

**NCPTS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INFORMATION  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP/S for 2024 Conferences**

**Scholarships to attend the IPVC, Edinburgh November 2024**

**Applications now open, closing Friday 28th March 2024**

The NCPTS offers scholarships to scientific and technical staff working in New Zealand laboratories providing reporting services to the NCSP. The international awards are to assist with costs incurred in attending international courses and conferences outside of Australasia.

The NCSP funds the scholarships and the NCPTS administers the awards with professional oversight provided by the NCPTS National Training Committee. A selection panel including an independent chair oversees allocation of the awards, where there are more applicants than scholarships available. The number of scholarships available varies from year to year, depending on funding.

For 2024, NCPTS Scholarships are being offered to 1-2 applicants to attend a specific conference:

**The 36th International Papillomavirus Conference (IPVC) in Edinburgh, November 12-15, 2024, titled: Equitable, evidence-based approaches to HPV Disease**

Further details are available at <https://ipvconference.org/>

**Applications for these NCPTS scholarships are now open and will be received up to 28 March 2024.**

- The conference is focused on disorders caused by HPV, has a strong research component and includes basic science, clinical and public health workshops. Applications are restricted to this conference in 2024 because of its particular value after the recent transition to HPV primary screening in New Zealand.
- The scholarship/s are worth up to \$9,000 each (including GST where applicable) in accordance with the NCSP Scholarship Terms and Conditions
- Priority will be given to Lead molecular scientists working in the field of HPV testing. Cytoscientists/cytotechnicians are also welcome to apply.
- The NCPTS reserves the right to award scholarships to either one or two applicants.

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

1. Applicants must be practicing in a New Zealand laboratory providing services to the NCSP in at least one of the following roles:
  - i. A molecular scientist performing HPV Testing

- ii. A cytoscientist or cytotechnician reporting gynaecological cytology. Cytotechnicians must have at least 5 years of full-time (or equivalent part-time) post-qualification experience to be eligible for an international scholarship.
2. Applicants must be fully registered with the Medical Sciences Council at the time of application.
  3. For international scholarships, a leadership role in the laboratory of employment is a requirement.

## REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSALS

A proposal to attend a specific course or conference is required and must be of an acceptable professional standard. It is appreciated that detailed costs will not be available until bookings are confirmed, so estimates are anticipated. The proposal should include:

### 1. Your details:

- i. Name and contact details (email address, postal address, phone number)
- ii. Current employment position including specific roles and responsibilities in your department, e.g. in education, quality assurance and management
- iii. Your Curriculum vitae and a brief professional biography

### 2. Proposed use of funds:

- i. Approximate costs.
  - ii. A brief statement regarding the anticipated value to you and your laboratory in attending, including any educational contributions you propose to undertake on your return.
  - ii. Whether you are proposing to submit a poster or paper for consideration
3. One nominated referee who can verify your eligibility and suitability for a scholarship award
  4. Please arrange for your **laboratory manager to sign and date your statement** confirming the availability of sufficient leave and their agreement to your having the required time off work to attend.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Criteria considered in allocating the scholarships will be:

<b><i>Criteria Evaluated</i></b>	<b><i>Favoured</i></b>
1. Your role in your laboratory	Lead Molecular scientists and Lead cytoscientists
2. Value of the course/conference to you in your workforce setting	High value to applicant and their laboratory
3. A contribution to the course/conference by submitting a Poster or Paper.	Poster or Paper offered

4. Your past and proposed contribution to education within and beyond your laboratory.	A past and continuing contribution to education. An educational output is planned after the course/conference
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**Notes:**

- Where there are proposals of equal merit, applicants will be selected at the discretion of the selection team to attain a balance of awards across different laboratories and geographic regions.
- Because of the value of the international scholarships, the Selection Panel reserves the right to exercise discretion in addition to the above selection criteria when determining the international scholarship awards.
- The Selection Committee reserves the right not to award all scholarships if insufficient suitable applications are received.

**APPLICATION PROCESS**

Applications can be made by submitting a proposal to Melinda Paterson, NCPTS Administrator at [ncpts@medlabsouth.co.nz](mailto:ncpts@medlabsouth.co.nz)

The successful applicants will be listed in the annual NCPTS December newsletter.

The time frame for the application process is:

- 1. APPLICATIONS CLOSE 28th March 2024**
2. Selection Panel meets April 2024
3. All applicants notified of outcome by 26<sup>th</sup> April 2024, or earlier if possible.

Questions relating to administrative matters should be directed to Melinda Paterson, NCPTS Administrator at [ncpts@medlabsouth.co.nz](mailto:ncpts@medlabsouth.co.nz)

Questions regarding the professional aspects of the Scholarships should be directed to Dr Margaret Sage, NCPTS Training Team Coordinator at [margaret\\_sage@medlabsouth.co.nz](mailto:margaret_sage@medlabsouth.co.nz)