



Build Hope.
Drive Change.

18 - 20 MAY 2027

HOTEL GRAND
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Bursary Guidelines

Suicide Prevention Australia values the insights of people with lived experience* of suicide, and the important contributions they make to suicide prevention discussions and activities. We understand that some individuals face financial difficulties that make it hard to attend the conference, so we offer them the opportunity to apply for a bursary to support their participation.

*For eligibility purposes, we define a person with lived experience of suicide as having experienced suicidal thoughts, survived a suicide attempt, cared for someone through a suicidal crisis or been bereaved by suicide.

Please note, if you received a bursary to attend NSPC24, NSPC25 or NSPC26, you are unfortunately not eligible to apply for a bursary for the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2027 (NSPC27). This is to ensure that the process remains equitable and improves the chances for more people to attend the conference.

Am I ready to attend?

NSPC27 will involve frequent discussion of suicide and suicide-related experiences. Being away from familiar routines, environments and support networks may also be challenging for some people. We encourage you to consider what support you may need before, during and after the conference.

You may find it helpful to think about:

- Who could you contact for support while attending?
- What could help you take breaks, manage difficult content or remain engaged during the day?
- How will you look after yourself outside conference hours?
- How could you maintain or adapt the routines and supports you usually rely on?

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Eligibility criteria

The provision of bursaries is dependent on Suicide Prevention Australia receiving bursary funding from the Federal Government, State and Territory Governments and/or other sponsors. The conference organisers cannot guarantee the availability of bursary funds for NSPC27.

Applying for a bursary ensures that the process remains equitable, as we often receive more bursary applications than available funding.

The eligibility criteria includes the following:

- Are a person with lived experience of suicide
- Face financial constraints that would prevent you attending the National Suicide Prevention Conference if you did not receive a bursary
- Did not receive a bursary for the National Suicide Prevention Conference 2024, 2025 or 2026
- Can attend all three days of the conference (18-20 May 2027)
- Are aged 18 years or older
- Are an Australian resident
- Are willing to participate in the post-conference survey.

Bursary judging process

Each bursary application is assessed by a review panel comprising both Suicide Prevention Australia representatives and independent external reviewers. Applications are reviewed by three to four panel members to ensure each applicant receives fair and equitable consideration.

Reviewers assess applications independently and without reference to each other's scores or assessments. This process ensures that funding decisions are informed by multiple perspectives and that outcomes reflect an objective, balanced, and transparent evaluation of each application.

Eligible applications will be assessed according to:

- demonstrated financial need
- importance and relevance of attending
- how the applicant intends to use or share the learnings from conference
- geographic and community equity, and
- any relevant funder requirements.

Abstract recipients

If you are successful in receiving an abstract to present at NSPC27, this does not guarantee you a place to receive a bursary.

What does a bursary cover

A bursary may cover all expenses directly related to attending the conference. This can include your registration fees, accommodation and transportation to the conference. However, recipients may not require all three.

You will be asked to indicate if you require a full or partial bursary in your application. Please note, if you do not indicate which expenses you need the bursary to cover, we may consider your application incomplete.

Bursary inclusions:

- One (1) full conference registration
- All meals served during the conference include morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea and the Welcome Reception.
- Up to four (4) nights accommodation and hotel breakfast, with check in on Monday 17 May 2027 and check out on Thursday 20 May 2027.
 - Any additional nights' accommodation will be at your expense.
- Reimbursement post-conference for public transport transfers to and from the airport or train station to conference.
- Your attendance at the LiFE Awards Gala Dinner** on Wednesday 19 May 2027 will also be covered by the bursary.

If you are successful in getting a bursary, Suicide Prevention Australia's event organiser and travel partner ASN Events, will liaise with you before securing your desired flight times and dates.

Note: Unless an airline changes your flight, your bursary does not cover any expenses incurred due to requests for flight times and date changes once a booking has been confirmed.

Bursary exclusions:

- Personal expenses such as the 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, mobile phone charges.
- Pre-conference workshops are not included.

***Important note: Queensland bursary recipients will not have the LiFE Awards Gala Dinner and hotel breakfast included. They can opt to add The National LiFE Awards Gala Dinner ticket at their own cost. This is due to policy dictated by the Queensland Government.*



Starting the application

Some questions require longer responses of at least 100 words and no more than 200 words. You may find it helpful to draft these in a Word document or another program over several sessions, then copy and paste them into the application when you are ready. This gives you time to review your responses and keep a copy in case of technical difficulties.

The longer questions (100-200 words*) are:

- *Why is attending NSPC27 important to you?
- *What financial constraints do you face that would prevent you from attending NSPC27 without a bursary?
- *How do you expect to use the learnings from the conference in your personal or professional life, or in your community?

While you do not need to provide a detailed account of your lived experience, please include enough relevant information to address the question. Each longer response in the application includes a brief guide explaining what the selection panel will assess.

[START BURSARY APPLICATION](#)

Or visit: <https://wkf.ms/450lByb>

Important information

Bursary outcome notifications will commence from December 2026. Please note that not all applicants will receive their notification on the same day — notifications are sent on a rolling basis as and when government funding is received to support bursaries. If someone you know has already received their notification, this does not mean you have been unsuccessful.

Please email nspc27@asnevents.net.au if you need to:

- Withdraw your application after you have submitted it.
- Received a bursary to attend NSPC27 but you are no longer able to attend. This will allow another bursary applicant to attend the conference in your place.
- Have a carer, require accessibility or support assistance at NSPC27, so we can arrange reasonable adjustments.

Please note, the information you provide in your application may be shared with the selection panel and the bursary funding body throughout the shortlisting process. Please view the Suicide Prevention Australia [Privacy Policy](#) for more information.

We understand that the content discussed in these pages may be distressing. If you need support, we encourage you to reach out to:

- Lifeline on 13 11 14 (24 hours/7 days), or
- Chat to a crisis supporter via text message on 0477 13 11 14 or online at lifeline.org.au

If you have any questions about the bursary application process, please contact:
nspc27@asnevents.net.au