



OPTOMETRY COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

Bursary support 2023

The Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand (OCANZ) is offering bursaries to Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori students and/or academics who are working with one or more Australian or New Zealand optometry schools to improve the delivery of culturally safe curriculum and have a strong interest in Indigenous health. Each bursary is for up to \$2,000 to contribute to the costs of registration, travel, accommodation and meals to attend a professional development event approved by OCANZ, including but not limited to the:

- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference, Dharug Country, Western Sydney, Wednesday 24 to Friday 26 May 2023. [2023 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference \(unimelb.edu.au\)](http://unimelb.edu.au)
- O=MEGA23 (World Congress of Optometry), Melbourne, Friday 8 to Sunday 10 September 2023. [OMEGA23 \(omega-event.org\)](http://omega-event.org)
- ICOVS 2023: 17. International Conference on Optometry and Visual Science, Auckland, Aotearoa / New Zealand, Friday 1 to Saturday 2 December 2023. [International Conference on Ophthalmology and Optometry ICOO in December 2023 in Auckland \(waset.org\)](http://waset.org)
- IAHA National Conference, Sunshine Coast, Monday 27 to Wednesday 29 November 2023. [2023 IAHA National Conference - Indigenous Allied Health Australia](http://iaha.org.au)
- Slice of LIME Seminars, online, various dates 2023
- Other learning opportunities / events as negotiated by applicant.

The purpose of the bursaries is to:

- Support and encourage those with an interest in Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health education to gain professional development and increased learning in the field of eye health.
- Provide financial support to those who may be interested in presenting at the nominated conferences (presentation is encouraged but is not a requirement).
- Support attendees to highlight the OCANZ commitment to improving Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori health education to other delegates.
- Support leadership opportunities for those community members involved with Optometry Indigenous health education.
- Strengthen the active involvement of community with optometry schools.

Successful recipients of the bursary will be selected on the basis of their:

- Demonstrated interest and experience with Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori health AND / or optometry education
- Commitment to improving Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and/or Māori eye health in the future
- Active involvement with optometry programs
- Endorsement by the relevant accredited optometry program.



Successful bursary applicants will be required to present to the OCANZ Board their learnings from the event(s) they have attended and are invited to share their learning story in the OCANZ newsletter.

To apply, please provide a 300-word application outlining the basis for the application, to be accompanied by a statement of endorsement from the relevant accredited optometry program. Applications can be submitted to projectofficer@ocanz.org by **Friday 3 March 2023**. Please indicate in your application if you give OCANZ consent to share your bursary story in the OCANZ newsletter.

As an equal opportunity measure, applicants must be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander or Māori to be eligible for a bursary under this program.