

2026 New Colombo Plan Mobility Program Proposal

UQ Internal Proposal Form

Submit completed forms to sponsored.students@uq.edu.au by **16 September 2025**

Before submission, please review the [2026 NCP Mobility Program Guidelines](#) and [Advice to Applicants](#). Following review of the proposal, the responses to the following will form the basis of the proposal submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Please ensure all questions are addressed in accordance with the relevant guidelines.

Priority Areas

Proposals will be reviewed based on the NCP Mobility Eligibility, for locations outlined in Section 5.5.1. of the NCP Mobility Program Guidelines. As outlined in Section 2.2.1, preference during selection processes for the 2026 NCP Mobility Program will be given to the following:

- Mobility projects that will be undertaken in Pacific NCP host locations, as outlined in the table below. Australia's relationships with Pacific Island Countries are longstanding and enduring, based on true partnerships, respect and friendship. These relationships are central to Australia's national interest and identity, recognising our shared geography, history and culture and the deeply interconnected nature of our region's peace, stability and prosperity. Where eligible, these applications will be assessed on their merits in accordance with the assessment criteria at section 6.2.

Priority Host Locations	<p>Of the eligible NCP host locations, applications to the following locations, where Australia wishes to expand linkages will be prioritised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cook Islands • Federated States of Micronesia • Fiji • French Polynesia • Kiribati • Marshall Islands • Nauru • New Caledonia • Niue • Palau • Papua New Guinea • Samoa • Solomon Islands • Tonga • Tuvalu • Vanuatu
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- Mobility projects which create Vietnamese language pathways. In the 2026 NCP Mobility Program, up to \$1 million will be available to support projects developed by universities, including through consortia, with a focus on Vietnamese language learning. This funding seeks to address the current lack of demand for Vietnamese language study in Australia,

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with a view to building a pipeline of students wanting to pursue employment or cultural connections with Vietnam.

- In addition to Vietnamese, mobility projects where the main focus is for the study of a priority Asian language, as outlined in the table below. In the 2026 round, all NCP Programs (including the NCP Mobility Program) will have a language target set at 15 per cent. To meet the language target, 50 per cent or more of the planned mobility experience duration will need to be language acquisition and learning through study of the official or commonly spoken language (other than English) of an eligible primary NCP host location, where the mobility project is to be undertaken via face-to-face mode. This target builds on the language stream introduced in the 2025 NCP Mobility Program.

Priority Asian Languages	<p>The Australian Government is committed to building Australia's Indo-Pacific capabilities and deepening Asia literacy, including in languages. Applications that demonstrate a focus on learning the following Asian languages will be prioritised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bahasa Indonesia • Malay • Chinese (Mandarin) • Hindi • Japanese • Korean
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Project Overview

Project Point of Contact (Project Leader)

The project point of contact will act as a liaison point between project participants and DFAT, including DFAT posts, overseas for NCP event purposes.

Enter Name

Enter Position

Enter Phone

Enter Email

Field of study

*As per [ASCED Field of Education](#) - please include both **numbers** and **names***

- **Broad:** Enter both numbers and names.
- **Narrow:** Enter both numbers and names.
- **Detailed:** Enter both numbers and names.

Location/s (City and Country)

Only list more than one country if the same project visits multiple countries in one trip. Similar projects to different countries require separate applications.

Enter City and Country.

Project Title (approx. 10-15 words)

Please give your project a short, informative, and attention-grabbing title. The Project Title should include the host location, discipline/subject, and type of educational activity, for example Vanuatu, Nursing Practicum.

Enter Project Title.

Project Description

Please provide an overview of the proposed project. While this field does not contribute to the project's weighted score, this information helps assessors understand the project's activities.

In the Project Description of the application, the applicant should outline:

- *Project details*
 - *Provide a clear and concise description of the offshore activities to be undertaken by participating students, noting the duration/s of offshore experiences. While a university may require students to undertake some activities in Australia, these do not contribute to the official duration of an NCP project experience.*
 - *If the project includes a secondary host location, please provide the reason. As per Program Guidelines, a secondary host location refers to a host location in which a minority*

component of the project experience is undertaken, outside of the primary host location. Secondary host locations are not alternative project delivery locations.

- **Project partner (host institution or organisation)**
 - *Describe the role/s of the project partner/s such as teaching, arranging fieldwork, hosting interns.*
 - *Describe the institutional linkages with local businesses, universities and other organisations, which will result from this project.*
 - *Describe how linkages (institutional and people-people) will be sustained beyond the project.*
- **Project rationale**
 - *Explain how the project aligns with the Australian Government's priorities in the Indo-Pacific region.*
 - *If the project repeats or builds on a previously funded NCP project(s), describe the achievements of the earlier project(s) and how the proposed project will build on these.*
- **Third Party Providers**
 - *If the project will be implemented through or with the assistance of a Third Party Provider (TPP) (drawing on administration funding or other resources), please name the organisation and the services they will provide. All TPPs must be declared, even if they are only providing assistance with logistics or other project elements.*
- **Justification for the proposed cost **per student** (value with money) including an indicative budget and breakdown of the **per-student costs**, for example:**
 - **Per student – 4 weeks offshore:**
 - *Travel costs (international, domestic)*
 - *Living costs (accommodation, meals, daily expenses)*
 - *Activity costs (host/partner costs)*

Total: \$A per student

Enter Project Description – **500 word limit will be strictly adhered to**

Project Type

Choose Project Type.

*If the project is a previously funded NCP Project, please provide the NCP Project Number of the previously funded project. Enter NCP Project Number here.

Length of study (select one)

As per Section 3.2 Grant Period:

The minimum duration of a project is 4 weeks (28 calendar days). The maximum project duration is 9 weeks (69 calendar days).

- ☐ 4-5 weeks (minimum 28 days)
- ☐ 6-9 weeks

Will student recruitment target and support students from diverse backgrounds to participate in the Project?

(Select all that apply)

- ☐ Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students
- ☐ Students from Regional/Remote areas
- ☐ Students with a Disability
- ☐ Students across Genders
- ☐ Students from a Low Socio-Economic Status background
- ☐ Students who are first in their immediate family to attend university
- ☐ Students from a non-English speaking background
- ☐ Female Students studying in non-traditional fields

Will this project have a First Nations focus?

Choose a response.

Will you be using a third-party provider to deliver this project?

Choose a response.

If yes, what is the name of the third-party provider?

Enter third-party provider name.

Qualification level

- ☐ Bachelor Degree
- ☐ Bachelor Honours Degree
- ☐ Diploma

Does the Project include one or more of the following for participating students:

- ☐ In-country language study
- ☐ Clinical Placement
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Study
- ☐ Practicum
- ☐ Internship / Mentorship
- ☐ Artist Residency

Does the Project meet the language target (see Section 6.1 Priority Areas)

Choose a response

Does the Project provide credit / count toward the course requirements for the Qualification in which participants are enrolled?

Choose a response

Please explain the credit arrangements that have been made and whether or not this is confirmed.

Enter response.

Faculty, School or specialisation:
Enter response.

Project Partners

Project partners means (the host institution(s), host organisation(s), and/or any other overseas or Australian partner organisations involved in the delivery of a mobility project.

You must include the following details for each project partner involved in the proposed project. If additional partners are needed, please add below.

Partner 1:

Partner Name: Enter Partner Name.

Partnership Status: Enter response.

Partner Type: Enter response.

Please indicate whether the Project Partner is one or more of the following: Enter response.

Partner 2:

Partner Name: Enter Partner Name.

Partnership Status: Enter response.

Partner Type: Enter response.

Please indicate whether the Project Partner is one or more of the following: Enter response.

Partner 3:

Partner Name: Enter Partner Name.

Partnership Status: Enter response.

Partner Type: Enter response.

Please indicate whether the Project Partner is one or more of the following: Enter response.

Project Travel Dates

Enter dates starting & end dates between 01 Jan 2026 and 1 February 2028 (DD/MM/YYYY required).

Estimate dates if not yet known. Duration of project is more important at this stage than exact departure dates. If there will be more than one departure date for the proposed project, please include all anticipated project dates. Participating students must have returned to Australia by the end of the Mobility program term (that is, by 1 February 2028).

Anticipated travel start date: Enter start date.

Anticipated travel end date: Enter end date.

Host City: Enter Host City/s.

Finances

Student Grants

The student grant is intended to contribute, in the first instance, to the cost of a student's international travel and in-country living expenses during the project.

In the Project Description of your application, you must provide a value-for-money justification for the proposed per-student funding. This should include a draft budget. The amount of a student grant should reflect actual costs at individual locations (for example, cost of living differences between host locations). We suggest the following as indicative student grant amounts:

- up to \$4,000 for participation in a project of at least 4 weeks
- up to \$6,000 for participation in a project of at least 6 weeks
- up to \$9,000 for participation in a project of at least 9 weeks

Student grants must not be used for administration costs.

You should apply for the number of student grants that you can **reasonably expect to deliver within the 2026 round project term**, taking into consideration any unused student grants you hold from previous rounds. DFAT may offer less funding for a successful project than the amount sought by a university in its application. The grant offered may depend on, for example, the applicant university's implementation of funding from previous NCP rounds.

You must not use funding provided for student grants for administration costs.

<i>Proposed Number of Students</i>	<i>Amount of each grant per student (GST free)</i>	<i>Total amount student grants (GST free)</i>	<i>Administration funding (10% of the total student grants)</i>	<i>Total funding (Sum of student grants and admin funding)</i>

Administration Funding

All recipients of NCP mobility funding will receive administration funding (ten per cent of total student grants for the project). Administration funding may only be used for administration associated with NCP mobility project management.

Universities must retain adequate records of administration funding expenditure and be able to provide these on request. Universities must return unspent administration funding to DFAT (together with unspent mobility grant funding) once an NCP mobility project is completed and financially acquitted.

If a mobility project has been completed/expired without any student grants being expended, you must return all administration funding to DFAT. If you do not use all student grants under a project, you may only retain administration funding equivalent to ten per cent of grants paid to students who did travel.

Funding cannot be used on core academic staff wages or subsidy of general ongoing administration of an organisation such as non-NCP mobility project administration costs.

Please confirm the above financial information is understood and use of student and administrative funding will be used in accordance with the guidelines.

Choose a response.

Project Contributions

Please document all contributions that will be made toward the proposed project. Evidence of financial contributions must be made by the Home University, Host Institution or Mobility Partner. Please include evidence as attachment to this proposal.

Evidence of in-kind support is optional.

If the project involves a Mobility Partnership, evidence in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), letter, email or contract from the Private Sector Organisation must be included as part of the application.

Contribution 1:

Project Partner (as listed above): Enter name of Project Partner.

Project Contributor: Enter response.

Contribution Type: Enter response.

Value of Financial Contribution: Enter value.

Description of in-kind contributions: Enter in-kind description.

Contribution description (maximum 200 words): Enter contribution description.

Evidence of Financial Contribution is attached: Choose response.

Contribution 2:

Project Partner (as listed above): Enter name of Project Partner.

Project Contributor: Enter response.

Contribution Type: Enter response.

Value of Financial Contribution: Enter value.

Description of in-kind contributions: Enter in-kind description.

Contribution description (maximum 200 words): Enter contribution description.

Evidence of Financial Contribution is attached: Choose response.

Contribution 3:

Project Partner (as listed above): Enter name of Project Partner.

Project Contributor: Enter response.

Contribution Type: Enter response.

Value of Financial Contribution: Enter value.

Description of in-kind contributions: Enter in-kind description.

Contribution description (maximum 200 words): Enter contribution description.

Evidence of Financial Contribution is attached: Choose response.

Selection Criteria

Please refer to Section 6 of the Guidelines. Please provide responses to the Selection Criteria below. It is imperative that you stay within the word count for each question, while showcasing the most important and innovative points of your program.

Criterion 1: Alignment of proposal with the Australian Government's strategic priorities in the Indo-Pacific region (40%)

You should demonstrate this by:

- describing how the project aligns with Australia's strategic priorities in the Indo-Pacific, especially in a priority host location, and including how the project will build the Indo-Pacific capability of participating students

OR

- describing how the project will create Vietnamese language pathways, with a view to building a pipeline of students wanting to pursue employment or cultural connections with Vietnam

OR

- describing the extent to which the project builds proficiency in a priority Asian language.

Enter Response to Criterion 1 – **300 word limit will be strictly adhered to.**

Criterion 2: Quality of the proposal (60%)

You should demonstrate this by:

- describing partnerships with host institutions, including duration, and examples of collaboration
- describing intended outcomes and how they will be measured, especially the Indo-Pacific capability of participating students, including in language
- outlining implementation plans, including budget
- describing how risks will be managed throughout the project.

Included in Criterion 2, you must provide evidence of the project partner's support/agreement for the proposed project (for example MoUs, letters of support/agreement).

Enter Response to Criterion 2 – **300 word limit will be strictly adhered to.**

Alignment with UQ's Global Engagement Framework

Detail how this project supports UQ's [Global Engagement Framework](#) (maximum 150 words). Information on UQ's suite of resources can be found at the link above. A list of UQ's international partner institutions by country, engagement briefs can also be found on the [Global Partnerships intranet](#).

For assistance with this section, please contact UQ Global Partnerships at global.partnerships@uq.edu.au.

Enter Response.

Approval & Declarations

In submitting this proposal for the 2026 New Colombo Plan Program, I declare that:

- ☐ I have the authority to submit this proposal.
- ☐ As the Project Leader, I have an ongoing UQ role or contract that exceeds the project duration.
- ☐ The application complies with the home university's quality assurance processes.
- ☐ Should this project be funded, it will be implemented and funding will be expended and reported in accordance with the NCP Guidelines and Grant Agreement.
- ☐ Financial support received from the Australian Government will be acknowledged in all publications, promotional materials and activities.
- ☐ The School/Faculty/Unit has appropriate strategies and services in place to support student welfare and safety (see Section 2.4).
- ☐ The School/Faculty/Unit can demonstrate an approach to increasing participation by diverse student groups including but not limited to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander students, students from a low socio-economic status background, students from Regional/Remote areas, students who are first in their immediate family to attend university, students across genders, female students studying in non-traditional fields, students with a disability, and students from a non-English speaking background.
- ☐ If any personal details of a student or other third party are included in an application or otherwise provided to the Australian Government as part of the project, the student or other third party has given written consent for the collection, use and disclosure of those details for this purpose, and
- ☐ You acknowledge that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth).

Please type your name to acknowledge that this application is complete and correct:

Project Officer: Enter Name.

Date: Enter date.

Approved by Head of School/Faculty Executive Dean

Name: Enter Name.

Date: Enter date.