



FACT SHEET
How MHPN
funds network
meetings

This fact sheet highlights how MHPN will support networks

When does MHPN's funding conclude?

MHPN has been funded by the Department of Health to continue to support networks until at least 30 June 2020.

What support does MHPN provide to networks?

MHPN provides all networks with administration support, resources and tools, and access to meeting content, through the support of a dedicated Project Officer. MHPN also provides network meeting funding support. This is outlined below.

Network meeting funding

Networks are required to meet four times per financial year, with the expectation that funding is generally allocated evenly across each meeting.

From 1 January 2019, the following financial support will be available to networks:

For networks located in RA 1 and RA 2

Fewer than 15 attendees	\$100 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year
Between 15 – 24 attendees	\$175 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year
Between 25 – 34 attendees	\$250 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year
Between 35 or more	\$300 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year

Note: the above funding is exclusive of GST.

For networks located in RA3, RA 4 and RA 5

Fewer than 15 attendees	\$175 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year
Between 15 – 34 attendees	\$250 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year
Between 35 or more	\$300 per meeting, up to 4 meetings per financial year

Note: the above funding is exclusive of GST.

What if my network meets more than four times a year?

MHPN will support networks to meet more than four times per year, however, the available financial support will remain as outlined above.

For example, if a network meets six times per year the funding for four meetings will need to be spread across six.

**Mental Health
Professionals' Network**

Emirates House
Level 6
257 Collins Street
Melbourne
VIC 3000

postal
PO Box 203
Flinders Lane
VIC 8009

email
contactus@mhpnp.org.au

telephone
1800 209 031

www.mhpnp.org.au

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MHPN network support

What if my network wants to allocate its grant differently?

MHPN understands that some networks may want to spread their annual funding in a slightly different way, for example, to allow for payment to a particular guest speaker at a meeting.

If this applies to your network, please contact your Project Officer to discuss before making any arrangements.

Guest speaker funding

MHPN provides funding to help networks secure a guest speaker. There are two types of funding available.

Psychiatrist guest speaker funding initiative

Your Project Officer will work with you to secure a psychiatrist to present at your network meeting.

Each network is eligible to receive funding to pay for one psychiatrist guest speaker each financial year. The following applies to psychiatrist guest speakers:

- All guest speakers can be paid \$300 +GST for their time.
- The payment will **not** be deducted from the network's budget.
- Networks can access this funding once per financial year. Networks that used the initiative between 2018-19 financial year, can use it again in the 2019-20 financial year.
- Additional funding from this initiative can't be transferred to support other networking activity.
- This initiative is intended for face-to-face presentations. If you know a psychiatrist who you would like to invite, provide their details or make initial contact.

Additional guest speaker funding

Networks who hold four or more meetings in the 2018-19 financial year will be eligible to apply to MHPN to receive an additional allowance of \$125 (ex gst) to pay for a guest speaker (doesn't have to be a psychiatrist) to present at a meeting in the 2019-20 year. Please note, MHPN will need to approve the guest speaker before payment can be made.

Can I use the additional guest speaker funding in the same year as the four meetings were held?

Unfortunately not. The additional guest speaker funding can only be applied to a meeting in the next financial year.

What if my network wants to spend more money than MHPN can provide?

A number of networks have been in a situation where the group has decided to perhaps meet more often, share a meal or undertake training together that has cost more than the network's budget. In these situations, some networks have asked members to make a co-payment towards covering expenses. There are also other ways to try to stretch your network's budget – contact your Project Officer if you'd like to explore some ideas.

Any questions?

If you have any questions regarding how the changes will affect your network, please contact your Project Officer to discuss further.

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