

**New Zealand Microbiological Society Conference Childcare Grant-In-Aid**

**Rationale**

The quality of scientific endeavours is improved when a diverse range of perspectives and backgrounds are included. The annual meetings of our Society are intended to foster a rich environment for engagement and thereby benefit all members of the NZMS. One of the barriers to full conference participation that disproportionately affects early career researchers is involvement in childcare.

The NZMS Executive Committee has decided to open applications for an NZMS Conference Childcare Grant-In-Aid. These funds are intended to provide financial assistance required for NZMS members to support childcare, in whatever mode they deem most appropriate, so that they can more fully attend and participate in our annual meeting. Conceivably the award could be used to support flights for a family member or to hire a professional childcare provider. Please note that the NZMS will not be involved in organising or providing childcare. We are now accepting applications for the Childcare Grants-In-Aid for support of up to NZ$500 for the annual NZMS meeting. The application is due to nicholas.heng@otago.ac.nz by August 31 of the conference year.

**Eligibility:**

All current NZMS members are eligible for this Childcare Grant-In-Aid

Please complete the application form on the following page.

**Application Details:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Institution:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NZMS membership status: Current/Non-member

Amount requested: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (details below)

What aspects of the meeting will you be able to attend if you are awarded a Grant-In-Aid that might otherwise have been out of reach (100 words or less)?

How will these funds be used to support your attendance at our meeting (250 words or less)?

Do you have any other comments that you would like to provide in support of this application for a Grant-In-Aid (250 words or less)?

Applicant Signature: Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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NZMS committee notes: