



2023 Bursary Application Information Guide

Please note that bursary funding is not available two years in a row. If you received a bursary to attend the 2019 National Suicide Prevention Conference in Melbourne please do not proceed with your application.

Thank you for your interest in receiving financial support (a bursary) to attend the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2023 (NSPC) on 1-4 May in Canberra.

Suicide Prevention Australia encourages the inclusion of people with a lived/living experience of suicide in discussions and activities about suicide prevention. There are many barriers that can make it hard for some people to attend the conference and bursary funding helps individuals with a lived/living experience of suicide to participate.

A lived/living experience of suicide is having experienced suicidal thoughts, survived a suicide attempt, cared for someone through suicidal crisis, or been bereaved by suicide. We know that many people with a lived experience of suicide also identify as mental health consumers and/or carers.

We understand that content discussed in these pages may be triggering. If you feel you need support, please contact Lifeline on 13 11 14 (24 hours/7 days), or chat to a crisis supporter via text message on 0477 13 11 14 (6pm – midnight AEDT) or online at www.lifeline.org.au (7pm – midnight AEDT)

Am I ready to attend the conference?

Please think carefully about the potential impact of being among 650+ people, all of whom are talking about suicide in some context, such as researchers, academics and service providers as well as people who have a lived/living experience of suicide. For some attendees, the added layer of being away from home and their normal day-to-day routines and support structures sometimes contributes to distress. This can be even more challenging after spending all day in the conference and then returning to a hotel room alone. Connecting with people socially is important.

See additional resources here:

[A Guide to Self-Care](#)

and

[Guidelines for talking safely about suicide.](#)

Eligibility criteria

Provision of bursaries is completely dependent on Suicide Prevention Australia receiving bursary funding from state and territory governments and other sponsors. The conference organisers cannot guarantee the availability of bursary funds for the 2023 conference.

If funding is available, there are usually many more applications for a bursary than there are funds. For this reason, bursary applicants are requested to make an application.

The eligibility criteria includes the following:

1. Have a lived/living experience of suicide
2. Face financial constraints that prevent you attending NSPC without a bursary
3. Not have received a bursary for the 2019 conference
4. Be able to attend all three days of the conference (1-4 May 2023)
5. Be aged 18 years or older
6. Be an Australian resident

When is my application due?

Bursary applications must be received either online or via email no later than 5.00pm AEST (Sydney time) on Friday 2 December 2022.

We will notify you of the outcome of your application via email by 27 January 2023.

What does a bursary cover?

The bursary is a contribution towards the expenses required to attend the conference. This can include flights, accommodation and/ or registration. However, applicants may not require all three. You will be asked to identify if you need a full or partial bursary in the application.

Up to four nights' accommodation and breakfast will be included. Meals served during the conference include morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea and the conference dinner on Wednesday 3 May. These are all included in the conference registration fee, which will be paid through the bursary.

Bursaries do not cover personal expenses such as costs associated with dry cleaning, room service, pay TV, movie hire, mini-bar, tips or meals that are not included as part of the conference.

A number of pre-conference workshops will be held prior the conference. Importantly, please note, there is an additional cost involved with these workshops and they are not covered by the bursary.

What will you ask me?

We will ask questions to help the selection panel understand why you want to attend the conference and what makes it difficult for you to attend without financial support. This means that we need some personal information for the selection panel to review the applications. Every question is important and will assist bursary funders to ensure equity across different communities of bursary recipients. However, you should only share information that you are comfortable sharing.

We also acknowledge that completing this online form can be difficult for some people. The selection panel is judging applications on the content of your answers, not how well you write. You may like to talk with someone in your network to assist you in completing the application.

If your application is successful, Suicide Prevention Australia and [StandBy: Support After Suicide, a sponsor of the conference](#), will contact you via telephone to help you prepare for the conference.

Starting the application

We encourage you to complete your application in one sitting.

Some questions require you to write your answers so you may find it easier to do these in a word document first and then paste them into the application form.

Some of the questions we will ask you are below so you may want to prepare your answers in advance.

- Why is attending this conference important to you? (100-200 words or less)
- What are the financial constraints you face that prevent you attending NSPC without a bursary? (100-200 words or less)
- How do you expect to use the learnings in your personal or professional life, or in your community? (100-200 words or less)

Important Information

If you would like to withdraw your application after you have submitted it, please contact Suicide Prevention Australia via email to events@suicidepreventionaust.org.

If your application is accepted and you receive a bursary to attend the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2023 but are no longer able to attend, please contact Suicide Prevention Australia immediately via email events@suicidepreventionaust.org so that another bursary recipient can attend the conference instead.

If you require special services to manage disability or accessibility, please inform Suicide Prevention Australia immediately via email events@suicidepreventionaust.org.

The information in your application may be shared with the selection panel, the bursary funding body and StandBy Support After Suicide throughout the shortlisting process. Please view the Suicide Prevention Australia [Privacy Statement](#) for more information.

Dates to remember

31 October 2022	Bursary applications open
2 December 2022	Bursary applications close
27 January 2023	Bursary applicants notified of outcome

Conference dates

Mon	1 May 2023	Pre-conference workshops (not included in a bursary)
Tue	2 May 2023	Conference Day 1 & Networking Reception
Wed	3 May 2023	Conference Day 2 & Conference Dinner
Thu	4 May 2023	Conference Day 3

To learn more about the 2023 conference please visit the [website](#).

To learn more about Suicide Prevention Australia and our role as the peak body for the suicide prevention sector, please visit our [website](#).

To begin your application – [please click here](#)

Bursary Application Form – Questions

Questions in this application form are asked to ensure applicants meet the eligibility criteria; help determine how to allocate funds; and will speed up the registration and booking process for successful applicants. To begin your application – [please click here](#)

Once you commence your application, the following questions will be asked:

Please enter your contact details:

- Full name
- Address
- Suburb
- Town
- Postcode
- State
- Email address
- Confirm email address
- Mobile phone number
- Other phone number (landline)

Are you an Australian resident?

- Yes
- No

Which of the following best describes your current gender identity?

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary / gender fluid
- Different identity (please state)
- I prefer not to answer

Do you consider yourself to be:

- Lesbian, gay or homosexual
- Straight or heterosexual
- Bisexual
- Queer
- Different identity (please state)

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

- No
- Yes, Aboriginal
- Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Do you speak a language other than English at home?

If more than one language, indicate the one that is spoken most often

- No, English only
- Yes, other—please specify:

What is your age?

- 18 - 20 years old
- 20 - 29 years old
- 30 - 39 years old
- 40 - 49 years old
- 50 - 59 years old
- 60+ years old

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What is your lived/living experience of suicide? Select all that apply.

Lived/living experience of suicide: is having experienced suicidal thoughts, survived a suicide attempt, cared for someone through suicidal crisis, or been bereaved by suicide.

- I have experienced suicidal thoughts
- I have survived a suicide attempt
- I care for or have cared for someone through a suicidal crisis
- I have lost someone to suicide (am bereaved)
- I do not have a lived experience of suicide

Have you applied to make a presentation at the conference?

- Yes, I have applied to present
- No, I have not applied to present

Why would you like to attend this conference? (in 100-200 words or less)

Open text answer

Why are you in need of a bursary to attend the conference? (in 100-200 words or less)

Please provide details about your financial constraints

Open text answer

How do you expect to use the learnings in your personal or professional life, or in your community? (in 100-200 words or less)

Open text

Which of the below activities you are willing to participate in?

Select all that apply

- Complete a short post conference survey
- A meeting with the funding body to present key findings and learnings from the Conference
- A meeting with the funding body to discuss ideas as to what could potentially be drawn upon in your region in the current service system for improvement and innovation
- Participate in providing advice in relation to the Suicide Prevention action plan as a component of the Regional Plan
- I am unable to participate in any of the above activities

What financial support do you require?

Select all that apply

- Return flights to Canberra
- Other travel
- Accommodation
- Conference registration (1-4 May 2023 inclusive)

What is the estimate dollar amount needed?

Open text answer

Do you require special travel and/or accommodation support due to disability or accessibility?

If "yes" please also advise the travel and accommodation consultants when you are contacted to arrange these aspects of your bursary.

- Yes
- No

By submitting my application for a bursary for financial support to attend the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2023 in Canberra I declare that:

- Due to financial constraints, I would not be able to attend the conference without a bursary.
- I understand that bursaries do not cover personal expenses.
- I understand the information in this application may be shared with the selection panel, travel management team, funding bodies and StandBy Support After Suicide during the application review stage and travel booking process
- If I receive a bursary, I will complete the post-conference survey.
- All information in this application is true and correct.
- I understand that applying for a bursary does not guarantee that I will receive funding to attend the conference.

Your application is complete

Thank you for applying for financial support (bursary) to attend the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2023.

You will receive communication of the outcome by 27 January 2023.

One final reminder - please make a note of these dates:

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END Guidelines.