The Centre for Genetics Education, Health Education and Training Institute (HETI) is pleased to offer NSW health professionals with an interest in genomics an opportunity to apply for sponsorship to a microcredential in cancer genetic counselling.

The *Cancer Genetic Counselling* microcredential will be delivered online by the University of Technology Sydney (UTS) between 24 June and 2 August 2024. The scholarship will cover the full course fees. This course is designed for healthcare professionals such as oncologists and surgeons incorporating genomic testing in treatment planning, oncology nurses, members of oncology multi-disciplinary teams, laboratory scientists undertaking genomic testing, and other healthcare professionals wanting to learn more about cancer genomic healthcare.

If you are a healthcare professional looking to improve your cancer genetic counselling knowledge and skills, please consider applying for this scholarship.

##### Overview

The *Cancer Genetic Counselling* microcredential will introduce foundational and practical aspects of genetic and genomic healthcare delivery in familial cancer. It will cover genetic testing technologies, inheritance patterns and risk assessment in familial cancer. Participants will interpret genomic test results, as well as pathology reports for use in genetic counselling risk assessments. Participants will reflect on family communication and learn skills to enhance discussion of familial cancer and genomic test results with families.

There will be opportunity to interact with professional colleagues and academic genetic counsellors to practice new skills, solve clinical problems and apply your learning to case studies in this rapidly- changing field of research driven clinical practice. On completion of the course, it is expected that participants will be equipped with the skills, knowledge and insights required to provide evidence-based cancer genetic counselling in clinical practice.

Further information about this microcredential course is available via <https://open.uts.edu.au/faculty/health/cancer-genetic-counselling/>.

##### Core Topics

The following topics are offered in the course for developing and increasing knowledge, understanding and skills in cancer genetic counselling:

* Introduction to cancer and genetic testing, including an overview of genetic testing technologies and eliciting and interpreting family health history
* Genetic counselling and working with families
* Risk assessment and communication in cancer genetic counselling
* Applying evidence to practice, including working through case studies.

Expression of interest

Cancer Genetic Counselling Microcredential Scholarship

##### Learning Approach and Methods

This is a virtual (online) short course structured into four modules. Each module includes self-study materials and facilitated live and online skills-based sessions via Zoom. The course will be delivered over 6 weeks with live workshops scheduled for Monday 5-7pm AEST weekly commencing 24 June, with the final session to be held on 29 July. The estimated learning commitment is 10 hours per week.

Learners will be provided with preparation activities each week such as readings, discussions, questions to prompt reflection, case studies and videos to prepare for the live and online Zoom sessions. While weekly workshops are recorded, learners are strongly encouraged to attend a minimum of 85% of workshops to consolidate learnings through practical and skills focussed interactions, group discussion and the opportunity to ask questions.

Assessment (50%) includes submission of short tasks due fortnightly on Friday 5 July, Friday 19 July and Friday 2 August. Assessment will also include submission (50%) of a written response to a familial cancer case scenario due on Friday 2 August.

Further general information about the course can be found at <https://open.uts.edu.au/faculty/health/cancer-genetic-counselling/>.

##### Scholarship EOI

Successful applicants will be supported to participate in the online training through a scholarship that covers full course fees ($1,728).

##### Selection Criteria

The scholarship places will be open to clinical health professionals currently employed by NSW Health. Successful applicants will demonstrate a high level of interest in the *Cancer Genetic Counselling* 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 UTS’s *Cancer Genetic Counselling* microcredential course outline via <https://open.uts.edu.au/faculty/health/cancer-genetic-counselling/>.
* 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?

For questions about the EOI process, please contact Vicki Reid, Centre for Genetics Education, HETI on (M) 0459 930 589 or contact@genetics.edu.au.

For further information about the *Cancer Genetic Counselling* course (including content, delivery or requirements), please email Prof Alison McEwen via alison.mcewen@uts.edu.au.

##### When do I need to register by?

EOIs must be sent to contact@genetics.edu.au by **COB Friday 24 May 2024.** Late applications will not be accepted.

##### When will i be notified of the outcome of my application?

Applicants will be notified in the fortnight commencing from Monday 27 May 2024.

## 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 TESL? Yes / No**

**Please explain your rationale and interest in attending this course**

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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 *Cancer Genetic Counselling (UTS)*

* I will complete all learning and assessment (including pre-reading, assessment and attend a minimum of 85% of live workshop 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 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 online training as part of their learning and development and I undertake to support them to participate.

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** **contact@genetics.edu.au** **by COB Friday 24 May 2024.**