

NSW High School Cancer Competition 2019

Information for teachers

Thank you for your interest in the ACHSC's inaugural NSW High School Cancer Competition. This document was prepared by the ACHSC to provide a reference for teachers. It contains further information about our initiatives; outlines registration instructions & registration processes; and what to expect/prepare for the HSCC.

Good luck!

What is the High School Cancer Competition (HSCC)?	2
Registration fees	3
How do I register my school & students?	3
Select and register your students.	4
Complete and submit legal forms.	4
Wait for confirmation email.	4
Payment of invoice to complete registration.	5
Encourage your students to prepare.	5
What should I expect on the day of the HSCC?	5
What is required of teachers?	5
Attendance	5
Preparation	5
Catering	5
What is required of the students?	6
What should students bring?	6
Syllabus	6
Catering	6

What is the High School Cancer Competition (HSCC)?

The HSCC is an ACHSC **event** directed at year 10 students which aims to:

- **teach** students about cancer;
- **connect** research and high school communities across Australia; and
- **stimulate interest** in cancer and health sciences research.

It seeks to achieve these goals by providing an immersive experience where high school students can **spend a day in the shoes** of researchers, clinicians, and cancer patients.

Created by the ACHSC in 2015 and first held in 2016, over **160 Victorian year 10 students** and their science teachers have attended the HSCS with resounding success.

The inaugural NSW HSCC will be held on **Friday the 13th of September, 2019** at the **University of New South Wales, Randwick**.

It is **Australia's first science competition focusing on cancer**. The HSCC consists of a series of multiple choice questions answered individually by students within a 60 minute time frame.

By preparing for and participating in the HSCC, students will:

- **develop a grasp of the principles of cancer biology, genetics, and biochemistry**; and
- be challenged to apply this knowledge in a variety of **problem solving** contexts.

Most questions on the competition paper will require application of knowledge rather than factual recall. Content for questions will be partly drawn from the ACHSC's cancer syllabus, which, along with the HSCC, is designed to be an extension of most year 10 science curricula. The ACHSC's cancer syllabus is the first of its kind, and was created with input from teachers, academics, and the ACHSC team.

By attending the HSCC, students will:

- **Tour** world-class research facilities at the Lowy Cancer Research Institute;
- **Gain exposure** to and engage with researchers at all career levels;
- **Share the experiences** of cancer patients and survivors, whilst explore the impact of cancer on their lives; and
- **Hear presentations** from esteemed clinicians, academics, and public figures on topics ranging from innovations in cancer research to the impacts of cancer on our society.

The full program and further details of the 2019 HSCC can be found [here](#). A brief video recap of 2018's HSCS may also be viewed on [YouTube](#).

While preparation is not necessary to attend the HSCC, the ACHSC suggests for teachers to help students familiarise themselves with the [ACHSC cancer syllabus](#) to maximise the benefit students derive from the day.

The ACHSC hopes that the HSCC experience will pique students' interest in research and the health sciences, ultimately inspiring them to make their own contribution to the cancer and health sciences community.

All participating students will receive a certificate, with **top students based on overall score being rewarded with summer research internship opportunities** at the ACHSC's partner cancer research institutes, such as the **Children's Cancer Institute**.

Further details of the 2019 HSCC, along with sample questions, can be found [here](#).

Registration fees

The ACHSC is a non-profit organisation which organises and runs the HSCS and HSCC as **non-profit programs**. All registration fees are reinvested to financially support the implementation and development of the ACHSC's initiatives. The ACHSC will only request registration fees following successful registration of each participating school. The registration process is outlined in the next section ("**How do I register my school?**").

Registration fees will cover the ACHSC's costs of morning/afternoon tea for students, lunch catering for teachers, venue hire fees, and so on. The ACHSC has endeavoured to price the HSCC competitively to maximise accessibility to these programs.

HSCC registration

\$5.00 per student

There is a quota of **fifteen (15)** students per school registering for the HSCS.

Given the HSCC's limited capacity, the ACHSC recommend that each school makes the most of the opportunity by sending the maximum number of students. Students should be selected on the basis of their enthusiasm and interest in the HSCS's subject matter.

How do I register my school & students?

Registration for the 2019 HSCC will be conducted online via the ACHSC's website, Google Forms, and email.

HSCC registration will open on **Monday the 29th of July**.

Unfortunately, the ACHSC cannot accept late registration.

The registration process is the same for each option and consists of 5 steps. Each school's registration is complete only when all students are correctly registered, appropriate forms are completed and submitted, and registration fees are received by the ACHSC.

1. Select and register your students.

The ACHSC encourages students to be selected for the HSCS and HSCC on the basis of enthusiasm and demonstrated interest in the sciences.

Teachers, please use the Google Form links below to register students. Each teacher should register all participating students from their school.

- [NSW HSCC registration](#) (\$5.00 per student)

By registering online, students and teachers will be agreeing to the terms and conditions of the HSCS and HSCC, which are included in the initial invitation email and also available on the [ACHSC website](#).

2. Complete and submit legal forms.

All **students and teachers registered for the HSCS** are required to complete a Media Release Form to participate, which is also included in the initial invitation email and available on the [ACHSC website](#). This can be completed digitally, or as a scanned printed copy (pdf format please). Teachers will be responsible for collecting, scanning, and sending the Media Release Form to ACHSC to registration@achsc.org.au.

The completed Media Release Form for each student should be **sent as a PDF file and renamed as: School name_First name_Surname** (e.g. Sydney High School_Jane_Doe). The Media Release Form can be found on the ACHSCS's website [here](#).

Teacher and student details will be kept **confidential** throughout this process, and will not be distributed beyond the ACHSC or required partners e.g. the Lowy Cancer Research Institute. Please refer to the Media Release Form for more details regarding these matters.

HSCC registrants are not required to complete the Media Release Form.

3. Wait for confirmation email.

Once a school has registered students and the accompanying Media Release Forms are received, a confirmation email will be sent by the ACHSC to the email address provided by the teacher. Confirmation is on a strictly **first come, first served basis**.

This confirmation email will be sent within **5 business days** of receiving Media Release Forms or student details for the HSCC. It will contain **further information** about the HSCC, as well as an **invoice for registration fees**.

The ACHSC recommends that this invoice is forwarded to your school's respective accounting or finances department.

4. Payment of invoice to complete registration.

Please ensure payment is made **within 5 business days of receiving the invoice**, as registration cannot be processed or completed without receipt of payment. If payment is not received within this allocated period time, entry may be forfeited and students' places will be re-released to the general applicant pool.

5. Encourage your students to prepare.

Following successful payment, the ACHSC will provide a **second confirmation email** indicating completion of registration for the HSCC. **Congratulations!**

When preparing for the HSCC, we encourage teachers to lead students by consulting our [syllabus](#) to gain a sense of the expected level of knowledge and thinking. Preparation for the HSCC is also recommended so that students can gain as much as possible from the activities on the day and guest speakers' presentations.

For more information on registration, please direct questions to info@achsc.org.au

What should I expect on the day of the HSCC?

What is required of teachers?

Attendance

One teacher from each participating school is required to accompany and supervise their students during the HSCC. Teachers' basic details are required for administrative purposes, and should be provided during registration.

Preparation

Prior to the HSCC, teachers should encourage students to familiarise themselves with the ACHSC's official free syllabus, found [here](#). The ACHSC also encourages teachers to spend time discussing and explaining some of the concepts with prospective participants, as this will maximise the benefit that students take away from the HSCC.

Catering

Lunch will be provided **for teachers only**. Please advise the ACHSC via email of any special dietary requirements (e.g. allergies, religious, etc.) and we will strive to fulfil them; however,

the ACHSC is unable and not liable to accommodate all specific dietary requirements. Individuals with specific requirements are advised to bring their own food. Alternatively, there are a number of cafes on the campus.

What is required of the students?

What should students bring?

Students should bring a **packed lunch**, **stationery** (pencils, pens, erasers, notebooks, etc.) and **photo ID** for registration purposes (e.g. learner's permit, library card).

Please **avoid bringing bulky school-bags if possible**, as storage space is limited and the ACHSC cannot guarantee the security of belongings kept in storage.

Syllabus

Students are **expected though not required** to be familiar with the content of the syllabus, available freely on the ACHSC website [here](#). An understanding of the salient points of the reference material will be invaluable at the HSCC.

Catering

Lunch is not provided for students attending the ACHSC. The ACHSC advises students to bring a **packed lunch and some snacks for the day**. Alternatively, there are a number of cafes locally which teachers may take students to, if they wish.

The ACHSC will supply light refreshments and snacks during breaks throughout the HSCC. Please advise the ACHSC of any special dietary requirements (e.g. allergies, religious, etc.) and we will strive to fulfil them; however, the *ACHSC may be unable and is not liable to accommodate all specific dietary requirements*. Individuals with specific requirements are advised to bring their own food.

The ACHSC wishes teachers and students all the best for their preparations for the HSCC!