

Call for Abstracts: FCVic Conference 2024

Financial Counselling Victoria invites submissions of abstracts for presentation at the FCVic Conference, to be held in Melbourne from 9-11 October 2024.

We welcome abstracts from anyone with an interest in financial counselling and consumer issues, including financial counsellors, researchers, industry, regulators, community workers, policy makers, students, and other experts who are interested in sharing best practice, research findings, critical reflections or case studies.

Submissions should reflect the conference theme “**Fearless and Fortright**”. This might mean:

- Through a consumer lens – de-stigmatising financial hardship, building client capacity and honouring client courage
- Through a practice lens - innovative perspectives and paradigms that drive positive impact
- Through a policy lens - bold policy recommendations that reshape the status quo

All submissions should address the judging criteria, including how the presentation connects with the conference theme, and your goals for what participants will learn or gain from the presentation.

Successful applicants will generally be offered a session to the full audience (30 minutes) or may be considered for a small breakout session if relevant as a CPD training session for financial counsellors (90 minutes).

How to Submit

1. Review the Abstract Guidelines carefully prior to submission.
2. Prepare your abstract and professional biography.
3. Submit your abstract using the online form.

Key Dates

- **Submissions open** – Tuesday 30 April 2024
- **Submissions close** – Tuesday 21 May 2024
- **Notification to authors** – Tuesday 28 May 2024
- **Preliminary program release** – Friday 31 May 2024

Abstract Guidelines

Abstracts will be reviewed under one of the following categories to ensure a diversity of perspectives is reflected across the conference program.

Research: These presentations will report on original research including systematic literature reviews. Presentations should include traditional research reporting elements including background or aim, methods, results and conclusions/implications. Headings are not required but are here to provide guidance for what to include in your abstract.

Practice: Practice reports share practice innovations, case studies, or critical reflections from any discipline. These are designed to inform, challenge, and inspire new approaches in practice.

What's New: In a sector that is constantly developing, we know that there are new tools, legislation, guidelines and resources that impact on the work of financial counsellors. In this category, presentations will deliver useful professional development training and education to financial counsellors.

Dangerous Ideas: These presentations are intended to be a forum for anybody to raise and discuss ideas that challenge established beliefs or practices in any relevant field. Presentations should be evidence-informed and provide clear directions for future research, practice or policy considerations.

Judging criteria

The criteria for judging whether an abstract will be suitable for the FCVic Conference is as follows. Applicants are encouraged to consider these criteria in their submission.

Relevance 50%

- Does the topic address current and emerging themes and key issues in financial counselling?
- Does the topic have potential real-world policy and/or practice implications?
- Is there a clear relevance to the key audience of financial counsellors – a “so what” factor?
- Will there be key learnings, resources, tools or tips that the key audience can take away and use?
- Does the topic connect with the conference theme of “Fearless and Fortright”?

Originality 25%

- Is the topic innovative or new? Has it been discussed or presented in a public form before?
- Does the presentation offer a new angle or way of approaching an existing topic?

Other 25%

- Will the presentation include opportunities for engaging the audience? What will this look like?
- Are the presenters able to provide evidence of expertise in their field – not only through academic qualifications but through practice and experience?

Terms and Conditions

- All abstracts must be received by the advertised closing date. It is a condition of acceptance that all presenters (including co-presenters) must be registered prior to the conference.
- Please ensure your submission is accurate and clear. FCVic does not accept responsibility for errors or omissions in the published submissions - it is your responsibility to ensure the final abstract is proofread before submitting.
- Abstracts submitted for presentation at the FCVic Conference must not have been presented elsewhere unless agreed by the conference organiser prior to submission.
- Presenters must be available to present on any of the conference days, as assigned by FCVic.
- Incomplete or incorrect submissions will not be considered.
- Abstracts will be considered for all presentation formats. Presenters may be offered an alternative presentation format to their indicated preference.
- There is no limit to the number of abstracts that can be submitted by an individual presenter, as all submissions will be judged on their merits.
- Presentations at the conference may be recorded and photographed. These digital works will become the property of FCVic and may be used in marketing and other materials including the FCVic CPD Library.