

FightMND Travel Grant 2025

Background

As part of FightMND's Care Strategy, the FightMND Travel Grant was developed to support people with lived experience of MND to participate in local or international conferences. This will provide people living with MND, their carers, or genetic carriers of the disease, visibility of current MND research happening in Australia and Internationally, the ability to participate in research discussions, and driving Care priorities in Australia.

In 2025, FightMND will support up to 8 people living with MND, their carers or genetic carriers the opportunity to travel to Melbourne, to attend PACTALS 2025 and the 12th MND Australia Care Forum, held between the 7 – 9th September, 2025.

PACTALS and MND Australia Care Forum

The theme for PACTALS 2025 is "Towards Precision in ALS/MND Treatments". PACTALS 2025 will bring together leading experts, researchers, clinicians and advocates from across the globe, driven by a shared commitment to advancing the understanding of MND and improving the lives of those affected.

The MND Australia Care Forum ("From Discovery to Delivery") will welcome health professionals and others who support people with MND, to learn about new innovations and best-practice in MND care.

To find out more about PACTALS And the Care Forum, please click: LINK

Travel Grant

The travel grant is open to all Australians who are either:

- 1. Living with MND
- 2. Current or previous carer of a person living with MND
- 3. Genetic carrier of MND

For those living with MND, a travel grant of up to \$5,000 will be awarded.

For carers and genetic carriers, a travel grant of up to \$2,500 will be awarded.



Registration for PACTALS and the MND Care conference is free. The travel grant will cover flights and accommodation costs, as well as other travel related costs such as taxis, ubers, or meals.

See Terms of Grants for further detailed information around grant conditions.

Application

PACTALS is a traditional scientific symposium featuring technical presentations on ALS research, and the MND Care conference will feature new innovations and current best-practice in MND care. To ensure that applicants can get the most out of the conference, and have the drive and will to provide input and participate in future MND care and research activities, we are asking a set of questions that require a lot of text.

In addition in asking you to provide relevant contact details, and describing your lived experience of MND, we will also be asking the below questions in the application form:

- 1. Please describe any relevant education or work experience related to research, care or advocacy (This experience does not need to be specific to MND, healthcare or disability).
- 2. Please describe your interest and passion in MND care, research and advocacy.
- 3. Are there specific topics that are of interest to you?
- 4. How will you contribute to the Australian MND research and care community post conference?

To apply for the grant, please first register for the <u>PACTALS and MND Care Conference</u> <u>September 2025</u>.

Please <u>click here and download the application form</u> to apply, and email to Dr. Min-Yin Yap at care@fightmnd.org.au

Closing Date: 27th July 2025

Terms of Grant

- 1. Applicants are eligible if they have registered for PACTALS and the MND Care Conference September 2025, and have lived experience of MND.
- 2. For a grant recipient with a respiratory impairment who is travelling via air, the grant will only be distributed if evidence of medical clearance by the relevant respiratory specialist is provided.
- 3. Travel grant funds can only be used for flights, accommodation, insurance, and other relevant travel costs.



- 4. Funds will be reimbursed (not provided up-front), and on the provision of:
 - a. Itemised list of costs and associated receipts for expenses incurred
 - i. Costs that are deemed not relevant to travel will not be reimbursed at FightMND's discretion.
 - a minimum 1-page written report of their experience to be used for external communications
 by the 10th of October, 2025.
- 5. The grant recipient agrees to participate in the release of details related to the grant to the media or donor communications, as reasonably required by FightMND.
- 6. FightMND is not liable for any injury, loss, or damage sustained, or suffered by persons who are sponsored by the travel grant.

