BACKGROUND
The MS McLeod Research Fund Paediatric/Child Health Nursing (PCHN) Fellowship provides an excellent opportunity for a paediatric/children’s health nurse to gain research training and experience leading to a higher degree in any aspect of paediatric/child health nursing. The Fellow will undertake a supervised research project in conjunction with the Department of Nursing & Midwifery Research & Practice Development and a relevant area within Children, Youth and Women’s Health Service (CYWHS). The Fellow will be registered for the degree of Masters by Research or PhD at the University of South Australia, University of Adelaide or Flinders University, in Adelaide, South Australia.

ELIGIBILITY
In order to be eligible to be awarded the Fellowship, an applicant must be:
• registered as a nurse with the Nurses Board of South Australia and hold a current practising certificate
• eligible to enrol for a full-time higher degree of Masters by Research or PhD at the University of South Australia, Adelaide University or Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia
• an Australian or New Zealand citizen or have permanent residence status in Australia by the closing date for applications.

APPLICATIONS
Applications will be called by national advertisement.

Applicants will be required to discuss their proposed research with the Heads of the relevant clinical area(s) of CYWHS and to obtain ‘in principle’ cooperation and support. Applicants must liaise with the respective Divisional Chief(s) before approaching the Unit Heads. Applicants will also be required to discuss their research project with the Postgraduate Coordinator of their preferred University. The applicant will then be required to submit a fully documented application for appraisal by the selection committee.

The application will consist of:
1. A completed application form, including:
   • brief summary of the proposed research
   • written support from the Head(s) of the relevant clinical area(s) where the candidate intends to undertake the study
   • written confirmation from a proposed supervisor(s) from the University of South Australia/University of Adelaide/Flinders University who will co-supervise the research project (in conjunction with Professor Philip Darbyshire)
   • names, addresses and contact details (tel/fax/email) for three referees from whom confidential references may be obtained concerning the applicant’s skills, abilities and personal suitability for the proposed Fellowship
2. Curriculum vitae, detailing professional and academic qualifications, experience and research interest
3. Certified copies of academic transcripts.
SELECTION PROCESS
The ranking and selection of applicants will be undertaken by the PCHN Fellowship Selection Committee. Criteria for award will be the academic and professional merit, abilities and skills of the applicant, the feasibility of the project to be successfully completed in the department(s) of choice and the referees' reports.

Interviews with applicants will be held at the discretion of the Selection Committee. Award of the Fellowship will be subject to acceptance for higher degree candidature at a SA University.

TENURE
The Fellow will undertake a supervised research project in conjunction with Department(s) of CYWHS and either University of South Australia, University of Adelaide or Flinders University.

The Fellowship is normally tenable, subject to satisfactory academic progress, for up to 2 years for studies for the degree of Masters by Research or up to 3 years for the degree of PhD. The Fellow enrolled for a Masters degree may upgrade to PhD studies provided that there is no interval between Masters and Doctoral candidature. Because a fellowship normally expires on completion of a degree, the student must ensure that the progression to PhD is arranged before the Masters studies are completed.

For PhD candidates, an extension of up to an additional 6 months may be considered (ie to a total of three and a half years). Such an extension would only be granted where it can be demonstrated that inability to complete the degree within three years was caused by circumstances beyond the control of the student and related to his or her studies rather than of a personal nature. All extensions are subject to the consideration and approval of the WCH Foundation. An application for extension must be made, in writing, six months prior to the end of the Fellow's contract.

The Fellow will be accommodated within the Department of Nursing & Midwifery Research & Practice Development at CYWHS. This is a thriving research area which will provide a challenging and supportive climate for the Fellow's research development. Computing and other research infrastructure support will be made available in the Department.

REMUNERATION
- The annual Fellowship stipend is $25,000 per annum.
- A goods and services budget of $2,000 per annum is available to support the research study. The Fellow will submit quarterly accounts of research expenditure to the secretary of the Department of Nursing & Midwifery Research & Practice Development.
- The Fellow will also be eligible to apply for other awards and allowances available to postgraduate students at their chosen university.

For more information, please contact Dr Andrea Averis, Director, Research Secretariat (andrea.averis@cywhs.sa.gov.au), Children, Youth and Women's Health Service, 72 King William Road, North Adelaide, SA 5006.

APPLICATIONS
Applications (original plus five copies) must be lodged with the Research Grants Officer, c/-Research Secretariat, Children, Youth and Women's Health Service, 72 King William Road, North Adelaide SA 5006

by 4:00pm on the closing date: Monday 3 November 2008