

Dräger New Zealand – NZOHS Young Hygienist Award – Guideline for Applicants

The Dräger New Zealand - NZOHS Young Hygienist Award is an award of the New Zealand Occupational Hygiene Society (NZOHS) sponsored on an annual basis by Dräger.

The award provides a selected applicant with the opportunity for professional development through attendance a occupational hygiene conference or workshop supplemented with travel to the Dräger Headquarters and Manufacturing sites in Lübeck.

The award will not be made if, in the opinion of the award selection committee or NZOHS council, applicants do not meet the specified requirements. If the award is made, the successful applicant will be notified in writing by the administrator of the society.

The recipient of the award will eventually represent both the NZOHS and New Zealand at the highest levels of the profession in Germany and where possible Europe. Both the sponsor and the NZOHS seek a recipient who is mature in outlook, articulate and personable, with sufficient awareness of developments in occupational hygiene in New Zealand to discuss them intelligently with hygienists from other nations.

Reward candidates will be responsible for providing their own insurances (if applicable) and any additional requirements which have not been outlined above. The financial aspects of this award are limited and the successful applicant may need to supplement it to achieve the level of travel or fees payable. Additional details are available from the NZOHS.

The sponsorship has a value of NZD3500 to cover travel, accommodation and expenses to:

- Meet with a member of the Dräger R&D team, to understand the research process further.
- Meet with a member of the product management team, to understand the trends and challenges in the world of safety gas detection.
- Visit the Dräger Gallery - History of Dräger Gallery to learn and experience the Dräger history

Perceived benefit to the recipient and perceived benefit to the profession in New Zealand are of prime importance. It is the responsibility for intending applicants to approach and clear any issues such as inducement or perceived inducement with their employer and their conditions of employment prior to applying.

Eligibility

Only full fee paying Technician or Full members of the NZOHS are eligible to apply. It is unlikely that a newly appointed associate member will meet the professional requirements associated with the reward unless they show exceptional ability.

As this is a young hygienist professional development award, the member is to be under 40 years of age on the 31st December of the award application.

The award is not restricted to generalist occupational hygienists and applications from specialists are welcome. Specialists would, however, be advised to acquire a broad understanding of the profession as a whole to represent NZOHS in overseas forums.

Members of the NZOHS Council, Selection Committee and workers and their families of Dräger New Zealand Ltd are not eligible to apply, as are any other members with a professional conflict of interest.

The Application Process

Applications must be made using the Application Form available on the NZOHS website “Awards” tab (<https://nzohs.org.nz/awards/>). Please read and understand the supporting documents, fill in the form, scan and attach the required documents/reports, make a copy for your own records, then submit electronically to the NZOHS Administrator (admin@nzohs.org.nz). Hard copies of the form or attachments will not be accepted. Applications close on 28th April 2020. The award will be announced at the NZOHS AGM.

The application form seeks details of background, qualifications and experience, and also a reasoned case for their selection as being a deserving recipient of the award.

In addition, applicants will be asked to supply:

- Some personal details
- Details of past academic qualifications and of training courses attended (indicate if these have previously been supplied to the NZOHS when applying for membership, if not then supply copies of certificates and academic transcripts with this application form).
- Details of the proposed itinerary including professional visits
- Details of employment and work experience specific to occupational hygiene, from earlier times to present day (supplement the title of each position with a brief description of its associated duties and responsibilities)
- Examples of professional work in the form of one or two written reports, with confidential details such as names of companies and employees blacked out (scanned and attached to the application form, maximum file size 10 A4 pages each). The reports preferably should indicate the in depth examination of specific contaminants in the
- workplace outlining the phases of recognition, evaluation of the extent of exposure and the suggested or implemented control strategy. The professional benefits expected to be obtained from attending the Dräger Lübeck visit should also be stated.
- Any other sources of financial assistance being provided or sought in relation to the award.
- Names and phone numbers of two professionals, preferably occupational hygienists, who will support the application.
- Applicants will be asked to read and accept with a signature the terms of the Award including that they have approached their employer in regard to the issue of potential inducement or perceived inducement and their conditions of employment.
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WORK HISTORY AND EXPERIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE

Work History

Give your work history in chronological order from earlier times to present day. Supplement (in a separate statement, if necessary) job titles with sufficient description material to enable assessment of the level of responsibility of your position(s) and the extent to which your work is or was occupational hygiene in a truly professional sense. Be factual, bearing in mind that you will be asked to name professional referees and that references will be checked before a final decision is made.

Your future in Occupational Hygiene

Both the Sponsor and the NZOHS want the Sponsor’s investment to provide maximum professional development to the recipient of the Dräger NZ award. Both are naturally keen to see the recipient remain in the field for a length of time sufficient to fully utilise the knowledge and experience gained from the award. Under this heading you should provide an indication of your aspirations with respect to career development and of your commitment to the field.

It would help the assessors to form a rounded picture of you as a professional if you could also comment on those occupational hygiene activities which you find particularly interesting and satisfying, on those areas of the field where you believe that you have a particular contribution to make and on your self-perceived professional strengths and weaknesses. Since the contents of your application will be held in the strictest confidence, you should not hesitate to express your opinions freely,

Publications and Presentations

With respect to the work on gas/vapour/particulate detection or respiratory protection which is at the heart of your application, you have to convince the assessors that:

- a. It is likely to result in a significant contribution to the protection of worker health (or that it has already done so)
- b. It will be work of quality, both in content and presentation.
- c. It is highly innovative.
- d. If multi-authored, your contribution has been a major one.

Large reports will not be read or assessed in their entirety by the Committee, in such instances the Committee members only examine the first 10 pages for marking and selection, so chose or edit each of your reports accordingly. Copies of Reports are not returned under any circumstances; and, copies of Reports are shredded at the completion of each Award cycle.

You may present additional evidence of your professional competence, in the form of publications/presentations other than that on which your application is based, but please be aware that *quality* is valued more than quantity.

YOUR ITINERARY/PROFESSIONAL VISITS

Your itinerary is subject to approval by the NZOHS Council and the Sponsor. You should be able to negotiate rest breaks of up to two days in total.

It is worth bearing in mind that the Dräger NZ award is for your professional advancement and not for the purpose of promoting the business of your employer. Itineraries which propose a series of visits to overseas affiliates of your employer, or visits to Head Office and Branches of the parent company, will not be well received.

Finally, as a representative of your country overseas, you are likely to be asked about questions about the geography, topography, people, climate, animals, etc. of New Zealand. You should be prepared for this.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND THE SELECTION PROCESS

Selection Criteria

Your application will be assessed in terms of the following criteria and you should frame it in such a way as will maximise its impact in these terms.

With respect to the principal work on which your application is based:

1. The significance of the contribution it makes in the field of occupational hygiene, for instance gas/vapour/particulate detection or respiratory protection.
2. The quality of the work performed.
3. The quality of its description and presentation.
4. The degree of innovation it exhibits.
5. The part played by the applicant in the performance of the work and the presentation of results.

With respect to your professional development:

1. Your current professional standing in the field of occupational hygiene.
2. Your involvement in the practice of occupational hygiene.
3. Your perceived enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the field; potential for development.
4. Perceived benefit to the applicant's career of attendance at the Dräger visit.

The Selection Process

Copies of your application, including supporting documentation and reports/papers, will be sent to members of the Awards and Sponsorship Committee. Individual members will independently assess each application in terms of the selection criteria, both absolutely and in relation to the other applications submitted. The assessments of individual members of the Committee will be forwarded to the NZOHS Office for collation, standardisation and tabulation. The result of this process will be sent to each member in the form of a table and subsequently discussed in one or more telephone conferences until a consensus is reached. The applications and supporting documentation received, the working papers of the Committee and any records of discussions and decisions will be held in confidence by the Committee, NZOHS Office and NZOHS Council. The names of the first and second choices of the Committee will be forwarded to the NZOHS Council for consideration and, hopefully, ratification. The successful applicant will be notified via email by the NZOHS President. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing after the announcement of the award at the annual conference. Please note that the decision by the NZOHS Council is final and no correspondence concerning a decision will be entertained.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES TO THE AWARD

The NZOHS

- Seek nominations.
- Provide written guidelines to applicants.
- Arrange for the assessment of the applications.
- Notify the successful applicant.
- Negotiate with the successful applicant with respect to travel and confirms the arrangements with the Sponsor.
- Arrange for a time for presentation at the Annual NZOHS Conference.

The Sponsor

- Provide and present award at the NZOHS Conference.
- Payment of NZOHS remittance invoice of the Award.
- Arrange for Dräger Lübeck visit.

The Successful Applicant

- Approach their employer in regard to the issue of potential inducement or perceived inducement against their conditions of employment.
- Arrange leave-of-absence with his/her employer.
- Arrange and pay for travel and accommodation.
- Obtain a passport, any necessary visas, check and if in doubt confirm your personal details against the eligible entry requirements of the country being visited.
- Signs an indemnity for the NZOHS and Dräger NZ.
- Negotiate with the Sponsor and the NZOHS Council with respect to the itinerary.
- Within **2 months of returning to New Zealand**, provide all financial aspects of the travel, and submit to the NZOHS and the Sponsor a written report on the professional aspects of his/her Dräger Lübeck visits (this report, or abstracts of it, may be published in the NZOHS Newsletter).
- At all times for the duration of the Award, conduct himself/herself in a manner befitting a professional occupational hygienist and a representative of the NZOHS and New Zealand.
- Agree to abide by the conditions laid out in the "Generic Conditions for Overseas Travel Associated with NZOHS Awards" document including the "Dräger New Zealand – NZOHS Young Hygienist Award – Awardee Agreement".

Please feel free to contact the NZOHS Council to clarify any of the above points, or to seek information when making your application. The Council along with the Award Selection Committee is committed to assisting in the professional and academic advancement of NZOHS members and has adopted a position of open and frank discussion with intending applicants.