



Australia-France
Indo-Pacific Studies Program

PACIFIC SOCIAL SCIENCES
ACADEMIC GRANT GUIDELINES





PACIFIC SOCIAL SCIENCES ACADEMIC GRANTS

The 2024–2027 Australia–France Indo–Pacific Studies Program (AFIPS) provides opportunities for academic exchange, projects, and public outreach on the Indo–Pacific strategic and economic environment and non–traditional security issues. The program is delivered in partnership with the ANU National Security College and with support from the Australian Government through the Australia–France Roadmap.

Grants overview

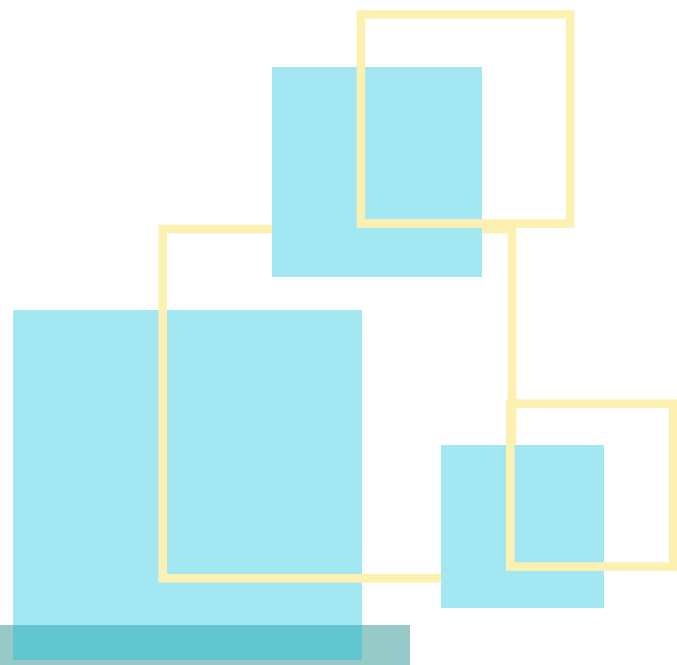
The Academy supports up to six research engagement projects with grants of up to \$5,000 AUD (excl. GST, where applicable).

The purpose of the Pacific Social Sciences Academic Grants program is to be a catalyst for joint projects and exchanges including on challenges and opportunities around climate change, food, and resources, particularly as they relate to Pacific Island Countries and French overseas territories.

The Pacific Social Sciences Academic grants are aimed at early and mid-career researchers affiliated with Australia, France, Indo-Pacific countries and French overseas territories. Proposals with a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary character are encouraged.

Process

- Proposals submitted
- Eligibility screening
- Reviews undertaken by AFIPS Standing Assessment Committee
- The Academy makes award recommendations to DFAT
- Outcomes announced
- Funding agreements executed and research activity undertaken.



PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The AFIPS Pacific Social Sciences Academic Grants are intended to foster and reinforce social science collaboration in and on the Indo-Pacific through:

- Research activities relevant to Pacific Island Studies, including in French overseas territories.
- Research activities with broader relevance to the Indo-Pacific region, including on the challenges around climate change, food and resources.
- Projects that strengthen scholarly networks and build long-term collaborations between Pacific, French and Australian researchers.
- Proposals with a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary character are encouraged.

FUNDING

Grants of up to AU\$5,000 are available for activities within a two-year (24 month) timeframe.

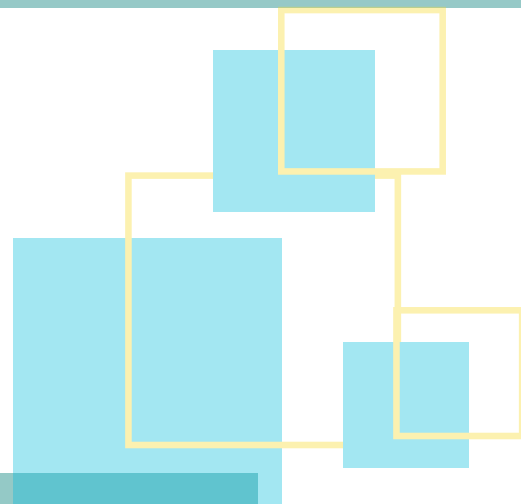
Funding is designed to provide seed support to foster the development of larger collaborative research projects (joint projects and exchanges).

Eligible activities include:

- Researcher exchange and mobility (e.g., to attend international workshops; excludes business class airfare).
- Undertaking research or fieldwork.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

- A short project report and financial acquittal within two (2) months of completing the funded activities.
- Where projects span more than one year, an annual progress report.



ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be affiliated with a research institution (university, research institute, think tank, or government research agency) in Australia, France (including French overseas territories) and/or the Pacific region.

- Applicants must be affiliated to one or several social science disciplines (fields of research) recognised by the Academy via the Australia and New Zealand Research Classifications (ANZRC) [here](#).
- Early and mid-career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply. At least one researcher in the project should be fewer than fifteen (15) years post-PhD (allowances will be made for career interruptions such as parental leave, relocation, illness, or non-research employment).
- Researchers from both public and private sectors are eligible.

We recognise career interruptions can have a significant impact on the period between conferral of a researcher's PhD and the submission of an application. We therefore allow extension of the eligibility periods for specified career interruptions.

The following significant and non-overlapping career interruptions will be eligible:

Reason for career interruption	Time which can be claimed (minimum period of one month)
International relocation	Time commensurate with the interruption, not exceeding three months per international relocation.
Child-care as primary carer (includes periods of parental leave as well as part-time work while caring for one or more children)	Up to two years per dependent child
Other caring responsibilities (including care of a dependent child due to illness or disability)	Time commensurate with the interruption.
Medical condition or disability	Time commensurate with the interruption.
Non-research employment (if not concurrent with research employment) or unemployment	Time commensurate with the interruption.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If your research activity meets the conditions for eligibility, you can submit your application online via the Jotform link on the [Academy AFIPS website](#).

Submitted applications will be assessed by the AFIPS Standing Assessment Committee. All applicants will be informed of the outcome via email.

Visit the [AFIPS Website](#) for more information, information about past grant recipients. For further enquiries, please contact the International Team team via international@socialsciences.org.au

Preparing a strong application

The Academy encourages applicants to consider the following when completing their **Grant Proposal** form.

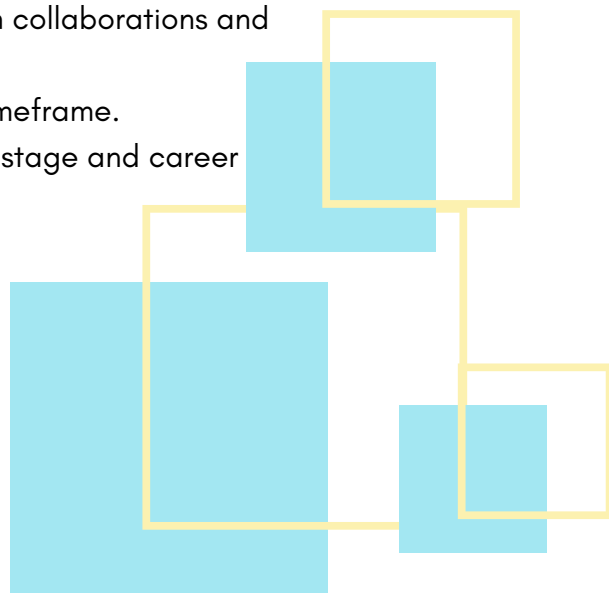
Applications will be assessed on the following four (4) criteria (equally weighted):

- Quality of the proposed research (scholarly merit, innovation, relevance).
- Impact of the proposed activity (capacity to build long-term collaborations and networks).
- Feasibility of the activity within the proposed budget and timeframe.
- Track record of the applicant(s), taking into account career stage and career interruptions.

The selection committee will also consider diversity factors, including gender, career stage, and representation from low- and middle-income (LMI) Pacific countries.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

- The research activity is anchored in the social sciences and aligns with the Program Objectives
- The proposed research activity will commence in the 2026 calendar year
- The research team includes at least one early to mid-career researcher
- Funding requested from the Academy does not exceed \$5,000 (excl GST)
- Current CV (two pages maximum) for each applicant
- Complete all sections of the online application form.



CONDITIONS OF FUNDING

- Information provided may be shared with DFAT, external assessors, or other public research bodies for review.
- The Academy's selection committee decisions are final and correspondence regarding unsuccessful applications will not be entered into.
- Successful applicants (or their institution) will invoice the Academy for funds in line with the funding agreement.
- Successful applicants must submit a final report and acquittal of funds within two (2) months of completing the activity.

CONTACT

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