

The Australia and New Zealand/

North American Chris O’Brien

Traveling Fellowship 2026

*The Councils of the American Head and Neck Society Research and Education Foundation and the Australian & New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society announce the*

*Chris O’Brien Traveling Fellowship*

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this fellowship is to encourage international exchange of information concerning surgical science, practice, and education and to establish professional and academic collaborations and friendships.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

The scholarship is available to members in good standing of the American Head and Neck Society or the Australian & New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society who:

* Have a major interest and accomplishments in clinic or basic sciences related to head and neck surgery
* Hold a current academic appointment
* Have no more than 10 years’ experience in his/her practice
* Are enthusiastic, personable, and possess good communication skills
* For purposes of the 2026 application, the candidate will travel to the United States and must therefore be a resident of Australia or New Zealand
* The Chris O’Brien Traveling Scholarship will be awarded on a three-year cycle alternating between Australia/New Zealand and North America
* For this application period, the candidate from Australia or New Zeal-\*and will be attending the 2026 joint AHNS International Meeting, July 18-22, Menino Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, Massachusetts.

ACTIVITIES

The Fellow is required to spend a minimum of two to three weeks in the US:

* To attend and present an oral presentation
* To participate in the formal convocation ceremony of the meeting
* To visit at least two medical centers in the US or Canada before or after the meeting to lecture and to share clinical and scientific expertise with the local surgeons
* To submit to the ANZHNCS a written report of their experience and lessons learned upon completion of travel

The academic and geographic aspects of the itinerary will be finalized in consultation and mutual agreement between the Fellow and the President or designated representative of the AHNS and the ANZHNCS. The surgical centers to be visited depend to some extent on the special interest and expertise of the Fellow and his or her previously established professional contacts with surgeons in Australia and New Zealand or North America. His or her spouse or partner is welcome to accompany the successful applicant. There will be many opportunities for social interaction, as well as professional activities.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The ANZHNCS and the American Head and Neck Society Research and Education Foundation will provide a sum of $10,000 U.S. to the successful applicant, who will also be exempt from registration fees for the meetings. He/she must meet all travel and living expenses. The societies’ representatives will meet with the Fellow about the centers to be visited in Australia and New Zealand or North America, the local arrangements for each center, and other advice and recommendations about travel schedules. The Fellow is to make his/her own travel arrangements in the US.

The Councils of the American Head and Neck Society Research and Education Foundation and the ANZHNCS will select the Fellow after review and evaluation of the final applications. A personal interview may be requested prior to the final selection.

Applications for the Chris O’Brien Traveling Fellowship may be obtained from the Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society website, or by emailing: info@anzhncs.org.

**The closing date for receipt of completed applications is 10th October 2025. The successful applicant and an alternate will be selected and notified by 27th October 2025**.

**Please complete and return the application below via email to:** **info@anzhncs.org****.**

*Application for the American Head and Neck Society*

*Australia & New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society*

*Chris O’Brien Traveling Fellowship for the Year 2026*

A current, detailed curriculum vitae, including medical school, postdoctoral education, and past hospital appointments, plus a complete bibliography and record of meeting presentations are to be submitted with this application. Applicants are to submit, in addition, an essay of no more than one page, stating how, in their opinion, they fulfill the requirements and their reasons for applying for the fellowship. Applicants are requested to indicate their name in the upper left-hand corner of the essay.

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| **1. APPLICANT**  |
| Name: | Email: |
| Address: |
| Telephone: ( )  | Fax: ( ) |
| **Present Academic Position**  | Title: |
| Institution: |
| Specialty: |
| Birth Date: | Birthplace: | Citizenship: |

 (month, day, year)

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| **2. EDUCATION** |
| **Senior (Chief) Residency** | Year: |
| Institution: |
| City: | State/Province: |

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| **3. PRESENT HOSPITAL APPOINTMENTS**  |
| **Primary** |
| Name of Hospital | City & State/Province  | Surgical Staff Position | From (Specify Month & Year) |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Other** |
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| **4. SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION DESIGNATION**  |
| **American Specialty Board / The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada** |
| Name of Specialty (Board) | Date of Specialty Certification  |
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| **5. FELLOWSHIP**  |
| ACS | Date Awarded | RCSC | Date Awarded |
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| **6. REFERENCES**  |
| Three letters of reference are required. One should be from the department chair, and the other two, from active members of the surgical department. These letters should include an overall evaluation of the applicant, including assessment of the applicant’s performance in various positions occupied. The applicant’s ability to satisfy the criteria of the fellowship requirements should be specifically addressed.  |
| Name: | Title: *Chair, Department of Surgery* |
| Institution: |
| Name: | Title: |
| Institution: |
| Name: | Title: |
| Institution: |

All communications regarding the Traveling Fellowship, including letters of reference, which are to be requested by the applicant, and sent by each referee, should be directed to:

info@anzhncs.org

or via mail to

Australian and New Zealand Head and Neck Cancer Society

RE: Chris O’Brien Traveling Fellowship

PO Box 576

Crows Nest NSW 1585

Attn: Thalia Child

It is to the applicant’s advantage to submit the completed application as early as possible in advance of the closing date 10th October 2026.

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