

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**Australia Awards Fellowships**

**Pre-Departure Guidelines**

(Updated March 2025)

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Congratulations on your Australia Awards Fellowship. It’s a great achievement and we are looking forward to welcoming you to Australia.

As an Australia Awards Fellowship recipient, you will become part of the Australia Awards network of alumni which includes government ministers, senior government officials, leading researchers, scholars, academics, and professionals like you. This network provides opportunities to continue to build valuable knowledge, skills, and links both in- Australia and in-Country.

The Australia Awards Fellowships program is managed by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). We hope you will find your time in Australia a rewarding experience, learning new skills and making new contacts with likeminded people.

Australia Awards Fellowships Pre-Departure Guide

This Guide provides guidance and instructions to Australia Awards Fellows and Australian Host Organisations (AHO) as Fellows prepare to travel to Australia.

Both Fellows and AHO’s are expected to familiarise themselves with the contents of this Guide and understand their respective roles and responsibilities. If you have any questions, please email: [fellowships@dfat.gov.au](mailto:fellowships@dfat.gov.au)

Preparing to come to Australia

It is best to prepare early for your stay in Australia. The better prepared you are when you arrive, the sooner you will be able to focus on your Fellowship.

The advice in this guide is based on feedback from Australia Awards alumni, DFAT staff and AHOs and is designed to help you on your journey.

## 1.1 Acceptance of your Fellowship

Your AHO will send you a Letter of Offer pack which includes:

* Australia Awards Fellowship Acceptance of Award Offer Letter
* Return to Work Plan
* DFAT Child Protection (CP) Code of Conduct
* Preventing Sexual Exploitation and Harassment (PSEAH) Code of Conduct
* If you accept the Award, you are required to complete and sign the above documents and send a copy to your AHO.

## 1.2 Travel Arrangements

Your AHO will arrange and pay for your economy class airfare to Australia.

Medical insurance must also be arranged by the AHO on your behalf before you travel to Australia. See section1.5 for additional information.

Your arrival in Australia will be coordinated by your AHO to coincide with the commencement of your Fellowship.

You are not permitted to extend your stay at the conclusion of your Fellowship and must return home on the first available flight.

***NOTE: We recommend that Fellows must obtain travel insurance for personal travel.***

## 1.3 Visa

Visa applications are managed by the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs).

Fellows must travel to Australia on a valid Student visa (subclass 500 – Foreign Affairs or Defence stream).

DFAT will issue a “Letter of Support” that will allow your student visa to be issued free of charge. You must, however, be able to satisfy all requirements as set by Home Affairs including medical, character assessments and biometrics (if applicable). DFAT does not provide letter of support to your family member. However, DFAT will provide a letter of support for a carer to accompany a Fellow with disability where required.

Please note that DFAT staff (in any location) are not available to assist in arranging visas, customs clearances, travel or accommodation bookings. Please speak to your AHO about these matters.

## 1.3.1 Applying for a Student Visa

Where you are required to stay in Australia for **over 3 months** to undertake Fellowship activities, you **must hold** Student visa (subclass 500 – Foreign Affairs or Defence sector). **There are no exceptions to this requirement.**

Refer to Home Affairs website [[Subclass 500 Student visa (homeaffairs.gov.au) to](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500) obtain the most up-to-date information about all aspects of the lodgment and processing of the Student visa (subclass 500 – Foreign Affairs or Defence sector).

Visa application must be lodged online.

Allow adequate time for the visa to be processed. Home Affairs advises that in some circumstances processing of the application may take up to **twelve weeks** if further assessments are required.

*Note*: Visa conditions, medical and character assessments are applied equally to Fellow and their carer(s).

Information on medical requirements by country is also available on the Home Affairs website at: [Health examinations](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/health/who-needs-health-examinations).

## 1.3.2 Length of Student Visa – Subclass 500

The length of the student visa will be determined by in-Australia Fellowship activities start and end date.

## 1.4 Other Visas

If you hold another Australian visa, please contact Home Affairs for advice.

Please note Home Affairs announced changes to Student visa eligibility in July 2024. These changes will restrict certain temporary visa holders from applying for a Student visa while in Australia. Further information is available on the website at: [News](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.homeaffairs.gov.au%2Fnews-media%2Farchive%2Farticle%3FitemId%3D1211&data=05%7C02%7CBom.Phimphravichith%40dfat.gov.au%7C7ba9e05fc81641a38d3008dce108fb11%7C9b7f23b30e8347a58a40ffa8a6fea536%7C0%7C0%7C638632675916737403%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SXExaoDOYmzHrUxLqQvVNKRO%2Bfrdc1gsJmiDdXNiDeE%3D&reserved=0)

## 1.5 Health Insurance

Your AHO will organise adequate arrangements for health insurance for the duration of your stay in Australia as a condition of your visa.

AHO must purchase Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) on behalf of the Fellows (only applicable if travelling on a subclass 500 Student visa).

More information can be found at: [Overseas Student Health Cover (privatehealth.gov.au)](https://www.privatehealth.gov.au/health_insurance/overseas/overseas_student_health_cover.htm).

If travelling on another agreed visa type, please contact your respective AHO to ensure appropriate medical insurance has been obtained before you travel.

## 1.6 Travel light

Airlines limit the weight of luggage you can bring free of charge. If you bring too much and exceed these limits, you will be charged an excess baggage fee, which your Australia Awards Fellowship does not cover.

Pack appropriately for the season (see section 1.7 – Weather) and consult your AHO about suitable clothing for the time of year and region of Australia you will visit.

## 1.7 Weather

The [Australian Bureau of Meteorology](http://www.bom.gov.au/) has information about Australia’s climate and weather as well as handy weather apps for your laptop or mobile phone.

Australia’s Seasons

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Season | Months |
| Summer | December to February |
| Autumn | March to May |
| Winter | June to August |
| Spring | September to November |

Maximum Temperature by month for each Australian capital city

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LOCATION** | **JAN (°C)** | **FEB (°C)** | **MAR (°C)** | **APR (°C)** | **MAY (°C)** | **JUN (°C)** | **JUL (°C)** | **AUG (°C)** | **SEP (°C)** | **OCT (°C)** | **NOV (°C)** | **DEC (°C)** |
| **Adelaide** | 29.2 | 29.5 | 26.5 | 22.7 | 19 | 16.1 | 15.3 | 16.6 | 19 | 21.8 | 25.2 | 26.9 |
| **Alice Springs** | 36.9 | 35.6 | 32.9 | 28.6 | 23.5 | 19.8 | 20 | 23.1 | 28.1 | 31.4 | 34 | 35.6 |
| **Brisbane** | 29.2 | 28.9 | 27.9 | 26 | 23.6 | 21.2 | 20.7 | 21.8 | 24.1 | 25.6 | 26.8 | 28.4 |
| **Canberra** | 28.7 | 27.7 | 24.8 | 20.5 | 16.3 | 12.5 | 11.8 | 13.5 | 16.6 | 19.9 | 23.3 | 26.2 |
| **Darwin** | 31.8 | 31.5 | 32.1 | 32.9 | 32.3 | 30.8 | 30.8 | 31.6 | 32.8 | 33.5 | 33.5 | 32.7 |
| **Hobart** | 22.2 | 22.1 | 20.3 | 17.8 | 15.1 | 12.4 | 12.3 | 13.7 | 15.4 | 17.3 | 18.9 | 20.4 |
| **Melbourne** | 26.3 | 26.5 | 24.1 | 20.4 | 16.6 | 13.7 | 13 | 14.5 | 16.6 | 19.3 | 22.1 | 24.2 |
| **Perth** | 31.2 | 31.5 | 29.6 | 26 | 22.3 | 19.5 | 18.5 | 19.1 | 20.5 | 23.4 | 26.7 | 29.5 |
| **Broome** | 33.2 | 32.8 | 33.9 | 34.4 | 32.1 | 29.4 | 29.1 | 30.3 | 31.7 | 32.9 | 33.6 | 33.5 |
| **Sydney** | 27 | 26.7 | 25.3 | 23 | 20.3 | 17.8 | 17.1 | 18.7 | 21.1 | 23 | 24.1 | 26 |
| **Townsville** | 31.7 | 31.5 | 31.3 | 30 | 28 | 25.9 | 25.3 | 26.2 | 28.1 | 29.7 | 30.8 | 31.8 |
| **Cairns** | 31.6 | 31.3 | 30.7 | 29.4 | 27.9 | 26.3 | 25.9 | 26.7 | 28.4 | 29.8 | 30.8 | 31.6 |

*Source:* [*Climate media resources, Bureau of Meteorology*](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/australia/cities/)

Minimum Temperature by month for each Australian capital city

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **LOCATION** | **JAN (°C)** | **FEB (°C)** | **MAR (°C)** | **APR (°C)** | **MAY (°C)** | **JUN (°C)** | **JUL**  **(°C)** | **AUG (°C)** | **SEP (°C)** | **OCT (°C)** | **NOV (°C)** | **DEC (°C)** |
| **Adelaide** | 17.1 | 17.2 | 15.3 | 12.5 | 10.2 | 8.1 | 7.5 | 8.2 | 9.7 | 11.4 | 14 | 15.5 |
| **Alice Springs** | 21.8 | 21.1 | 17.7 | 12.7 | 8.2 | 4.7 | 3.9 | 5.9 | 11 | 14.9 | 18.1 | 20.5 |
| **Brisbane** | 21.2 | 21 | 19.3 | 16.7 | 13.7 | 10.6 | 9.3 | 9.7 | 12.6 | 15.5 | 17.9 | 19.9 |
| **Canberra** | 13.7 | 13.6 | 10.9 | 7.1 | 3.7 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 1.3 | 3.8 | 6.4 | 9.5 | 11.8 |
| **Darwin** | 25 | 24.9 | 24.7 | 24.3 | 22.5 | 20.1 | 19.4 | 20.4 | 23.2 | 25 | 25.6 | 25.6 |
| **Hobart** | 12.6 | 12.6 | 11.4 | 9.4 | 7.6 | 5.3 | 4.9 | 5.7 | 6.9 | 8.3 | 9.9 | 11.3 |
| **Melbourne** | 13.6 | 14.1 | 12.7 | 10.1 | 8.4 | 6.3 | 5.5 | 6 | 7.1 | 8.5 | 10.4 | 12 |
| **Perth** | 18.1 | 18.3 | 16.8 | 13.8 | 10.5 | 8.6 | 8 | 8.4 | 9.6 | 11.6 | 14.3 | 16.5 |
| **Broome** | 26.5 | 26.1 | 25.5 | 22.7 | 18.2 | 15.2 | 13.7 | 14.7 | 18.8 | 22.7 | 25.5 | 26.5 |
| **Sydney** | 19.5 | 19.7 | 18 | 15 | 12 | 9.2 | 8.1 | 8.9 | 11.4 | 14 | 16 | 18.2 |
| **Townsville** | 24.7 | 24.6 | 23.3 | 21.2 | 18.2 | 15.1 | 14 | 14.9 | 17.8 | 21.1 | 23.1 | 24.5 |
| **Cairns** | 23.9 | 24 | 23.1 | 21.9 | 20.2 | 18.2 | 17.1 | 17.5 | 18.8 | 20.9 | 22.5 | 23.7 |

*Source:* [*Climate media resources, Bureau of Meteorology*](http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/australia/cities/)

Fellows with disability

## 2.1 Access and equity

As an Australia Awards Fellowship recipient, your AHO and DFAT are required to provide support to ensure access and equity for all participants.

Support is provided to participants with a disability on a need’s basis. Inform your AHO of any disabilities well in advance of your arrival, so your needs can be assessed, appropriate support provided, and reasonable accommodation made.

## 2.1.1 Reasonable accommodation

Reasonable accommodation is the provision of support, modifications and/or adjustments that meet the individual needs of persons with disabilities to ensure they enjoy and exercise all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis to others.

Australia recognises that the opportunity for people with disabilities to participate in, and benefit from, our development efforts (targeted and mainstreamed) is largely dependent on the provision of reasonable accommodation.

## 2.2 Travelling with a carer

Additional assistance may be requested to support Fellows with a disability, for example Fellows who are visually or hearing impaired, or have mobility requirements, or may require a personal assistant/carer or assistive equipment.

DFAT will fund the return travel, visa (subclass 500) costs and health cover, accommodation and living allowance for the personal assistants/carer(s) for the period of the Fellowship. Home Affairs is however responsible for determining if the carer is eligible to hold an Australian visa.

The carer must also sign and return a copy of DFAT’s CP Code of Conduct and PSEAH Code of Conduct to the respective AHO which is issued by DFAT

## 2.3 Visas for carers

DFAT will provide a letter to Home Affairs confirming that the carer is applying for a visa to support an Australia Awards Fellowship recipient.

*Note*: Visa conditions, medical, character assessments and biometrics (if applicable) will be applied equally to Fellows and their carer(s).

Issuing a visa to a Fellow does not guarantee the issuing of a visa to the carer. Each visa applicant is assessed against the criteria individually by Home Affairs.

Allow adequate time for the visa to be processed. Home Affairs advises that in some circumstances processing of the application may take up to **twelve weeks** if further assessments are required.

## 2.4 Types of Carer Visas

Carers are eligible for one of the two Carer visas:

* [Student Visa (Subclass 500)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500) for dependents
* [Student Guardian Visa (Subclass 590)](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-590) for others.

DFAT will provide a No Objection Letter to support Carer’s visa application.

## 2.5 Attending Fellowship while pregnant

If you are pregnant, DFAT advises that you:

* seek medical clearance from your doctor to travel to Australia including on the proposed travel dates
* check with your Travel Agent/Airline
* consult Home Affairs
* advise your AHO of your condition.

Arriving in Australia

## 3.1 Entry to Australia

All travellers entering Australia are required to present the following documents to officers at Australian entry points:

* Passport – All travellers’ wishing to enter Australia must hold a valid and approved travel document as evidence of their identity and nationality.
* Australian Visa – Refer to sections 1.2 to 1.4.
* Incoming Passenger Card – Most travellers are required to complete and present a passenger card when entering or departing Australia. Passenger cards must be completed in English.
* Travellers are required to sign and date the cards and are also required to correctly answer additional questions concerning their migration status, health status and any prior criminal convictions. Providing false information can affect your visa status.

## 3.2 Quarantine

Australia has strict quarantine laws to protect our native plants, animals and agriculture against pests and diseases. When you arrive in Australia, you must declare all food and other plant and animal material as many of these are banned.   
If you are carrying food or plant items, declare them even if you think they are allowed. If you don’t, you could be given an on-the-spot fine or face prosecution.

There are limits on the number of cigarettes and the amount of alcohol you can bring into Australia, more information can be found at [Duty Free](https://www.abf.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/duty-free). Other items you should declare include medicines and large amounts of cash in foreign currency.

You can bring up to three months’ worth of prescribed medicine with you, provided it is in the original packaging, declared on arrival and you have your prescription with you to prove the medicine is yours. Make sure you check that the medicine is allowed into Australia. You can find a list of restricted medicine at the [Office of Chemical Safety](https://www.directory.gov.au/portfolios/health/department-health/primary-and-community-care/office-chemical-safety) or the [Therapeutic Goods Administration](http://www.tga.gov.au). You are not allowed to bring prescribed medicine for family members or friends.

The Department of Agriculture is responsible for managing quarantine laws and its officers are located at every international airport in Australia. Officers review and assess each incoming passenger card and x-ray and inspect baggage. They also have dogs at baggage carousels that are trained to sniff luggage and detect prohibited items.

## 3.3 Arrival at your final destination

Within the first few days of your arrival in Australia, your AHO will conduct an arrival briefing outlining your obligations as a Fellowship recipient, including your responsibility to ensure your safety and well-being during your stay in Australia.

You must follow local Australian laws and respect the Fellowship Conditions as set out in section 4 and your letter of offer.

## 3.4 Adjusting to Australian culture

There have been many influences on Australian society. We have an indigenous culture which dates back at least 50,000 years, as well as a British heritage from 1788 when Captain Arthur Phillip and the First Fleet arrived in Botany Bay.

Today, Australia is made up of many cultures, as people have moved here from all over the world. More than a quarter of Australia’s almost 23.1 million residents were born overseas, and our country is regarded as a model of multiculturalism.

Australian culture is generally informal. People usually call acquaintances by their first names. However, formal titles such as Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, Doctor and Professor are often used when addressing someone unfamiliar or older than you for the first time.

## 3.5 Staying healthy

Most Australians enjoy a healthy outdoor lifestyle. We have access to good quality fresh food, clean air, safe drinking water, safe outdoor spaces and quality health and medical services.

Water is safe to drink straight from the tap (unless specified not to) and fresh fruit and vegetables are also safe to eat after a quick wash with tap water.

If visiting during the winter months when the cold and flu season is in full swing, health officials recommend using tissues when sneezing or blowing your nose and regular hand washing with soap and water, particularly after touching your nose or mouth and before handling food. These simple measures can help keep you healthy and stop the spread of illnesses.

## 3.6 Be sun safe

If you are out enjoying the Australian sunshine then sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, and water are essential. The Australian sun is harsh and too much exposure without sun protection can result in sunburn and heatstroke in any season – not just summer.

Sunscreens sold in Australia include a Sun Protection Factor or SPF rating which measures protection from ultraviolet radiation (UVA and UVB) – the main cause of skin cancer.

## 3.7 Stay safe

Australia is generally a safe place and free from high rates of crime, but you should always take basic, practical measures to ensure you stay safe. This includes keeping doors locked when you are at home, securing valuables out of sight and taking care when out after dark. Review: [[Safety in Australia | Study Australia](https://www.studyaustralia.gov.au/en/tools-and-resources/tips-and-advice-for-students/safety-in-australia)](https://www.studyaustralia.gov.au/en/tools-and-resources/tips-and-advice-for-students/safety-in-australia) for further tips and details.

Fellow Conditions

## 4.1 Conditions to be followed by all Fellows

The following conditions are outlined in Fellowship letter of offer and must be understood and followed by the Fellow:

* To undertake and complete the Fellowship within the start and end dates and to return home on completion of the Award.
* To participate in all activities associated with the Fellowship, submit all work required for the course.
* While in Australia, to act in a manner that will not bring disrepute to themselves, their family, their country or DFAT.
* To obey the laws of the Commonwealth of Australia and its States and Territories.
* To satisfy all visa requirements specified by the Department of Home Affairs, as outlined on the [website](https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-listing/student-500), and to abide by the conditions of your visa.
* To not hold another Australia Award at the same time as their Fellowship.
* To reside continuously in Australia for the duration of the in-Australia based Fellowship activities.
* To cooperate with the collection of information related to Fellowship awardees and provide DFAT with your contact details to facilitate tracer studies and alumni activities on completion of the Fellowship.
* To complete a return-to-work plan.
* Read and understood DFAT's Child Protection Policy (see section 8) and agree to comply with the policy for the duration of the Fellowship; and that they have read and signed the DFAT Child Protection Code of Conduct and return it to their AHO along with a signed copy of the Acceptance of the Australia Award Fellowship.
* Read and understood DFAT's PSEAH (see section 8) and agree to comply with the policy for the duration of the Fellowship; and that they have read and signed the DFAT’s PSEAH Code of Conduct and return it to their AHO along with a signed copy of the Acceptance of the Australia Award Fellowship.
* To complete a Fellow Completion Survey at the conclusion of Fellowship activities in Australia and, if relevant, on conclusion of any follow-up activities in their home country.
* That Fellows understand their personal information will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth). Personal information will be collected and used by DFAT for the purposes of administration, evaluation, and promotion of the Fellowship, to manage any welfare or critical incidents affecting a Fellow and for the administration, evaluation, and promotion of DFAT Australia Awards activities. Fellow’s personal information may be included in media releases, DFAT’s publications on the internet relating to the Fellowships program or other development activities and promotional material, including on social media. Personal information may be disclosed by DFAT to other entities including, but not limited to, Australian government agencies (including immigration authorities); Australian Ministers and Parliament; Australian education institutions or training organisations; partner organisations (including managing contractors and sub-contractors), medical practitioners and insurers; contractors engaged by DFAT to assist with the administration or evaluation of the Fellowship, Australia Awards or other DFAT activities; and the Australia Awards Alumni Network. DFAT may disclose personal information to the Fellow’s home government or other overseas recipients. Fellows acknowledge and agree that DFAT will not take any steps to ensure overseas recipients do not breach the Privacy Act before disclosing personal information, the Fellow will not be entitled to redress from DFAT for any breach of the Privacy Act by the overseas recipient, and the Fellow consents to DFAT disclosing the Fellow’s information on that basis.
* Fellows have read and understood the privacy statement detailed above. [DFAT’s privacy policy](https://www.dfat.gov.au/privacy.html) contains further information about how personal information will be managed, including how to access and seek correction of personal information and how to make a complaint about DFAT’s privacy practices.
* To note that for images in which Fellows, and/or their child/ward, appear to be used for the publications and public relations activities noted below, or in relation to DFAT, any images of their child/ward will be used in accordance with DFAT’s Child Protection policy and Use of Images and Social Media guidance note available on the DFAT [website](https://www.dfat.gov.au/international-relations/themes/child-protection/Pages/child-protection). In particular they note that this may include use in print and electronic media, including the Internet and official social media platforms for the purpose of:
* publicising the programs and services independently and in conjunction with other departments and agencies
* informing stakeholders of changes and events in DFAT’s areas of responsibility
* familiarising the public with the role and structure of DFAT
* if you are taking photographs of Fellows, staff or others involved in the Fellowship, either individually or in small groups, and who are clearly identifiable, please ensure you have their consent (excluding the Fellows) to use their picture in any DFAT publication or website, or publish them in any other form, either print or digital.
* DFAT may terminate the Fellow’s Award at any time if:
* they fail to participate in the Fellowship or they fail to undertake the Fellowship in a way that DFAT or the AHO considers to be satisfactory
* they fail to comply with the laws of Australia or are considered to have transgressed acceptable Australian community standards
* DFAT becomes aware of any behaviour or illegal activity by the Fellow prior to the offer of the Fellowship that was not disclosed to the AHO at the time of their application or prior to signing the offer letter and which, in DFAT’s opinion, would have resulted in the application being rejected had it been disclosed
* DFAT becomes aware of any action prior to the Fellow being mobilised to Australia or while in Australia which, in its opinion, is contrary to the intent of the Fellowship program including without limitation, any action that would indicate that they may breach the return home rule, such as applying to change their visa status
* the Fellow does not comply with DFAT’s **PSEAH** Policy or **CP** Policy.

Returning Home

## 5.1 In-Australia Fellows Completion Survey

On completion of your Fellowship and prior to your return home, we ask you to complete the “In-Australia Fellow’s Completion Survey”. This is an online survey, and you will require access to a computer with an internet connection to complete it. Your AHO must facilitate this.

Completing the survey is a mandatory requirement of your Fellowship; your responses are confidential and will not be made available to your AHO or your employer back home.

Before commencing the survey, you will require the following information which your AHO will be able to supply:

* Fellowship title (e.g., Effective Aid & Negotiation Management Skills)
* Length of Fellowship
* The Fellowship application ID number – e.g., R190000.

Further information on accessing the online system and completing the survey will also be provided by your AHO.

## 5.2 In-Partner Country Fellows Completion Survey

If your Fellowship includes follow up activities after you have returned home you will be required to complete an additional survey, “In-Partner Country Fellows Completion Survey” on completion of the activities. This is also an online survey, and you will require access to a computer with an internet connection to complete it.

## 5.3 Keeping in Touch

The Australian Government wishes to remain in contact with you after you complete your Fellowship. When you get home, you should give your contact details to the Australian Government representative (Australian Embassy/High Commission) in your country so that they can invite you to, and let you know about, upcoming relevant and interesting events and opportunities that you may wish to attend. Please remember to tell us when your contact details change, so we can keep in touch.

We urge you to keep in contact with your AHO and the contacts you have made while undertaking your Fellowship. We welcome your active participation in our evaluations and tracer studies, as your feedback is invaluable to help us ensure that Australia Awards Fellowships continue to be an important and valuable experience for others.

## 5.4 Alumni

Australia Awards Alumni networks create strong and enduring links to Australia. These networks facilitate the ongoing exchange of knowledge and continuing friendships amongst alumni.

As an Australia Awards alumnus, you are now part of this prestigious global network driving social and economic development. Your success at home exemplifies the benefits of the Australia Awards program.

Responsibilities of the AHO

## 6.1 Australian Host Organisation (AHO)

Your AHO will deliver a program of activities which will include a pre-departure and arrival briefing, and an appropriate combination of short-term study and/or training, professional development, networking, and work experience activities to achieve the Fellowship’s objectives.

Examples of these activities may include:

* short-term study and/or training
* professional development
* networking and work experience activities.

Activities conducted outside of Australia are not funded by DFAT.

## 6.2 Point of Contact

Your AHO should provide you with a point of contact while in Australia and they will contact you within few days of your arrival.

## 6.3 Emergency Contacts

Please ensure you provide contact details for your next of kin to your AHO. In the unlikely event of an emergency, your AHO or country’s embassy in Australia may need to contact your family.

Also please share your AHO contact information with your next of kin. In the unlikely event of an emergency and where your family is unable to contact you.

## 6.4 Accommodation and Living Allowance

The AHO is responsible for the payment and provision of suitable accommodation in Australia and the purchase of medical insurance for the duration of the Fellowship.

A daily allowance will be provided to all Fellows by the AHO to cover meals and incidentals, where these are not already provided.

## 6.5 Fellows Attending Fellowship while pregnant

Your AHO should contact the OSHC provider to confirm if your policy includes cover for pregnancy. If not, AHO must include the condition in your policy.

## 6.6 Fellowship Guidelines

For additional AHO responsibilities please refer to the Australia Awards Guidelines for the relevant round.

Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment and Children Protection

## 7.1 PSEAH and Child Protection Policy

DFAT has zero tolerance of sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment or harm to adults or children. DFAT’s PSEAH Policy and a Child Protection Policy require all Fellows and Host Organisations to act in accordance with and comply with both policies.

Fellows and Carer(s) accompanying Fellow(s) with disability are also required to sign the CP and PSEAH Code of Conduct forms as part of the Fellows Acceptance of Award letter to acknowledge that they have read and understood these policies.

If a Fellow is involved in a sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment incident, or child protection incident in Australia either as a survivor/victim or alleged perpetrator, incident management process applies. All allegations or incidents of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment, or child abuse or harm must be reported to DFAT (Section 7.2). Incidents if warranted will be reported to law enforcement.

Allegations will be handled in accordance with relevant Australian Commonwealth, State and Territory Laws and with DFAT policies via a notification form.

For more information on DFAT’s PSEAH and CP Policies visit: [www.dfat.gov.au/pseah](http://www.dfat.gov.au/pseah) and [www.dfat.gov.au/childprotection](http://www.dfat.gov.au/childprotection).

## 7.2 PSEAH and Child Protection Reporting

There is a requirement for all Fellows or Host Organisations to report any PSEAH or CP allegations (substantiated or not) directly to DFAT through the [seah.reports@dfat.gov.au](mailto:seah.reports@dfat.gov.au) or [childwelfare@dfat.gov.au](mailto:childwelfare@dfat.gov.au) via a notification form. Notification forms for SEAH and CP incidents can be found through the DFAT website: <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/seah-incident-notification-form.docx>; and <https://www.dfat.gov.au/sites/default/files/child-incident-notification-form.docx>.

DFAT reserves the right to terminate a Fellow’s Award, including if the Fellow conducts themselves in a manner which is considered to have transgressed acceptable Australian community standards.

Privacy

## 8.1 Consent for collection of information

In continuing to participate in the Australia Awards Fellowship program, you acknowledge that you provided your consent, and continue to provide your consent, for DFAT to collect, use and disclose your personal information as per your letter of offer and the Australia Awards Fellowship Guidelines. How your personal information will be used and disclosed is outlined in the Fellowship Conditions noted in Section 4.

If you have any questions about how DFAT manages your personal information, please contact our Privacy Team at [privacy@dfat.gov.au](mailto:privacy@dfat.gov.au).

DFAT’s privacy policy is available on the website at: [Privacy](https://www.dfat.gov.au/about-us/corporate/privacy/Pages/privacy).

 Our Privacy Policy explains:

* how you may access and correct the personal information we hold about you, and
* how you may make a complaint about a breach of privacy and how we will deal with any privacy complaints.

About Australia Awards Fellowships

## 9.1 About the Australia Awards Fellowships

Australia Awards Fellowships offer eligible Australian organisations, from all sectors, the opportunity to deepen and broaden their links with leaders and professionals in developing countries by hosting Fellows from overseas partner organisations.

Australian organisations identify their relevant development expertise and submit a Fellowship proposal with an overall aim of:

* strengthening partnerships and links between Australian organisations and partner organisations in developing countries, in support of Australia’s strategic development objectives;and
* increasing the capability and professional development of selected Fellows to advance priority development issues bilaterally, sub-regionally and/or regionally.

## 9.2 How the Fellowships work

Australia Awards Fellowships target senior and mid-career professionals from eligible developing countries who will be in a position to advance priority development and foreign affairs issues.

Fellowship activities can include a combination of short-term study and/or training, professional development, networking, and work experience, and are delivered by AHOs in Australia.

Australia Awards Fellowships can be between two weeks and 52 weeks (about 12 months) duration.

## 9.3 Funding

Successful AHOs are awarded funding to deliver the Fellowship. Funding can be used towards the cost of Fellowship activities and participation in the program, and may include some or all of the following:

* return air travel and relevant in-Australia travel
* training costs
* accommodation and living expenses
* medical insurance costs when in Australia (for Fellowship participant only)
* special assistance for people with disability
* program overhead fee.

