

ACSES Visiting Scholars Program

Purpose

- The ACSES Visiting Scholars Program aims to support the establishment of linkages and collaborative research projects between higher education equity researchers and ACSES.
- The Scholars Program furthers the strategic aims of **the ACSES Research and Policy Program**:
 - **Building capacity.** To support the best researchers, practitioners and policymakers at all career stages to examine diverse issues in higher education student equity, at various timepoints of the higher education lifecycle.
 - **Policy engagement.** To work with researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to translate research findings into tangible policy and practice outcomes.
 - **Exemplify the conduct of research.** To conduct high-quality research on strategic priorities in-house and in partnership with leading and promising individuals in the field.
- The outputs from the Visiting Scholars Program will comprise collaborative research outputs, such as publications and grants applications.

Details about the Visiting Scholars Program

- The value of funding is up to AUD\$9,000 for domestic (Australia-based) applicants and AUD\$12,000 for international applicants. This will take the form of a grant and is intended to cover major costs associated with the residency component of a Scholar's project.
 - **Travel to Perth:** Return economy class air travel from the area of the Scholar's institution to Perth, for co-location at ACSES on Curtin University's Bentley Campus.
 - **Accommodation:** Residential accommodation near Curtin University.
- Applicants should cost their travel and accommodation requirements as part of their proposed budget. ACSES will arrange travel and accommodation for successful applicants in line with their proposed budgets. Please provide indicative dates in the proposal and budget.
- Applicants are responsible for funding and procuring travel insurance, and, in the case of international applicants, travel visas.
- Funding **does not** cover salary support or a living allowance.
- The residency component is usually for a **minimum of 30 days** and a **maximum of 60 days**, including a residential component at ACSES.
- Applicants who are unable able to undertake a visit of this duration (due to work or family commitments etc.) may negotiate a shorter visit.
- Scholars will be provided with a workspace at ACSES for the duration of their visit. They will be provided with access to the Curtin Library. Access to a desktop computer will be provided upon request. However, specialised software (e.g., data analytical software) will not be provided.
- Scholars are expected to submit two reports following the conclusion of their project.
 - The **First Report** will be **due four weeks after** the completion of the Scholar's project, outlining the activities undertaken and expected outcomes from the work. Scholars should also indicate at this point if they wish to apply for adjunct status with ACSES.
 - The **Second Report** is **due one year after** the conclusion of the project. This report should detail publications and any other output that can be attributed to the project.

Eligibility

- The ACSES Visiting Scholars Program is open to Australian and international individuals.
- Applicants must have at least a higher degree, or equivalent professional or community experience, and a track record in higher education policy and equity research, such as publications (or equivalent outcomes) and/or external grant success as appropriate.
- Current higher degree by research (HDR) students are not eligible.
- Applicants must have an institutional affiliation to a university, governmental department, think-tank or other equivalent research or cultural organisation. Independent scholars are not eligible to apply.
- Approval to apply to become a Visiting Scholar must be provided by the applicant's institution via a **letter of support** from the applicant's manager as part of the application.
- International applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.

Selection criteria

- The **strength** and **value to ACSES** of a collaborative **research plan** developed by the applicant and agreed to by the Director of the ACSES Research and Policy Program.
- The **feasibility and quality** of **tangible research outputs** arising within one year of the conclusion of the Visiting Scholar's project.
- The **track record** of the applicant, relative to opportunity.

Applications

Applications should consist of:

- A **research plan**, outlining:
 - **Topic and key aims:** Outline the subject of the project and its aims. (Maximum 500 words)
 - **Major activities:** List the activities involved over the course of the project. (Maximum two A4 pages)
 - **Expected research outputs:** Key outputs. (Maximum one A4 page)
 - **Timeframe:** Proposed start and end dates of the project, and when major activities will occur. (Maximum one A4 page)
 - **Budget:** An indicative budget, including quoted costs for travel and proposed accommodation and indicating the funding sought from the funding.
- A **Letter of Support** from the applicant's manager indicating approval for the proposal.
- A **current CV**.

Submission: Applications should be made via email:

To: aces@curtin.edu.au.

Subject: ACSES Visiting Scholars Program 2024-25 – *Applicant Name, Institution*.

Due Date: Applications to close at 4pm (AWST/Perth) on Friday, 24 May 2024.

Outcomes: Outcomes to be announced in mid-June 2024.

Further Details: Professor Ian Li, ACSES Director of Research and Policy, ian.li@curtin.edu.au