



Purpose

This document is intended to assist clinical researchers who wish to apply for financial support from Neuroscience Trials Australia to attend the 2008 delivery of the Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Neuroscience) offered by the University of Melbourne in partnership with the NH&MRC Centre of Clinical Research Excellence in Neurosciences.

Neuroscience Trials Australia is the clinical trials platform of the National Neuroscience Facility. Further information about the organisation can be accessed at <http://www.neurotrialsaustralia.com>

Introduction

Neuroscience Trials Australia has partnered with the University of Melbourne and the NH&MRC CCRE in Neurosciences to provide financial support for a clinical research professional to attend the Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Neuroscience) in 2008. The dates for course delivery are:

- **Part One:** 3, 4, 6 & 7 March 2008 (optional half-day on March 5th)
- **Part Two:** 10, 11, 12 & 13 June 2008

The delivery venue is Melbourne, Australia. More information about the course can be accessed at <http://www.soe.unimelb.edu.au/neuroscience>.

Funding Support Objectives

The aim of the scholarship is to support the development of Australian clinical neuroscience research capabilities and support NTA's objectives in the translation of quality research into clinical practice, and ultimately better health outcomes for the general public.

Description

The financial support available will meet the full cost of course fees for the Specialist Certificate in Clinical Research (Neuroscience) for one participant. The cost per participant is normally \$4,200. In addition, NTA will meet the reasonable costs of travel and accommodation (at a designated nearby-located hotel) for the successful applicant should they be from a country location or from interstate.

Eligibility/Selection Criteria

Applicants must demonstrate the following requirements at the time of their application:

- Demonstrated fit with the NTA criteria for financial support. This includes being in one of the target categories (neuroscience medical specialty trainee, research nurse, study coordinator, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or other clinical trial/research professional) and being able to immediately apply the skills and knowledge from the course in the workplace;
- Meet the University of Melbourne entry requirements for participation in this course (appropriate undergraduate degree plus one year relevant work experience);
- Be an Australian citizen or a permanent resident; and
- Have made prior arrangements with their employer to attend all components of the coursework.

Students who have currently enrolled to attend the award course are also eligible to apply.

Note that offers of financial support from NTA are conditional upon applicants providing documentation that confirms their eligibility (such as evidence of citizenship, undergraduate training, work experience etc.) in meeting the stated entry requirements of the University of Melbourne.

Applications and Selection

Applicants should make their application for funding support via letter, structured in the format of the following template, which provides details of the following:

Funding Support Requirements	Comments
Applicant works in the key areas targeted by Neuroscience Trials Australia.	Target includes neuroscience medical specialty trainee, research nurse, study coordinator, physiotherapist, occupational therapist or other clinical trial/research professional and also encourages applicants from interstate and rural/regional locations.
Be in a position that will allow them to apply the skills and knowledge gained during the course to their current workplace.	Preference will be given to applicants who can take the skills and knowledge from the course and apply them immediately in a clinical neuroscience research context.
The applicant meets the University of Melbourne entry requirements of the course	An appropriate undergraduate degree (health, medical, science, allied health from a recognised institution) plus one year relevant work experience. This should be outlined in the applicant letter, with documented evidence being required with a formal University enrolment if the applicant is offered funding support by NTA.
Employer supports and commits to releasing applicant for all the days of the coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Part 1: March 3rd to 7th 2008 (incl. optional half-day on March 5th 2008). ▪ Part 2: June 10th to 13th 2008.
Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident	A statement to this effect needs to be provided - documentation verifying is required with a formal enrolment should the applicant be advised they have been selected
Be prepared to complete the formal award course enrolment paperwork and provide supporting documentation required to formally enrol at the University of Melbourne.	The formal award course enrolment forms can be sourced from www.soe.unimelb.edu.au/neuroscience , click <i>Entry Requirements</i> and then click <i>Student Services application forms</i> .
Have support from the workplace to attend the training	This includes having permission to take the necessary time off work and possibly also study leave to complete the components of assessment for the course.
Recognition of NTA support	A brief outline of how and to whom the applicant would be able to acknowledge funding support from NTA

Submission of Applications

Applications should be submitted electronically to:

Peter Keller at Neuroscience Trials Australia – pkeller@neurotrialsaustralia.com

The closing date and time for applications is (5:00pm AEST), Friday February 8th 2008. The successful applicant will be notified by Friday 15 February 2008.

Financial Support Administration

Financial support for applicants will be administered on behalf of NTA by the University of Melbourne, through the School of Enterprise.

Following an offer of funding support by NTA and completion of the University enrolment forms, successful applicants will be sent an offer of a place on the Clinical Neuroscience Research course by the School of Enterprise. After they have formally accepted an offer of a place they will be provided with a statement of enrolment showing that they have a balance of \$0 fees owing.

Recognition of NTA Support

Appropriate recognition for the assistance of NTA financial support is expected, and NTA would request that the successful applicant acknowledges the financial support provided by NTA through participation in the development of case studies or short articles that can be published by NTA, detailing their experience on the course and the contribution it has made to their professional career.