



# **Daryl Maguire MP**

*Member for Wagga Wagga*

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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25 September 2017

### **MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS IN WAGGA WAGGA ELECTORATE TO BOOST QUALIFICATIONS**

The NSW Government continues to back early childhood educators in the Wagga Wagga electorate, with a new Rural and Remote Early Childhood Teaching Incentive Scholarship program which will provide funding to students currently undertaking their degree.

The Incentive Scholarships will target educators working in rural and remote areas of NSW, like the Wagga electorate and will contribute to the development of a higher quality early childhood education workforce.

The new program builds on the success of the existing Rural and Remote Early Childhood Teaching Scholarships program, which has seen students graduating and continuing to work in early childhood services around the state.

“This new program is great news for early childhood educators in our electorate with grants of up to \$9,000 to go towards study costs incurred during studies, such as textbooks, travel costs and technology,” Daryl Maguire MP, Member for Wagga Wagga said.

Mr Maguire says the previous successful uptake of the scholarships program demonstrates the importance of supporting educators while they advance their qualifications.

“The NSW Government recognises many early childhood educators who have already commenced their course will appreciate financial support to complete their degree,”

“As a result of the additional training, more children across the Wagga electorate will have access to highly skilled early childhood teachers delivering quality education programs.

“High quality early childhood education for our children is critical in ensuring they have the best start to their school life as possible, and early childhood teachers are absolutely essential in achieving this.” Said Mr Maguire.

Eligible candidates must be working in a rural or remote centre based preschool, mobile preschool or long day care service and have already commenced an early childhood teaching degree.

Applications for the Incentive Scholarships are currently open. For more information on the scholarships and how to apply, visit the Department of Education website at

<http://www.dec.nsw.gov.au/what-we-offer/regulation-and-accreditation/early-childhood-education-care/workforce/incentive-scholarships>

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