



Australian Government

Department of Health and Ageing



Mental Health Conference Funding Program Assessment Criteria

1. Can we apply for funding for conferences to be held at any time into the future?

- Due to this funding program being time limited, applications will only be considered for conferences being up to but no later than 28 February 2011.

2. Will the Conference/Event be relevant to the priorities of the National Mental Health Strategy or the National Suicide Prevention Strategy?

- Provide information to demonstrate that the Conference/Event has a mental health or suicide prevention theme or focus;
- Explain the ways in which the Conference/Event relates to the goals and objectives of the National Mental Health Strategy or the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.

3. Will the Conference/Event have relevance to other Commonwealth program(s) other than mental health or suicide prevention?

- Provide a list of the Commonwealth programs that the Conference/Event is relevant to outside the National Mental Health Strategy and the National Suicide Prevention Strategy; and
- Demonstrate how the Conference/Event is relevant to the listed programs.

4. Will the Conference/Event contribute to the objectives of the National Mental Health Strategy or the National Suicide Prevention Strategy?

- List the ways in which the Conference/Event may contribute to the overall objectives of the National Mental Health Strategy or the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.
- Show how this contribution may be taken into the mental health/suicide prevention sectors at the end of the Conference/Event.

5. Will the Conference/Event promote or make reference to the Commonwealth or the Commonwealth's mental health or suicide prevention programs?

- Show how any information dissemination, or consolidation of working relationships within the mental health/suicide prevention sector may arise from the Conference/Event;
- Demonstrate the benefits of the Conference/Event and make clear reference to the Conference/Event's relevance to any Commonwealth programs.

6. Will the conference be nationally or internationally significant?

- Indicate whether the focus of the conference is national or international rather than regional or state/territory;
- Explain how the Conference/Event is structured to suit the intended national/international focus.

7. If the focus of the conference/event is national or international, please provide information to demonstrate the benefits of the conference to consumers and carers or clinicians and professionals, your organisation and Australia's national interest.

- Provide information in the application to show the benefits of the Conference/Event to consumers, carers, bereaved families, clinicians, professionals, your organisation and Australia's national interest;
- The information provided should be relevant to the goals and objectives of either the National Mental Health Strategy or the National Suicide Prevention Strategy.

8. Provide information to demonstrate that there is a need for the Conference/Event by the target group.

- Demonstrate ways in which participation in the Conference/Event is needed or will benefit the target group.

9. Will there be any consumer/carer participation in the Conference/Event's planning and/or delivery?

- Show the extent to which consumers/carers will participate in the planning or delivery of the Conference/Event.
- It should be noted that conference funding applications with an emphasis on consumer and carer involvement will be rated higher. A key focus of this program is to ensure maximum consumer/carer involvement at relevant conferences and events.
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10. Will the Department of Health and Ageing be offered an opportunity to participate in the Conference/Event?

- The application should clearly detail what the conference organisers are offering the Department of Health and Ageing in relation to participation in the conference or event.
- For example, organisers may offer:
 - a limited number of free registrations
 - a booth for information dissemination
 - Department of Health and Ageing logo and MHCA logo on all promotional materials and/or website
 - Department of Health and Ageing &/or MHCA information to be included in free show bags/satchels

11. Has this Conference/Event been run in a previous year/s?

- Provide details about this conference if it has been run previously on one or more occasions. Include information about whether it was the same or similar conference and whether it is an annual event.

12. Does your organisation have experience with running this or similar mental health related Conference/Events?

- This provides the group/conference organiser with the opportunity to make the MHCA aware of any demonstrated experience they may have in hosting or organising conferences/events. Conference titles, dates and a brief description should be included here if relevant. Organisations won't be marked down if this is their first attempt at running such an event.

13. Is there any further information that the MHCA should be made aware of which may affect the assessment of your application?

- This provides the group/conference organiser with the opportunity to make the MHCA aware of any additional information they may wish to present that is not covered by the criteria set out in the application.