International Visitor Program – February 2022 round
Terms and Conditions

Deadline for application: 10am (Sydney time), Tuesday 22 February 2022

For visits within the period: January – December 2023 for general applicants, July 2022 – December 2023 for Australian citizens/permanent residents and New Zealand citizens

(NB: The next application deadline is expected to be in August 2022. The visit window for that round is to be determined, but is likely to start in mid-2023 for general applicants.)

Applications must be submitted using the online form on the Sydney Mathematical Research Institute website: https://sydney.edu.au/smri

Applications for visits not meeting the following conditions may be accepted in special circumstances with prior arrangement. In cases where an arranged visit cannot go ahead as planned because of disruptions to international travel or other unexpected factors, it may be possible to reschedule the visit for a later period subject to consultation. However, if widespread travel restrictions are reintroduced, SMRI reserves the right not to proceed with the application round. Please direct questions about such issues, and the other conditions below, to the Institute's Executive Officer, Ms Kate Doyle, smri.exec@sydney.edu.au .

(1) At the time of application, applicants must hold a PhD or equivalent degree. Applicants must be employed, or know that they will be employed at the time of the proposed visit, by a university, institute, laboratory or other similar organisation located outside Australia. If the application is successful, their employer would be expected to approve their research visit to Australia and their entering into a research affiliation with The University of Sydney for the period of that research visit. Note that International Visitor Program funding does not include any salary.

(2) Applicants should have an established program of research in the mathematical sciences (ANZSRC Division 49) and the potential to collaborate with Australia-based researchers in these areas.

(3) Applicants should propose a research visit to Australia, within the period specified for the application round, of at least 4 weeks' duration, of which at least 2 weeks are to be spent visiting SMRI at The University of Sydney. Please note that International Visitor Program funding can provide living allowance for at most 18 weeks, so any visit longer than this will require additional funding from other sources.

(4) A group of at most 3 applicants may propose to visit Australia at the same or overlapping times, to collaborate with Australia-based researchers on a common project. In this case each applicant must satisfy the above eligibility conditions, and each applicant must complete the application form and upload their own CV. For convenience of automated processing, we request that each applicant in a group upload a research proposal, even if these files are identical among the group.

(5) In addition to their proposed research project, applicants are invited to propose additional research-related activities, such as seminars or workshop presentations which they could give during their visit to Australia, or a short workshop which they could organize during their visit to SMRI, with the assistance of SMRI staff. Such activities should be designed so as to be accessible, at least in part, to an online audience.

(6) Applicants must identify, at each Australian university at which they propose to spend at least 2 weeks in total (including The University of Sydney), an academic staff member there who has agreed to be the host of that part of the visit. If the visit includes at least 2 weeks spent at the mathematical research institute [MATRIX](), an Australian organiser of the MATRIX research program to which the applicant has been invited should be designated as the host of that part of the visit. Hosts will be contacted to confirm their support for the visit, including any potential financial contribution, and their comments will be taken into account in assessing the benefit of the proposed visit. The location at which the applicant proposes to spend the most time will be deemed the primary location of the visit, and the comments of the primary host will be given particular weight. Some funding is reserved for visits where the primary host is a staff member of the School of Mathematics and Statistics at The University of Sydney.

(7) Applicants may nominate up to two academic referees who are not among the hosts of the proposed visit and who are willing to be contacted by the Chair of the SMRI Scientific Advisory Committee for their confidential comments on the applicant's research track record, if requested, in the month following the application deadline. Members of the Scientific Advisory Committee of SMRI are eligible to act as referees, in accordance with the committee's policy on conflicts of interest, and provided they are not among the hosts of the proposed visit.

Successful applications will be selected by the SMRI Scientific Advisory Committee, as named on the website, and other expert colleagues as required. The selection criteria are:

- Applicant's research track record, assessed relative to opportunity (taking into account time since PhD and any research career interruptions).
- Benefits of the proposed visit, including any associated seminars or workshops, for Australian research in the mathematical sciences.

- Considerations of diversity, equity and inclusion in relation to, for example, field of research within the mathematical sciences, gender of applicant and host(s), and number of years post PhD of applicant and host(s).

Applications from female and gender-diverse researchers, from researchers employed in developing countries, and from researchers belonging to other groups which are underrepresented in the mathematical sciences, are particularly encouraged.

Successful applicants who are not Australian or New Zealand citizens or Australian permanent residents will be assisted by University of Sydney staff in their application for an Australian visa suitable for their research activities, which is a prerequisite of the International Visitor Program.

Successful applicants may receive funding of up to A$1000 per week, up to a maximum of A$18,000 (paid in instalments), to assist with accommodation and other local expenses during their visit. In addition, they may obtain reimbursement of one return economy airfare or equivalent amount up to a maximum amount depending on the country of origin, and one visa application fee if appropriate. If required, they can be assisted by SMRI staff in locating suitable accommodation for their stay in Sydney, as well as childcare and school options for those travelling with children. Note that all benefits depend on a signed agreement with The University of Sydney, identity verification, and the presentation of receipts in the case of airfare or visa fee reimbursement.

By submitting an application to the International Visitor Program, you consent that the uploaded files, and other information in the application form, may be shared with SMRI staff and Scientific Advisory Committee members as well as with the nominated host(s) and academic referees, if necessary. This information will not be used for any purpose other than the ranking and selection of applicants and the compiling of anonymised reports on the selection process. A list of successful applicants, with the dates and other details of their visits, will be posted on the Institute's website.

Please note that the application form requires the upload of two separate PDF files:

- an up-to-date CV including current employment, date of PhD completion, details of any research career interruptions, and full publication list;
- a 1–2 page outline of a proposed research visit to Australia meeting the above conditions, including proposed arrival and departure dates, proposed dates spent at each location, some details of the research project(s) you will work on and any current or potential collaborators, and a brief description of any additional research-related activities you propose.

If you have your CV and publication list in separate files, please combine them into one PDF before upload. In case of repeat applications, the most recent will be used.