



MEDIA RELEASE

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SUPPORTING SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S RURAL COMMUNITIES – SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE IN AGRICULTURE AWARDS 2015

Want to excel in your chosen career? If you are from rural South Australia and are young - then you may be eligible to receive a grant from the Agricultural Bureau of South Australia through its Spirit of Excellence in Agriculture Awards program.

Each year two awards are available providing the opportunity for young farmers and young people in rural communities to improve their personal and professional development skills and to have options of further study in their chosen career.

Applications are now open for one of the Ag Bureau's longest running awards, The Peter Olsen Fellowship and the Rural Youth Bursary which are valued at \$8000 and \$5000 respectively.

Funded by the Ag Bureau, The Peter Olsen Fellowship, named after Peter Olsen who was a serving member of the Advisory Board of Agriculture when he was killed in the Whyalla plane crash in 2000 provides a young farmer the opportunity to improve personal and professional development skills.

The Fellowship is open to SA primary producers (including agriculture, horticulture, viticulture and aquaculture) between the ages of 18-35 who have been involved in farming for the past 12 months.

The Rural Youth Bursary *sponsored by Primary Industries and Region SA (PIRSA)* is for a young person (18-30), working in a rural community, not necessarily in agriculture to undertake further study in their chosen career with an ultimate benefit to their community.

Mark Grossman, Chair of the Advisory Board of Agriculture said that the successful recipients are chosen on their abilities, achievements, vision and motivation for success.

"The Ag Bureau of SA is proud to continue to encourage and support rural youth who are working not only in primary production but in careers that sustain rural communities," said Mr Grossman.

"We encourage all members of the community to nominate and encourage applicants."

Applications close 31 August 2015 and applications forms are available under Awards on [Ag Bureau of SA website](http://www.agbureau.com.au)

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