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Science Council**

Regional Focal Point for
Asia and the Pacific

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**Australian
Academy of
Science**

Asia-Pacific Academic Mentoring Program

**FACT
SHEET**



Program overview

The Asia-Pacific Academic Mentoring Program¹ is currently connecting early-career researchers from the Pacific (including students enrolled in a master's degree or PhD) with senior scientists and leaders from learned

academies across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific. The aim is to guide young scientists to become future leaders in academia.

The first round of the mentoring program commences in September 2024 and will run for one

year, with monthly online meetings between the mentor and the mentee.

Future rounds of the program will expand to include mentees from least-developed nations in Asia.

Photo by Javier Allegue Barros on Unsplash

The mentoring program is facilitated by the International Science Council's Regional Focal Point for Asia and the Pacific (ISC RFP-AP), which is led by the Australian Academy of Science. Through a process of active codesign, the ISC RFP-AP supports activities that elevate the voice of science from the region in the ISC's national, regional and global policy discourse.

Who is eligible to apply for round one?

Mentees must reside in the Pacific and be currently enrolled at a university within the Pacific region as master's or PhD students or early-career researchers (0 – 5 years post PhD excluding career interruptions). The mentee should have an excellent track record of research aspiration and dedication to progress their career within academia. Their study focus can encompass any field of academia.

Mentors will have a track record of leading research projects, acquiring and managing grants, publishing scientific papers and mentoring early- and mid-career researchers at home and abroad. The role is voluntary and offers a valuable opportunity to share knowledge, support early career researchers and contribute to the Pacific academic community.

What is the time commitment?

Round one of the program will run from September 2024 for 12 months, with an expectation of monthly one-hour, one-to-one online meetings. Both mentor and mentee will need to dedicate some time to prepare for these meetings to ensure the most productive outcomes.

Prior to starting the program, mentors are invited to take part in the workshop, 'Mentoring

Excellence: Equipping Mentors for Success'. This workshop aims to give practical guidance on running effective mentoring sessions.

Participants will take part in an initial in-person Introductory Session at Science at the Shine Dome² in Canberra, Australia from Monday 9 to Thursday 12 September 2024. Travel and accommodation will be covered by the ISC RFP-AP. This is a great opportunity for mentors and mentees to meet in-person prior to starting the online sessions, as well as meeting with the other participants. It will also provide an opportunity to network with the wider scientific community in Australia.

How are mentors and mentees matched?

Matches are made based on academic interests and fields of expertise indicated in the application to ensure compatibility and to maximise the benefits of the mentorship relationship.

What are the benefits of participating in the program?

Being a mentor will open opportunities to support future science leaders in the discipline or area of interest, and to build a network of research collaborators in the Pacific.

Mentees can build on their professional capabilities and networks by working closely with a well-known and respected academic in their field of research, who can also provide guidance to progress their careers in academia.

Is there a cost to participate in the program?

The program is free for all participants.

What kind of support will I receive during the program?

Participants will receive continuous support from the mentoring program Project Officer, including regular check-ins and feedback opportunities.

How will the mentoring program be evaluated?

Success will be evaluated through mid-program and end-of-program feedback surveys, along with regular check-ins to ensure that the mentorship goals are being met.

Will the program be delivered in a culturally appropriate way?

The mentoring program will adopt known best practise to be delivered in a culturally appropriate way. All participants will agree to adhere to the Australian Academy of Science Code of Conduct³.

How to apply

For further information please contact:

Nina Maher
Project Officer
ISC RFP-AP at
isc-ap@science.org.au.

Mentee Application Form⁴



Notes

- council.science/our-work/asia-pacific-academic-mentoring-program/
- science.org.au/news-and-events/events/science-shine-dome/science-at-the-shine-dome-2024
- science.org.au/about-us/governance/code-conduct
- science.org.au/asia-pacific-academic-mentoring-program