

# pay it forward

## SCHOLARSHIPS



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### MEDIA RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **\$2M scholarship program to help with COVID**

Gold Cost, Queensland – A \$2M private scholarship program was recently launched to help people obtain a vocational qualification that leads to new career options.

The scholarships are available from Pay It Forward Scholarships ([www.pifs.org.au](http://www.pifs.org.au)), a non-profit foundation that helps people who have been impacted by events beyond their control, including the ongoing COVID crisis. Courses are delivered via face-to-face and online pathways.

In return, scholarship recipients must agree to help three other people in a significant manner within a year of completing their course. That is, to 'pay it forward'.

Carl Mocnik, the Managing Director, said: "I was exposed to this powerful idea by Catherine Ryan Hyde, who wrote the book 'Pay it Forward', from which the Kevin Spacey / Helen Hunt movie was made. I am also proud to say that Catherine fully supports the foundation and has kindly agreed to become our patron."

Eleven Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and other private training companies have so far teamed with the foundation. "We look forward to more training organisations joining us over time to help those who need a helping hand," said Carl Mocnik.

An early supporter of the scholarship program is Plenty Training ([www.plenty.edu.au](http://www.plenty.edu.au)), one of Australia's largest RTOs providing the "train-the trainer" qualification. Plenty Training has released an \$869,000 scholarship specifically targeted at those who have lost their jobs due to the ongoing COVID crisis. Six hundred seats with a 50% funded scholarship are available to those who wish to obtain the TAE40116 Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, allowing them to transition into a trainer and assessor role.

"This is a massive program in itself that will help struggling Australians, many of whom have spent their lives helping others," said Carl Mocnik. "Many people have a wealth of knowledge and experience but may not have considered a career based on sharing their gift with the world. This option also offers significant personal rewards, and qualified trainers are currently in high demand throughout Australia."

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**About PIFS:** Pay It Forward Scholarships ([www.pifs.org.au](http://www.pifs.org.au)) is a registered charity that enables people who have been impacted by events beyond their control to attend vocational training courses that are delivered by members of Australia's 4,000+ nationally registered vocational colleges and other private training organisations. Scholarships are targeted at people who need a helping hand to make a change in their lives by obtaining a qualification that leads to new career options.

**About Plenty Training:** Plenty Training ([www.plenty.edu.au](http://www.plenty.edu.au)) works with everyday Australians who have a wealth of knowledge and experience and who want to share their gift with the world. Over the past decade, Plenty Training has helped more than 30,000 everyday Australians discover and benefit from their untapped potential. They also work with some of Australia's most well-known companies who recognise and value the asset of their people's experience.

**Image:** Overleaf



Ms. Catherine Ryan Hyde, author of the book "Pay it Forward" and patron of the Pay It Forward Scholarship foundation