



Australian Association of Stomal Therapy Nurses Inc.

ABN 16072 891 322

NSW Branch

Application for Financial Assistance.

Applications may be made from NSW Members for financial assistance with the following:

- Attending the AASTN Biennial Conference
- Attending other Stoma / Wound / Continence Events
- Course fees such as the STN Graduate Certificate
- Rural STN or Rural student STN to attend a City hospital for ongoing education or work experience. (City being Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong areas. Rural being areas outside these centres, as determined by the committee.)
- Providing an annual award for publication in the Journal of Stomal Therapy Australia in the form of assistance for attendance at Stomal Therapy related Conferences or Events. Preference will be provided to novice authors particularly in literature review, research and quality activities.
- Other Stomal Therapy related activity.

There will be an upper limit of allocated funds paid each financial year to a maximum of \$5000, dependent on funds allocated previously and available and projected funds.

Final decisions on allocation of funds, after applications are submitted, will be made by the NSW Branch Committee members.

NB. The AASTN NSW Branch does not receive any money collected by the AASTN National body from membership fees. All funds in the AASTN NSW Branch are raised by AASTN NSW Branch members through limited fundraising activities; and from the Sydney Conference, every 12 years.

Application Criteria

1. Application for financial assistance is open to Full Members of the AASTN who reside and practice in New South Wales. Dependent on available funds, consideration may also be given to associate members who are working towards a stomal therapy qualification.

2. **Preference for attendance at AASTN Conferences and other Events will be given to applicants who are active AASTN NSW Branch members. Special consideration will be given to rural members.** Funding will be allocated on a points system and will be based on the applicant's level of activity within the AASTN NSW Branch. Types of activity include:
 - regular teleconference attendance at branch meetings
 - contribution to stomal therapy nursing related journals (e.g. AASTN, WCET)
 - presentation of papers/posters at stomal therapy nursing conferences and study days
 - membership of national and/or branch committees
 - organisation of study days
 - Other significant STN related activities

Applicants must include documented evidence or web address/es supporting their activities.

3. It is expected that the applicants **seek funding from alternative avenues** first e.g. hospital, employer, scholarship funds, before applying for financial assistance from the AASTN NSW Branch. List of fund sources attached at the end of this document.
4. The **Annual Award for Publication** will be determined by the Committee. A committee member will check all JSTA publications for eligible articles and circulate the list to the committee for assessment. This will be determined in the 2 years prior to the AASTN Conference or other Event. eg Conference 2021 will be determined by articles in JSTA August 1st 2019 to July 31st 2020.
5. The successful applicant/s must **submit a report and acknowledge the support** of the branch within 1 month of their return from the AASTN National Conference or other Event. (This is waived if they are presenting a paper at the Conference or Event.) The report will be tabled at the next branch meeting following the conference. The report must be submitted to the Treasurer with the *AASTN NSW Branch Financial Assistance Verification Form* (see below).
6. The successful applicant/s must **provide the AASTN NSW Branch Treasurer with original documents (receipts) proving expenses** paid were at least equivalent to the amount funded by the AASTN NSW Branch. These documents are a requirement for auditing of the AASTN NSW Branch's accounts and must be submitted with the *AASTN NSW Branch Financial Assistance Verification Form*. If successful, this form will be provided at the time you receive your assistance. The documents must be received by the AASTN NSW Branch Treasurer no later than 1 month after the completion of the AASTN National Conference or Event attended.
7. Should an applicant receive financial assistance and for whatever reason be **unable to attend** the AASTN National Conference or other Event, all funds must be **refunded in full to the AASTN NSW Branch**.

Applications for funding must be submitted to the AASTN NSW State President presidentnswbranch@gmail.com by July 31st. Applications received after this date will not be accepted. The applications will be reviewed by the AASTN NSW Branch executive and applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by COB on August 31st.

Funding Assistance from other sources as of 2020:

- AASTN provides some funding annually for Research, and Overseas travel, and support committee members in attending meetings. www.stomalththerapy.au/scholarships
- World Council of Enterostomal Therapists. Norma N. Gill Foundation Scholarships for members: www.wcetn.org/page/NNGFScholarship
- Ostomy NSW provide STN course scholarships of up to \$5,000 each year. Close 1st May
- College of Nursing: Fee help is offered for eligible students to provide loans.
- Funding is offered on occasion from various Companies to assist attendance at Conferences, often by assessing case studies.
- Check with your local health district for support.
- There may be other sources of funding not listed.