



Stuart Ayres

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism
and Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW TO BENEFIT FROM EVENT MANAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Future industry leaders living in regional areas across the State can now apply for one of 12 event management scholarships thanks to the NSW Government's partnership with Meetings and Events Australia (MEA).

Minister for Jobs, Investment, Tourism and Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said the scholarships, which are each valued at \$7,500, aim to boost regional economies by upskilling those who are working in the events industry.

"The tourism and events industry has taken a massive hit as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, with many businesses forced to stand down workers, reduce hours and staffing levels and in some cases, close their doors," Mr Ayres said.

"The need for a skilled workforce has always played a critical role in delivering successful events but is now more essential than ever as we plan to enter the recovery phase following the crisis.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for those working in tourism and events in regional NSW looking to further their career, and I encourage them to apply now for the MEA scholarship program which is exclusive to NSW."

MEA Chief Executive Officer Robyn Johnson said the Diploma of Event Management has been designed to further support people in their careers via remote learning.

"MEA is excited to partner with Destination NSW to help upskill and future-proof the NSW business events sector. MEA's Diploma of Event Management is highly regarded and this is a wonderful opportunity for students to gain credentials, join the industry or further their career in events," Ms Johnson said.

The scholarship program is part of the NSW Government's \$6 million Regional Conferencing Strategy and Action Plan developed by the State's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Scholarship applications close on Friday 17 July 2020. For more information and to apply for a scholarship, visit www.meetinnsw.com.au/scholarships