

Home > Latest News > MEA announces six recipients of 2019 scholarship program

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The six successful recipients of the 2019 Meetings & Events Australia’s Diploma of Event Management Scholarship program have been announced.

Designed to upskill and create more job opportunities for those living in rural and regional NSW, the scholarship program is part of the NSW Government’s partnership with MEA.

The new students who are from the six Destination Networks in NSW, will undertake the Diploma via an online portal and have access to face to face event management workshops every 10 weeks, bootcamps and webinars to support them during their study.

MEA currently has 16 students studying event management from the first round of scholarships with a number of these students due to complete the Diploma at the end of 2019. The program is already delivering successful outcomes for regional businesses as the students gain knowledge and confidence in attracting and delivering events to their destinations.

"Growing tourism in rural and regional NSW is a top priority and Government funding, as well as initiatives, such as the Regional Scholarships Program, see the NSW Government through our tourism and major events agency Destination NSW, continue to drive record-breaking overnight visitation throughout the State," said NSW Minister Tourism Stuart Ayres.

"The regional conferencing sector presents a significant growth opportunity for NSW, because we know that these types of events generate extra business for our restaurants, attractions and accommodation providers. This creates more jobs and ultimately fuels the local economy, so it's only natural that we look to invest in up and coming talent who share this passion and help them achieve their goals for their community."

MEA CEO Robyn Johnson congratulated the recipients, saying they are already making valuable contributions to their local communities.

"They will join an engaged group of students and have the opportunity to meet and network with the events industry," she said.

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