



Clause 8

Conference Leave

What is it?

Conference Leave is a specific leave entitlement designed for attending conferences relevant to your vocational training programme. This entitlement is **in addition to your Medical Education Leave**. Unlike Medical Education Leave, Conference Leave can be used for conferences that are not mandatory for your training but are considered beneficial to your professional development.

For many specialties, this clause gets used for a subspecialty conference.

Costs covered

Relevant and reasonable expenses will be reimbursed; no fixed limit applies but these still need to follow the guidelines in the National Manual

- Conference fees
- Travel
- Accommodation (including meals)

Who decides if the conference is relevant to my training?

If there are questions raised about the suitability of a conference, the local clinical lead will determine suitability.

Can I use Conference Leave to attend a conference outside of Australasia?

Yes, provided that a similar conference does not exist locally.

Does the conference need to be on the agreed training lists?

No. Conference leave should be used for conferences outside of this list. If the conference is on the list and/or required for training, it should be covered under clause 10.

Will my accommodation be capped at \$250?

Your accommodation should be reasonable, if you are travelling to New York City, \$250 NZD would not purchase a reasonable hotel room, and as such we expect the districts to allow for a higher budget. We recommend getting this preapproved.

Who is eligible?

Registrars in a recognised vocational training programme who have passed Part 1 exam or equivalent.

Entitlement

- 10 days additional leave (beyond Medical Education Leave in Clause 7.0).
- Leave is portable between Districts.
- Can be taken in parts (does not need to be consecutive).
- Does not accrue or renew – total of 10 days only.
- No monetary cap – but only relevant and reasonable expenses are covered.

As there is no monetary cap, can I fly First Class?

No, only reasonable costs are covered, the normal guidelines that apply for Medical Education leave also apply for conference leave.

Learn more about
Conference Leave
here!



Example

A Senior SET ORL trainee, could use conference leave to travel to the ASPO Conference (American Society of Paediatric Otolaryngology) in the USA or Canada.

They would need to have support from their Clinical Lead. All of the travel and conference days would be deducted as conference leave. Reasonable flights, accommodation and meals would be covered.