the time of consideration.

Responsibilities of Scholarship Recipients

- Recipients must have completed their professional development activity by the end of 2024
- Recipient will be required to provide two reports – a short report midway through and a final report at the conclusion of the scholarship funded professional development activity
- By accepting the scholarship, recipient/s agree to participate in promotional activities that celebrates this scholarship

For all enquiries, please email ace@risingholme.org.nz