



# Online legal training course: Law & Noncommunicable Disease

## Information for nominators and participants

The McCabe Centre for Law & Cancer is excited to launch the fifth edition of its online legal training course on law and noncommunicable disease. Building on four successful previous editions of the course, this virtual learning opportunity will help lawyers and policymakers build capacity to implement legal and policy initiatives to prevent and control noncommunicable disease.

The course will launch on **25 August 2025** and will be accessible for **eight weeks**. Course content will take approximately **30-35 hours** to complete.

## About the McCabe Centre for Law & Cancer

The McCabe Centre for Law & Cancer is the only centre of its kind in the world advancing law to prevent cancer and to protect people affected by it. Through world-leading research and capacity building programs, the McCabe Centre upskills lawyers and policymakers to use law as an effective tool to prevent and control cancer, and other noncommunicable diseases.

The McCabe Centre is a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Law & Noncommunicable Disease and the designated WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) Knowledge Hub on legal challenges to the Convention's implementation. Established in 2012, the McCabe Centre is a joint initiative of Cancer Council Victoria, the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) and Cancer Council Australia, based in Melbourne, Australia with Regional Managers in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.

## Course objectives

- To analyse the role of law in NCD prevention and control
- To build capacity in low- and middle-income countries on using law to prevent and control cancer and other NCDs
- To support lawyers and policymakers to implement legal and policy initiatives aimed at improving health and development outcomes in their countries, including implementation of the WHO FCTC
- To foster and encourage the development of a network of lawyers and policymakers working on the prevention and control of NCDs
- To support participants with the development of leadership and practical policymaking skills in relation to law and NCDs

## Who is this course for?

- The course is open to government lawyers and policymakers of WHO member states who are working in a relevant area. Some participants working in other roles, such as academia or civil society, may also be accepted.
- Countries from all regions and of all income levels are eligible to apply, however, the course is tailored to the needs of low- and middle-income countries.
- Invitations to apply will be circulated through partner organisations including WHO Regional and Country Offices, the WHO FCTC Convention Secretariat, Pacific Community (SPC), and others, as well as via the McCabe Centre alumni network.
- Please note that the course will be conducted in English and translation is not provided.

## Fees and scholarships

- A full waiver of course fees will be granted to representatives of low- and middle-income countries, other countries who are eligible to receive official development assistance<sup>1</sup> and Pacific Island countries and territories. This means that there will be no charge for participants from these countries to attend the course.
- The course fee for high-income countries will be AUD\$1200.

## How to apply

- Applicants should complete the online application form by 31 July 2025 at the below link
  - <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/0196ec463daf722c9eb0837a1aea88d8>
- Applicants will be asked to identify their job title, ministry/organisation, country, and which partner organisation has suggested that they participate as part of the online application process, as well as provide a brief statement on their current work and any potential project they may wish to receive follow up assistance with.
- Applicants must complete a declaration of interest statement, in line with Article 5.3 of the WHO FCTC.
- We will aim to have approximately 75 places available. If we receive a larger number of registrations than places available, places will be allocated based on regional and gender balance, relevance of the course to the participant's work, and limiting the number of participants from any one country.
- Follow up assistance will be available on request and on a case-by-case basis to participants who have completed the course
- If you have any questions about the course, please email [ILTP@mccabecentre.org](mailto:ILTP@mccabecentre.org)

## Course timeline

23 June – 31 July 2025	Applications open
31 July – 20 August 2025:	Applications reviewed, successful applicants notified and sent a registration link for the online course

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<sup>1</sup> List available from: <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/sub-issues/oda-eligibility-and-conditions/dac-list-of-oda-recipients.html>

## Course content

The course will be divided into seven modules available via an online web portal, covering NCD prevention and control, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, related aspects of trade and investment law, and practical skills including multisectoral collaboration. Content is primarily focused on a series of informational videos by the McCabe Centre, with supplementary slides and written resources and activities for participants to build on what they learn. Each module will conclude with a short quiz and a discussion forum. Participants will also be required to develop a short plan for a priority project on law and NCDs as part of the final assessment for the course. Content on the web portal is accessible on demand.

There will be four live online discussion sessions available for participant questions and discussions, to be scheduled at varying times suiting different time zones. All live sessions will be open to all participants with participation encouraged but optional.

Participants may also organise individual meetings with McCabe Centre Regional Managers and other McCabe Centre staff to discuss course content, the priority project assignment, and their work on law and NCDs generally. An optional Whatsapp networking group will also be available for course participants.

Course content will take approximately 30-35 hours over eight weeks to complete, plus scheduled live sessions and individual meetings. We recommend participants allocate approximately 4-5 hours per week to the course.

Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a Certificate of Completion.

Following the course, participants who have completed the priority project plan assignment and all other course requirements will be eligible to receive technical assistance from the McCabe Centre to help develop their plan into a priority project for implementation.

## Participant expectations

### During the course

- Complete a short pre-course evaluation survey
- Complete the course – including all modules, activities, and quizzes – within the time provided
- Participate actively in discussion forums provided, communicating professionally and respectfully
- Communicate with McCabe Centre contacts (to be provided during course) with any questions or comments about course material

### After completing the course

- Complete a short post-course evaluation survey
- Engage with the McCabe Centre, as needed, for technical support on relevant work
- Receive relevant updates and notification from the McCabe Centre (with option to unsubscribe)

Participants will need to have access to their own equipment (eg laptop / internet connection) in order to access the content for this course. No equipment is provided.

# Course Overview

## **Module 1:** Law & NCDs

- NCDs and sustainable development
- NCD global governance instruments
- NCDs and human rights
- NCDs and universal health coverage
- NCDs and gender
- NCDs and climate change
- Law & NCD prevention

## **Module 2:** Introduction to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

- The treaty and its principles
- WHO FCTC obligations, institutions, guidelines
- WHO FCTC and the broader global health agenda
  - Overview of key obligations in the WHO FCTC and its Illicit Trade Protocol
- Novel & emerging tobacco and nicotine products
- Impact of the WHO FCTC and legal challenges to its implementation

## **Module 3:** Law and unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, and alcohol

- Law and alcohol control
- Law and unhealthy diet
- Law and physical inactivity
- Topical case studies

## **Module 4:** Law and air pollution as an NCD risk factor

- Air pollution as an NCD risk factor
- Global governance of air pollution
- Law and air pollution
- Case studies

## **Module 5:** Trade law and tobacco control

- Introduction to the World Trade Organization
- Discrimination, trade-restrictiveness, intellectual property, health exceptions
- Case studies in trade law (US – Clove Cigarettes, Australia – Plain Packaging)

## **Module 6:** Investment law and tobacco control

- Foreign investment, expropriation, fair and equitable treatment
- Case studies in investment law (Philip Morris v Uruguay, Philip Morris Asia v Australia)

## **Module 7:** Putting it into practice

- Developing, implementing and enforcing NCD legislation
- Multi-sectoral collaboration