



Bursary Application Guide

Thank you for your interest in receiving financial support (a bursary) to attend the [Suicide Prevention Australia Symposium 2021](#) on 19-22 April 2021 which will be held virtually.

Suicide Prevention Australia (SPA) encourages the inclusion of people with a lived experience of suicide in discussions and activities about suicide prevention. There are many barriers that can make it harder for some people to attend the symposium and the bursary funding helps individuals with a lived experience of suicide to attend.

A lived 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.

If at any time while completing the application 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).

Bursary applications are open 4 January to 5 February 2021.

What does it mean to attend the symposium virtually?

This symposium will not be held at a physical location. You will be able to join in from your personal computer or any other computer that you have access to. You will be able to watch keynote speakers in real-time, choose which sessions to attend from the agenda and interact with other attendees.

More information about how to attend the virtual symposium will be emailed to bursary recipients closer to the event.

Am I ready to attend the symposium?

The topics for discussion in the Symposium deal with difficult and sensitive issues. We ask that you consider your own self-care before registering and if necessary consider a support person for your attendance at the Symposium. Social act

Online counselling with [StandBy: Support After Suicide](#) will be available for those who feel they may need additional support throughout the Symposium.

Networking and social activities will be incorporated throughout the symposium to provide opportunities to collaborate, refresh, and reflect on all the knowledge sharing.

See additional resources here: [a Guide to Self-Care](#) and [Guidelines for talking safely about suicide](#).

Am I eligible to apply for a bursary?

Providing bursaries is completely dependent on Suicide Prevention Australia receiving bursary funding from state and territory governments and other funders. The availability of bursary funds for the Symposium cannot be guaranteed.

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 in line with the below eligibility criteria.

To be eligible to apply for a bursary to the Symposium, you must:

1. Have a lived experience of suicide
2. Face financial constraints that prevent you attending Symposium without a bursary
3. Be able to attend all four days of the Symposium (19-22 April 2021)
4. Be aged 18 years or older
5. Be an Australian resident

When is my application due?

Bursary applications must be received no later than 5.00pm AEDT (Sydney time) on Friday 5 February 2021. No matter how you submit your application (e.g. online, email or post).

You will be notified of the outcome of your application via email by Suicide Prevention Australia on Monday 15 February 2021.

Suicide Prevention Australia, Standby Support After Suicide and the Symposium Organisers may be in touch with you via telephone if you have been shortlisted to help you prepare for the symposium.

What does a bursary cover?

The bursary will cover your registration to attend the full Suicide Prevention Australia virtually.

Bursaries do not cover personal expenses during the Symposium, such as costs associated with your computer, public transport or meals.

If you require special services to manage disability or accessibility, please advise us in your application.

What will you ask me?

We will ask questions to help understand why you want to attend the symposium and what makes it difficult or impossible for you to attend without financial support. Some questions will also 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. Applications will be accepted based on the content of your answers, not how well you write. Although, you may like to talk with someone in your network to assist you in completing the application.

The information in your application will be shared with Suicide Prevention Australia, the bursary funder; Symposium Partner [StandBy: Support After Suicide](#); and the Symposium Organisers only. The purposes for sharing the information will be for shortlisting and allocating bursaries. Your personal information will not be used for purposes beyond the Symposium and will be secured safely in line with the SPA [Privacy Policy](#).

How do I withdraw my application?

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

If your application is accepted and you receive a bursary to attend the Suicide Prevention Australia Symposium 2021 but are no longer able to attend, please contact Suicide Prevention Australia immediately via email events@suicidepreventionaustralia.org so that another bursary recipient can attend the Symposium instead.

Bursary registrations are non-transferable. They are only to be used by the delegate they are allocated to. Should another person be found using a registration in the name of another person, they will then be charged for the day/s in attendance.

How do I start my application?

You will need to complete the application in one session as you will not be able to re-enter the application if you close down.

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 Symposium important to you? (200 – 300 words or less)
- What are the financial constraints you face that prevent you attending the Symposium without a bursary? (200 – 300 words or less)
- How do you expect to use the learnings in your personal or professional life, or in your community? (200 – 300 words or less)

Dates to remember

Mon	04 January 2021	Bursary applications open
Fri	05 February 2021	Bursary applications close
Mon	15 February 2021	Bursary applicants notified of outcome

Symposium dates

Mon	19 April 2020	Symposium day 1, 11:00am-4:30pm
Tue	20 April 2020	Symposium day 2, 12:30pm-5:00pm
Wed	21 April 2020	Symposium day 3, 12:30pm-5:00pm
Thu	22 April 2020	Symposium day 4, 12:30pm-5:00pm

**Times are subject to change, view the latest program [here](#).*

You can subscribe to the [symposium e-newsletter](#) so you don't miss out on news as it arises!

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

[Click here to start your application](#)