

2026 CSANZ Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific, Council Prize

Background

The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand (CSANZ) advocates for improving the cardiovascular health and wellbeing of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Islander populations in Australia and New Zealand. The CSANZ Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Council recognises the opportunity to further advocate for high-quality, safe, respectful and responsible research that addresses health inequalities and challenges in service access, delivery and outcomes experienced by Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Islander populations.

The CSANZ Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific, Council Prize will be awarded to the best individual presentation in the Indigenous Prize session at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Up to four finalists will be selected to present their work in the prize final. The prize is valued at AUD\$1,000 and is awarded by a panel of judges but will only be awarded if a contribution is considered to be of sufficient merit.

Additional criteria have been introduced for the assessment of abstracts presenting research involving Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Islander populations.

1. Eligibility Criteria

- 1.1 The applicant must be domiciled in Australia or New Zealand.
- 1.2 The applicant must be a Member of CSANZ or have submitted an application for membership by the abstract submission deadline.
- 1.3 The prize is for early mid-career researchers and clinicians. Ensure you include how and why you define yourselves as this which will be determined on case by case basis.
- 1.4 Previous winners of the CSANZ Indigenous Prize are not eligible to enter.
- 1.5 The work must be substantially new and have been carried out in Australia or New Zealand. The applicant must have made a significant contribution to the concept and execution of the work and be the first author.
- 1.6 An abstract submitted for consideration in the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific, Council Prize category cannot be submitted into another ASM Prize category. (Ralph Reader applicants may submit an abstract of their manuscript into one Prize category but can only present in either of Ralph Reader or Prize category final.)
- 1.7 Prior to the abstract submission deadline, the abstract must NOT have been published or accepted for publication.
- 1.8 The abstract must not have been presented at a national meeting in Australia or New Zealand prior to the 2025 CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting.
- 1.9 Applications for the Prize must include a declaration on whether the research meets either of the following criteria:

(a) **Indigenous leadership, governance and partnerships**

The paper/presentation details how the researchers engaged Indigenous leadership and/or demonstrated meaningful engagement and partnerships with community members or Indigenous stakeholders throughout the research process. For papers/presentations covering Aotearoa there should be consideration of how the research addresses Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

(b) **Contribution to reducing inequity and delivering tangible benefit for communities**

The paper/presentation investigates and addresses issues of health importance and presents the delivery of tangible benefits to Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Islander individuals or populations.

2. Submissions Requirements

2.1 Applicants for the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific, Council Prize must submit an abstract of a maximum of 250 words.

2.2 Abstracts that meet the above criteria must include an additional 150 words (above the abstract word limit) addressing the criteria.

2.3 Applicants **must** provide a **detailed letter of support, please use provided template**, from the supervisor or Director of the laboratory or service in Australia or New Zealand from which the work has emanated, clearly detailing the following information:

- the applicant's position (advanced trainee, researcher, post-doc etc)
- details about the contribution made by the applicant towards the work being presented.
- new work specific to the submission
- any previous presentations of the work
- distinguish work previously performed in the supervisor's laboratory or department

2.4 Submissions are restricted to a **single paper only**.

2.5 If an abstract is submitted for the Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori and Pacific Prize session and is not accepted, it is automatically considered for presentation in the Scientific Meeting program.