



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Mathematical
Research
Institute

International Visitor Program – February 2026 round Terms and Conditions

Deadline for application: 11.59pm (Sydney time), Tuesday 17 February 2026

**For visits within the period: January – December 2027 for general applicants;
Sept 2026 – Dec 2027 for Australian & New Zealand citizens**

(NB: The next application period will be open between June – Aug 2026)

**Applications must be submitted using the online form on the
Sydney Mathematical Research Institute website: [International Visitor Program](#)**

Conditions

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 unexpected factors, it may be possible to reschedule the visit for a later period, subject to consultation. Please direct questions to the Institute's Executive Officer, Kate Doyle, smri.exec@sydney.edu.au

(1) Qualification and employment

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.

Research program

(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) Visit period

Applicants should propose a research visit to Australia of at least 4 weeks' duration within the specified period. A minimum of 2 weeks is to be spent at each institution nominated. At least 2 weeks of the overall visit must be spent at The University of Sydney; a week spent at a MATRIX workshop can be counted towards this. Successful applicants will be offered a funding contribution for a minimum 4-week visit (see Funding section below) but may not necessarily be offered funding for additional weeks that are applied for. Extended visit periods (during sabbaticals, for example) generally require substantial additional funding from other sources.

(4) Groups

A group of, at most, 3 applicants may propose to visit Australia at the same time, to collaborate with Australia-based researchers on a common project, which is detailed in a joint research proposal. Each applicant must satisfy the eligibility conditions, complete their own application form and upload the joint research proposal with their application. While the research project will be assessed as a group project, it is not guaranteed that all group members will be funded. In the interest of equity, we also look at the number of visitors that any given host has had, via the IVP, including groups.

(5) Additional activities during visit

In addition to a research project, many visitors will be asked to give a seminar during their stay at SMRI. Applicants are also welcome to propose other activities during their visit, which might include a lecture or workshop series, all of which can be organised during their visit to SMRI. In consultation with SMRI Directors, we also invite the proposal of a themed semester program that the applicant(s) could lead at SMRI over the course of a 12-week period, aligned with Semester 1 (Feb - May) or Semester 2 (July - Oct). All such activities should be of interest to a largely local or domestic audience. Increased funding for an approved themed semester program will be considered.

(6) Visit Hosts

Applicants must identify, at every nominated Australian university, an academic staff member there who has agreed to be the host for that part of the visit. Hosts will be contacted to confirm their support for the visit, including potential financial contribution, and their comments will be considered 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, and the comments of the primary host will be given particular weight. If an applicant has been invited to participate in the MATRIX research program (Melbourne) and intends to spend 1 or 2 weeks at MATRIX, an Australian organiser of that program can be designated as host for that part of the visit.

(7) Referees

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 (SAC) for their confidential comments on the applicant's research track record. Members of the SAC are eligible to act as referees, in accordance with the committee's policy on conflicts of interest, provided they are not among the hosts of the proposed visit. References from senior academics are recommended for early career researchers. *Please seek permission from the referee before nominating.*

Selection Criteria

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 to Australian research in the mathematical sciences, including any planned seminars or workshops.
- Considerations of diversity, equity and inclusion in relation to, for example, field of research, gender of applicant or host, career stage, country of origin etc.

Diversity

We particularly encourage applications from female and gender-diverse researchers; researchers employed in developing countries; and/or researchers belonging to other groups which are underrepresented in the mathematical sciences.

Visa

Successful applicants from all countries (except Australian and New Zealand citizens) must apply for an appropriate visa in order to be formally affiliated with the University of Sydney. A letter of invitation will be provided by the University HR team together with guidance on how to apply. Be aware, the visa turnaround can be up to 6 months!

Funding

Funding determined by the committee is to be considered a contribution towards an academic's visit and, in many cases, will not necessarily cover all costs.

Typically, we provide funding for visits between 4-8 weeks (sometimes including financial support from hosts). Successful applicants may receive an allowance of up to AU\$1400 per week, to assist with accommodation during their visit, as well as reimbursement for their visa application fee, and one return economy airfare up to a set maximum, depending on the country of origin. Where academics are travelling with dependants, aged 0-17, at the time of the proposed visit, an additional family allowance will be calculated as a percentage of the agreed weekly allowance.

If required, SMRI staff can provide information on local accommodation and transport, 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 for reimbursement.

Reimbursement

Please be advised that any financial reimbursements to successful applicants will go to their personal bank accounts. It is not our practice to reimburse an applicant's institution.

Application uploads

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, which should include your name / project title / institutions and hosts / aims of the visit / 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 the case of more than one application being submitted, the most recent will be used.

Sharing application information

The University of Sydney uses FormStack for the purpose of facilitating your application for International Visitors Program at Sydney of Mathematical Research Institute. We will collect the following personal information about you when you apply:

- Name / Date of Birth / Gender
- Contact details including address and email
- Citizenship status / Family members (if travelling)
- Proposed visit details (including arrival and length of stay)
- Academic referees' details
- Academic qualifications and transcripts
- CV and employment & professional qualification details
- Personal Statement

We will use your personal information to assess your application and suitability for the International Visitors Program.

We will share your personal information with the academic host and SMRI Scientific Advisory Committee for the purposes of reviewing your application for the Sydney Mathematical Research Institute International Visitor Program. We will share your personal information with our third-party service providers where necessary, for the purposes of processing visa applications. A list of successful applicants, with dates and details of their visits, will be posted on the Institute's website.

We will not disclose your personal information to anybody else, unless you have given consent, or we are authorised or required to do so by law. Providing us with your personal information is voluntary. If you choose not to supply your personal information, we will not be able to assess your application.

For more information about how we will handle your personal information, how you can request to access or correct the personal information we hold about you, and who to contact if you have a privacy enquiry or complaint, please see our webpage: [Privacy at the University of Sydney](#).

Facilities

SMRI will assist international colleagues wherever possible. Visitors will be provided with a desk in a quiet shared space with between 1-3 other academic colleagues. Visitors will need to bring their own laptops, but additional IT equipment can be requested, where necessary. Library and intranet access can also be provided.

Questions

If you have any questions about the conditions of the International Visitor Program, or any further queries about a potential visit to Australia, please contact the Institute at smri.exec@sydney.edu.au.
