



New Colombo Plan - Student Code of Conduct

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) places a high priority on all New Colombo Plan awardees having a safe and successful overseas study experience. The New Colombo Plan is a great opportunity to deepen your Indo-Pacific knowledge, understanding and connections. To make the most of this opportunity it is important you abide by the following guidelines which apply to projects delivered in host locations and/or virtually:

1. Behave in a way that upholds the good reputation of Australia by demonstrating sound judgement, common sense and integrity.
2. Refrain from engaging in, or being party to, conduct that could bring the New Colombo Plan, your home university, host organisation(s), the Australian Government, or the government of your host location(s) into disrepute.
3. Comply with Australian law, and the laws of your host location(s), as well as the terms of your scholarship / mobility grant and any applicable rules, policies and reasonable directions issued by DFAT (including this Code of Conduct), your home university and host organisation(s).
4. For in-country programs, hold and comply with the requirements of an appropriate visa for your host location(s) as well as any other location that you visit during your New Colombo Plan program.
5. Treat others with dignity and respect, regardless of cultural background, political views, religious belief or activity, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability, avoiding any behaviour that could be considered discriminatory or disrespectful.
6. At all times demonstrate a cooperative and collaborative approach that recognises the value of others' knowledge and experience, and that respects others' rights to have their own opinions.
7. Commit to the practice of 'do no harm' during your program. This means: (a) ensuring your actions do not intentionally or unintentionally expose people to additional risk, and (b) recognising how your actions may influence your host location's social fabric, economy and environment.
8. Take reasonable steps to avoid any conflict of interest (real, apparent or potential) and promptly notify DFAT and/or your home university, as applicable, of any conflict of interest that could affect your participation in the New Colombo Plan.
9. For in-country programs, do not engage in any unpaid work, paid work and/or business enterprise for personal gain without prior approval. Do not use your position on the program to request advantages or favours.
10. Understand that any overseas experience, even under the safest conditions possible, has risks, and take all reasonable precautions to mitigate risks.
11. Subscribe to, and commit to monitoring and complying with, regular travel advisories issued by DFAT through [Smartraveller](#).

12. Ensure you are always available to be contacted by your home university and/or designated contact point.
13. Read and comply with DFAT's [Child Protection Policy](#), recognising that it is the shared responsibility of all adults to prevent child exploitation. Immediately report any alleged incident of child abuse, exploitation or harm to the relevant authorities, and to DFAT via childwelfare@dfat.gov.au where the incident relates to the New Colombo Plan.
14. Read and comply with DFAT's [Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment Policy](#), showing zero tolerance for sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment. Immediately report any alleged incident of sexual exploitation, abuse or harassment related to the New Colombo Plan to seah.reports@dfat.gov.au.
15. Behave respectfully, responsibly and exercise good judgement in all communications, including social media, complying with the New Colombo Plan Media and Publications Guidelines.
16. Read and understand the New Colombo Plan Scholarship Program Guidelines / New Colombo Plan Mobility Program Guidelines and [DFAT's policy](#) on storing and managing your personal information in line with the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth).

Given the diversity of student experiences, these guidelines cannot address every situation you might encounter. You should therefore seek guidance from your home university or the New Colombo Plan Secretariat (ncp.secretariat@dfat.gov.au) if you are unsure about how to respond to a particular situation or issue. Ongoing participation in the New Colombo Plan depends upon you meeting the above guidelines.