



Health  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District



ROYAL NORTH SHORE  
GASTROENTEROLOGY

# HARRY CUMBERLAND TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP - GUIDELINES

RNSH GASTROENTEROLOGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY



## BACKGROUND

In 2021, the Department of Gastroenterology and the Division of Surgery established the Harry Cumberland Travelling Scholarship in recognition of the significant contribution to surgery and gastroenterology made by Dr Harry Cumberland at Royal North Shore Hospital over his 40 year highly distinguished career.

A trust account in his honour will be established to fund the award being offered annually to support research by junior medical staff.

Doctor Harry Cumberland was a general surgeon at Royal North Shore from 1951-1984. He was the first surgical registrar at RNSH and on completion of his training he was offered a surgical consultant position. During his 40 year career at RNSH he held several leadership roles at RNSH and in 1974 he was appointed the first chairman of the Department of Gastroenterology and Head of the Department of Surgery from 1976 - 1984 when he retired.

Throughout his career he had a strong focus on surgical training, starting in 1954 when he rolled out the “Cumberland Plan” for RNSH Surgical Trainees. He had a key role in post graduate training for surgeons which led to the establishment of the Fellowship of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons becoming the definitive diploma for Australian trained surgeons. Throughout his career he continued to advocate for high standards in surgical training and was involved in teaching, mentoring and supporting junior doctors development and involvement in research.

He was a well-respected surgical leader amongst his peers at RNSH and internationally who was also honoured to receive a Membership of the Order of Australia.

## PURPOSE

The Harry Cumberland Travelling Scholarship aims to encourage and support junior research clinicians at Royal North Shore Hospital and cover travel expenses related to local and overseas conference opportunities to present and showcase their work.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the Award applicants will be required to meet the following four criteria:

### 1. Applicant Criteria

Applicants must:

- Hold a recognised qualification in Medicine.
- Hold a current clinical appointment within the RNSH campus (clinical or research).
- Submit an abstract that has scientific merit for potential presentation at a national or international conference – **The research must have been carried out on the RNSH campus.**

### Application submission:

- Applications must be submitted electronically
- Individual applicants can submit one application per round only
- Late submissions will not be accepted after the closing date
- Please contact the Gastroenterology Department for any research related questions ([NSLHD-GastroAdmin@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:NSLHD-GastroAdmin@health.nsw.gov.au)) or the SERT Institute ([NSLHD-RNSH-SERTInstitute@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:NSLHD-RNSH-SERTInstitute@health.nsw.gov.au)) with any administration questions or if technical difficulties are experienced while submitting an application

## SELECTION

Applications will only be considered if received by the closing date electronically via the online application form, late submissions will not be considered.

All selection criteria should be addressed and supporting evidence/documentation included in the final application.

Shortlisted candidates will be notified formally of the application outcome via email within four weeks after the application closing date. Next, they will be invited to the presentation night where they will a 7 minute presentation. This will be judged by panel of specialists and awarded on the night.

Please note: All applications received will not be returned, they will be destroyed in confidential waste.

## AWARD AMOUNT

A maximum of \$5000 will be offered each year to the successful candidate

Special conditions

The Award:

- must be used within 12 months from the date of offer
- must be used as outlined in the application
- will be dispersed to a nominated bank account through the RNSH Finance Department to be utilised at the discretion of the award recipient, upon receipt of invoices for the travel undertaken.

## ENQUIRIES

Please contact the RNSH Gastroenterology Department if you wish to discuss your application in more detail or guidance on your submission.

Email: [NSLHD-GastroAdmin@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:NSLHD-GastroAdmin@health.nsw.gov.au)