The Centre for Genetics Education, Health Education and Training Institute (HETI) is pleased to offer NSW Health healthcare professionals with an interest in clinical genomics an opportunity for sponsorship to attend a short course in *Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics,* with bespoke considerations for non-genetics trained NSW Health clinicians.

The *Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics* short course will be delivered by the University of New South Wales commencing on 13 June, with workshops on 19, 20 and 21 June and assessment to be submitted by 17 July. This customized course for NSW Health is based on the existing [*Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics short course*](https://shortcourses.health.unsw.edu.au/courses/clinical-laboratory-diagnostic-genomics-may-2023) and the scholarship will cover the full course fees.

This course is designed for non-genetics trained NSW Health medical officers and other healthcare professionals with emerging practical needs in delivering genomic healthcare, including holding genetic counselling conversations. If you are a non-genetics trained NSW Health medical officer (e.g. paediatrics, obstetrics/gynaecology, feto-maternal, neurology, cardiology, oncology, nephrology and others), please consider applying for this scholarship.

**Overview**

The course will provide participants with knowledge, practical tools and techniques to support understanding of clinical genomic diagnostic processes, when genomic testing requests are useful, the genomic consent process, interpretation of complex results, implications for families and communicating using genetic counselling principles.

The course involves online self-paced learning, as well as two days of immersive practical face-to-face genomic analysis workshops (live streaming via Zoom available for rural/regional participants) with real-world cases to solve guided by the team from NSW Health Pathology Randwick Genomics. There will also be a one-day face to face genetic counselling workshop which will allow participants to role-play cases with genetic result implications for families.

**Course Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, participants will form a fundamental understanding of clinical genomics and will be equipped with knowledge, skills and tools that can be applied in the workplace. You will be able to:

* Identify and describe genomic variants and interpret their pathogenicity
* Understand the context in which genomics testing requests may be useful
* Analyse genomic test results and return complex reports to clinicians and families
* Understand the genomic consent process
* Discuss clinical and other implications for families undertaking genomic testing in different settings (e.g. acute care, prenatal testing, incidental findings, variants of uncertain significance (VUS))
* Discuss potential implications for families arising from genomic testing that need to be discussed in the context of genetic counselling.

**Learning Approach and Methods**

This credential short course involves 30 hours of learning over 5 weeks and includes self-paced, interactive online learning through the Canvas learning management system and live face-to-face workshops (live streaming via Zoom available for rural/regional participants). The welcome session on June 13 will introduce self-paced online learning to be completed before the workshops on 19, 20, 21 June. The final assessment (30 multiple choice question quiz) must be submitted by 17 July. Attendance at the workshops is a **mandatory** course requirement.

**Scholarship Expression of Interest (EOI)**

All applicants must complete an EOI (below) to demonstrate their interest. Successful applicants will be supported to participate in the training through a scholarship that covers full course fees (approx. $1,400).

**Selection Criteria**

Non-genetics trained medical officers and other interested NSW Health clinicians should submit an EOI application (below). Successful applicants will demonstrate a high level of interest in the *Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics* course within their application and be able to clearly explain how they will be able to use the knowledge gained from the course within their practice now or in the future.

Scholarships are awarded at the absolute discretion of HETI. The decision is final and there will be no appeal mechanism. Interested staff specialists should consider their eligibility to access Training, Education and Study Leave (TESL) prior to applying.

**You will need to:**

* Review UNSW’s [Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics short course outline](https://shortcourses.health.unsw.edu.au/courses/clinical-laboratory-diagnostic-genomics-may-2023) and the abovementioned course learning outcomes
* Complete the attached EOI Application Form
* Gain approval from your manager to participate in the training and organise release from your work if applicable
* Complete a HETI online evaluation survey after training if accepted.

**Who should I speak to if I have questions?**

Vicki Reid, Centre for Genetics Education, HETI on (M) 0459 930 589 or [Vicki.Reid@health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Vicki.Reid@health.nsw.gov.au)

For further information about the Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics course, please email UNSW Short Courses Team at [shortcourses.health@unsw.edu.au](mailto:shortcourses.health@unsw.edu.au) and specify participation in the June intake for NSW Health participants.

**When do I need to register by:** EOIs must be sent to HETI by **midnight Friday 26 May 2023.** Late applications will not be accepted.

# EOI APPLICATION FORM

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Applicant’s Name** |  | |
| **Personal Address** |  | |
| **Work Address** |  | |
| **Position** |  | |
| **NSW Health organisation** |  | |
| **Work contact details** | **Phone** |  |
| **Mobile** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Managers details** | **Name** |  |
| **Mobile** |  |
| **Email** |  |

**Do you have access to** [**Training, Education & Study Leave (TESL) for staff specialists**](https://www1.health.nsw.gov.au/pds/ActivePDSDocuments/IB2022_037.pdf)**? Yes / No**

**For rural/regional participants only, please indicate workshop attendance? Virtual/In-Person**

**Please explain your rationale and interest in attending this course, as well as your current level of knowledge/experience in delivering genetic healthcare and genetic counselling.**

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**Describe how your participation in this course will be applied and of benefit in your work practice currently and/or in the future**

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**Outline how you will share your learnings with others in your workplace and please add any other relevant information to support your application**

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# Applicant Agreement

I understand that in submitting my EOI for sponsorship to attend *Clinical & Laboratory Diagnostic Genomics short course (UNSW):*

* I will complete all 30 hours of learning and assessment (including pre-reading, assessment, and the mandatory live sessions).
* I will notify HETI immediately if I am unable to commence or complete the training.

I agree to undertake the following if selected:

* Following completion of this training I will share my knowledge and skills with my colleagues and complete a HETI online evaluation of the training event.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Manager Agreement

I have read the potential candidate’s application and understand that in supporting this application:

* I have read or had discussions with the applicant and agree that their attendance will benefit them and our department or LHD/SHN.
* I understand the applicant will be attending the nominated training as part of their learning and development and I undertake to support/release them to participate in the live workshops.

Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Before you submit your EOI please check you have:**

☐ Included ALL of your contact details in your application

☐ Addressed all questions on the Application

☐ Completed the Applicant Agreement

☐ Discussed the training with your manager and obtained their signature of endorsement on this EOI.

**Please submit your application to** [**vicki.reid@health.nsw.gov.au**](mailto:vicki.reid@health.nsw.gov.au) **by midnight Friday 26 May 2023.**