ICMS-SMRI Pacific and Southeast Asian Visitor Program

Sydney Mathematical Research Institute

Terms & Conditions

This visitor program is conceptualised and administered by Sydney Mathematical Research Institute and co-funded by the International Centre for Mathematical Sciences (ICMS) in Edinburgh through its *'Mathematics for Humanity'* scheme.

Objectives

The *ICMS-SMRI Pacific and Southeast Asian Visitor Program* enables mathematical scientists from Pacific and Southeast Asian countries to attend Australian conferences and workshops in the mathematical sciences, and to interact with visiting researchers at the Sydney Mathematical Research Institute (SMRI). It is hoped that the program will facilitate greater scientific integration of mathematical scientists from Pacific and Southeast Asian countries with the international research community.

Successful applicants will be funded to spend up to two weeks in Australia, to attend a conference or workshop aligned with their research interests, anywhere in the country, and the remaining time at SMRI in Sydney (applicants will not be required to give an invited or contributed talk at the event, only to participate.) This will enable interaction with experts in their field, and disciplinary or interdisciplinary interaction with international and domestic mathematical scientists at SMRI.

National and international context

The *ICMS-SMRI Pacific and Southeast Asian Visitors Program* is aligned with the International Science Council's five-year program "Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific" (ISC RFP-AP), which is funded from 2023 to 2028 and hosted by the Australian Academy of Science.

Eligibility

(1) At the time of application, applicants should be early-career researchers (ECRs) in the mathematical sciences to be eligible to apply. ECRs are defined as:

- students enrolled in at least the 3rd year of their PhD program, or
- researchers who are up to 5 years post PhD (or other research higher degree), excluding career interruptions and irrespective of their professional appointment.

(2) Stream-specific eligibility also applies:

- **Pacific stream** applicants must be a national of a Pacific Island in the eligible country list. Applicants also must permanently reside in that country and be enrolled in or employed by a university, research institute or other eligible organisation based there.
- **Asia stream** applicants must be a national of Vietnam, Thailand or the Philippines, permanently reside in one of those countries, and enrolled in or employed by a university, research institute or other eligible organisations in Vietnam, Thailand or the Philippines.

Applicants who hold Australian dual citizenship are not eligible for this program.

Eligible countries are:

Pacific Stream

- Cook Islands
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Fiji
- Kiribati
- Nauru
- Niue
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Republic of the Marshall Islands
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- Vanuatu

Asia Stream

- Philippines
- Vietnam
- Thailand

(3) Applicants should be able to demonstrate that they have an established research program in the mathematical sciences, and that their current research aligns with the conference or workshop they intend to participate in.

(4) Applicants should write to the relevant conference/workshop organisers to express their interest in attending, and seek confirmation that they are able to participate in that workshop (they are not required to give a talk at that event).

Conferences in Australia can be found at the following websites.

SMRI – Australian Mathematical Calendar

AustMS - https://austms.org.au/news-events/events/

MATRIX - https://www.matrix-inst.org.au/events-01/programs/#post-237

Award details

Applications will be accepted until 01 February 2027 for visits to Australia in 2027.

Funding for successful applicants may include:

- travel funding up to AUD $3,000 to cover the cost of a return economy international airfare from their home to Australia, and domestic airfare to Sydney, where relevant
- accommodation costs in Australia, which will be covered by SMRI directly
- a living allowance of AUD $60 per day for the duration of the official research visit to Australia
- registration fees for nominated event, which will be covered by SMRI directly

A funding agreement must be read and signed before any travel funds are released. Participants are responsible for making their own travel, visa and insurance arrangements. Dependents may accompany participants at their own cost.

Application

Applicants are required to submit an online application via the relevant link on the SMRI website. Applications will only be considered if they include:

- two references from senior academics, one of these from the applicant's home institution and one from an academic who is familiar with the applicant's research activity,
- brief CV (max 2 pages),
- a brief Expression of Interest outlining your visit plan, and how you meet the eligibility criteria,
- written confirmation by an organiser of a conference or workshop in Australia confirming their acceptance of you as a participant in their workshop.