

SEEING OUR WAY

NATSIEHC25

MEDIA PACK



**FIRST NATIONS
EYE HEALTH ALLIANCE**

NATSIEHC25

Information Pack

WELCOME

2025 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference

The Alliance will be convening the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference for the first time in 2025! The Conference will be co-convened with the University of Western Australia on the beautiful lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people, Perth, Western Australia in May 2025. Please sign up for our newsletter and follow our socials to stay up to date on the Conference.

THE ARTWORK

'Connecting Land, Sky and Water', created by contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artist Dennis Golding expresses Aboriginal peoples connection to land, sky and water since time immemorial. Our history shows how our people have cared for Country including the waterways and land that provides us sources for life and culture. It acknowledges how communities who come from all parts of country including salter water, freshwater regions, to connect and work together as one.



CONFERENCE THEME



The theme for the 2025 Conference “Seeing Our Way”, reflects the growing evolution of self-determination and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership in eye health and vision care. It creates a forum of “seeing through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lens” to both position and strengthen our current and future state of eye healthcare sector projects and initiatives. The focus of this work is to ensure the vision and future needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health are strong and bright.

As we come together, we will be empowered, informed, inspired, and share experiences and key learnings that will provide guidance and support to improve eye health outcomes in communities and end avoidable vision loss and blindness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Held annually since 2017, the Conference shifted in 2021 to all-First Nations leadership and in 2024 was co-hosted for the first time by the First Nations Eye Health Alliance. From 2025 onwards the Conference will be convened by the First Nations Eye Health Alliance Australia’s first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led eye health organisation.

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Information Pack - Registrations

CONFERENCE DATES AND SCHEDULE

Day 1

Tuesday, 27 May 2025: Welcome Reception (details to follow) and workshops

Day 2

Wednesday, 28 May 2025: Full-day conference sessions, Gala Dinner, and Awards Night

Day 3

Thursday, 29 May 2025: Full-day conference sessions

IMPORANT INFORMATION

Who Should Attend?

We welcome everyone involved in or passionate about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health. This conference is ideal for representatives from local communities, Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, health services, NGOs, professional bodies, and government departments.

Join us to share insights, network, and collaborate on initiatives to enhance eye health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

What to Expect

The 2025 conference will offer an exciting lineup, including keynote speeches, panel discussions, interactive workshops, cultural sessions, networking opportunities, and exhibitions. We aim to create a space for learning, sharing, and connection.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about conference registration and pricing please visit <https://fneha.com.au/registration>



NATSIEHC25

Information Pack - Abstracts

CONFERENCE THEME

When preparing your abstract submission for the 2025 National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Conference, we encourage you to align your work with the theme “Seeing Our Way.” This theme highlights the evolution of self-determination and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leadership in eye health, and we particularly welcome submissions that foster and elevate emerging leaders from within these communities. Your abstract should aim to equip these future leaders with the skills necessary to drive health initiatives, thereby positioning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities for success in eye health and vision care.

Leadership and Positioning for Success: We invite abstracts that emphasise leadership and advocacy within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health and Vision Care sector. Submissions should honour the sovereignty of place and space, recognising and valuing the legacy and continued excellence of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. We also seek contributions that advocate for whole-of-life prevention activities, essential to cultivating healthy and flourishing communities.

Empowering Our People: We encourage submissions that focus on building and supporting a culturally responsive, skilled, and thriving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workforce. Your work might include understanding and supporting the eye health workforce, developing education and training opportunities to strengthen capabilities, and ensuring that the views and perspectives of the community help shape the national conversation on eye health and vision care.

Promoting Integrated Health Solutions: The conference is committed to showcasing and discussing innovative health solutions that seamlessly integrate traditional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge with contemporary medical practices. We encourage submissions that highlight how these integrated approaches can set a precedent for holistic and culturally sensitive health care, ensuring the health and well-being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about abstracts and submissions please visit

<https://fneha.com.au/abstracts>

KEY DATES

Abstracts Open :
Wednesday 25
September 2024

Abstracts Close:
Monday 17
February 2025

Acceptance Notification:
Week of 7
March 2025



NATSIEHC25

Information Pack - Bursaries

CONFERENCE THEME

Who Can Apply for a Bursary?

Bursaries are designed to assist First Nations People in joining this important annual gathering. Applications are welcome from anyone interested, including those not currently working in eye care. We encourage students and community members with an interest in this field to apply for this unique opportunity.

What Do Bursaries Cover?

Bursaries provide full coverage of conference registration, as well as transport and accommodation costs if required. Bursaries are not distributed as a fixed amount.

Who Manages the Bursary Program?

The bursaries are administered by the organisers of NATSIEHC25, with oversight by the Conference Leadership Group.

Conditions of the Bursary:

Recipients will be asked to complete a survey about their experience at the conference and workshops. They will also be required to attend a photo opportunity with sponsors for use in conference-related communications.

Application Deadline:

Bursary applications close 21 February 2025

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants must be Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People with an interest in eye health.

Priority may be given to First Nations high school and university students, Aboriginal Health Workers and Practitioners, and staff from Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Services.

Please note that due to high demand and limited funding, most bursaries will be allocated based on sponsorships and external support. We encourage you to explore other potential funding opportunities within your organisation to help ensure more First Nations delegates can participate.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about bursaries and applications please visit

<https://fneha.com.au/bursaries-1>



NATSIEHC25

Information Pack - Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The 2025 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Awards celebrate outstanding achievements and contributions within the field of eye health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. These awards, formerly known as the Leaky Pipe Awards, have been honouring the remarkable work of champions and unsung heroes in this sector since 2018 as part of the national conferences.

The awards are inspired by the Conference theme, 'Seeing Our Way' as chosen by the Conference Leadership Group.

This theme emphasises the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives and leadership in eye health, both locally and nationally. It also advocates for stronger First Nations leadership through community-controlled healthcare services and advancing national governance, including the push to enshrine an Indigenous voice in the Australian constitution.

The 2025 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Awards will be presented during the conference on the beautiful lands of the Whadjuk Noongar people.

AWARD CATEGORIES

- Exceptional Contribution to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Award by Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisations (ACCHO)
- Outstanding Leadership in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Award
- Emerging Leadership in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Award
- Exemplary Allyship in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Eye Health Award
- Lifetime achievement award for Aboriginal and Torres eye health
- Young and Deadly Eye Health Award

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about awards and nominations please visit <https://fneha.com.au/awards>



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LINKS TO USE IN SOCIAL MEDIA CAPTIONS AND EDMS

REGISTRATIONS

<https://events.humanitix.com/2025-national-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-eye-health-conference>

ABSTRACTS

<https://fneha.com.au/abstracts>

AWARDS

<https://fneha.com.au/awards>

BURSARIES

<https://fneha.com.au/bursaries-1>

FIRST NATIONS EYE HEALTH ALLIANCE Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/fnehaau/>

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<https://www.facebook.com/fnehaau/>

FIRST NATIONS EYE HEALTH ALLIANCE LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/first-nations-eye-health-alliance/>

FIRST NATIONS EYE HEALTH ALLIANCE LinkTree

<https://linktr.ee/fneha>

HASHTAGS

Don't forget to tag @FNEHA in your posts and use the hashtags

#NATSIEHC25

#seeingourway

