



Australian Government

Australian Research Council

ARC College of Experts 2027 Nomination Kit

This document provides general information about the ARC College of Experts and the Nomination process.

General information

The Australian Research Council (ARC) College of Experts plays a critical role in identifying and maintaining research quality in the National Competitive Grant Program. Its members are experts of international standing drawn from the Australian research community: from higher education, industry/end-users, and public sector research organisations. In July 2024, the College of Experts was established as a committee of the ARC Board.

The College of Experts contributes to the ARC by:

- assessing and ranking grant applications submitted under the National Competitive Grants Program to the ARC;
- assigning external assessors and moderating external assessments;
- providing recommendations for fundable applications to the ARC Board and to the Minister for Education;
- assisting with recruitment of new external assessors;
- providing advice for peer review improvement;
- providing strategic advice to the ARC on emerging disciplines and cross-disciplinary developments; and
- assisting the ARC Board in the performance of its functions or the exercise of its powers.

Nominations

The ARC is seeking nominations from suitably qualified and experienced individuals, including senior academics and end-users across the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, with peer review and research leadership experience. Researchers with multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary expertise are strongly encouraged to apply. We especially welcome nominations from women, particularly those from the STEM disciplines, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Nominees should have strong institutional support to meet the commitment required of ARC College of Experts members.

The ARC is calling for nominations for the following fields only. Researchers must have demonstrable expertise **in at least one of the following fields** to be an eligible nominee in this round.

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| 3004 Crop and Pasture Production | 4206 Public health |
| 3009 Veterinary Sciences | 4301 Archaeology |
| 3101 Biochemistry and Cell Biology | 4402 Criminology |
| 3105 Genetics | 4405 Gender Studies |
| 3107 Microbiology | 4406 Human geography |
| 3108 Plant Biology | 4407 Policy and administration |
| 3109 Zoology | 4408 Political science |
| 3204 Immunology | 4410 Sociology |
| 3209 Neuroscience | 4501 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander culture, language & history |
| 3301 Architecture | 4502 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education |
| 3407 Theoretical and computational chemistry | 4503 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander environmental knowledges and management |
| 3602 Creative and professional writing | 4504 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing |
| 3604 Performing arts | 4505 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, society and community |
| 3606 Visual arts | 4506 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sciences |
| 3701 Atmospheric sciences | 4513 Pacific Peoples culture, language and history |

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| 3702 Climate change Science | 4514 Pacific Peoples education |
| 3704 Geoinformatics | 4515 Pacific Peoples environmental knowledges |
| 3707 Hydrology | 4516 Pacific Peoples health and wellbeing |
| 3708 Oceanography | 4518 Pacific Peoples society and community |
| 3901 Curriculum and pedagogy | 4519 Other Indigenous data, methodologies and global Indigenous studies |
| 3902 Education policy, sociology and philosophy | 4602 Artificial intelligence |
| 3903 Education systems | 4603 Computer vision and multimedia computation |
| 3904 Specialist studies in education | 4604 Cybersecurity and privacy |
| 3999 Other Education | 4605 Data management and data science |
| 4001 Aerospace engineering | 4606 Distributed computing and systems software |
| 4002 Automotive engineering | 4608 Human-centred computing |
| 4003 Biomedical engineering | 4610 Library and information studies |
| 4004 Chemical engineering | 4611 Machine learning |
| 4005 Civil engineering | 4612 Software engineering |
| 4007 Control engineering, mechatronics and robotics | 4806 Legal Systems |
| 4008 Electrical engineering | 4807 Public Law |
| 4009 Electronics, sensors and digital hardware | 4901 Applied mathematics |
| 4011 Environmental engineering | 5101 Astronomical sciences |
| 4012 Fluid mechanics and thermal engineering | 5103 Classical Physics |
| 4014 Manufacturing engineering | 5106 Nuclear and plasma physics |
| 4016 Materials engineering | 5107 Particle and high energy physics |
| 4017 Mechanical engineering | 5109 Space sciences |
| 4018 Nanotechnology | 5110 Synchrotrons and accelerators |
| 4101 Climate change impacts and adaptation | 5201 Applied and developmental psychology |
| 4104 Environmental Management | 5202 Biological psychology |
| 4106 Soil Science | 5203 Clinical and health psychology |
| 4203 Health services and systems | 5204 Cognitive and computational psychology |
| | 5205 Social and personality psychology |

The ARC is committed to improving the diversity of membership on the ARC College of Experts and encourages qualified people from a broad range of groups to nominate. This includes but is not limited to:

- Gender diversity
- People of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin
- Industry
- Public sector organisations

The ARC College of Experts is supported and coordinated by the ARC Academic Directors who have scheme and interdisciplinary responsibilities at the ARC. Nominees are encouraged to contact the relevant Academic Director to discuss how their expertise fits into the selection panels and the time commitment involved in becoming an ARC College of Experts member. Please direct your inquiries to college@arc.gov.au.

Commencement

Members of the ARC College of Experts are generally appointed for a three-year term.

An induction workshop is scheduled for November 2026. Successful nominees must be available to commence in early 2027, to assign and assess applications for funding, as well as to be available for at least one selection meeting each year. Please note that all Selection Advisory Committee (SAC) meetings are currently conducted via videoconference and members must be available for these, where relevant.

Time Commitment

Members of the ARC College of Experts may be appointed to form a SAC. SAC membership requires a significant time commitment, including working to specified, non-negotiable timeframes. SAC meetings are held throughout the year to recommend applications for funding under the National Competitive Grants Program. Members must be available to attend at least one of these meetings each year and undertake assignments, assessments, and moderations in preparation for the meetings. The duration of a SAC meeting is dependent on the volume of applications to the scheme; high-volume schemes may require up to five meeting days. SAC members will be advised of the anticipated duration of the meetings when receiving an invitation to join the panel.

ARC College of Experts members may be called upon to assign, read and assess, up to 250-300 funding applications each year. The number of meetings, volume of assignments and assessments vary per year according to the scheme and the number of applications received from different discipline areas.

Members of the ARC College of Experts will be requested to indicate their availability for selection meetings each year over a three-year period. Members of the ARC College of Experts are not currently eligible to sit on a SAC for a scheme where they are an applicant in that scheme round. This strengthens the probity of the selection process, further increasing the integrity of ARC decision-making processes. However, being a member of the ARC College of Experts does not exclude individuals from applying for funding from the ARC.

In all circumstances where members are assigning, assessing or moderating, the [ARC Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality Policy](#) applies.

Remuneration

ARC College of Experts members will be remunerated through sitting fees and reading rates. Sitting fees are guided by the ARC Administrative Arrangements for Committees and received per day for meetings attended. ARC College of Experts members serving on a SAC are paid a sitting amount of \$565 per day (GST exclusive) for up to ten (10) days per calendar year. The position of Panel Chair is paid an amount of \$635 per day (GST exclusive) for the period that the member holds this position, for up to 10 days per calendar year. ARC College of Experts members will be paid \$45.45 (GST exclusive) for each completed assessment as Carriage 2, and \$90.90 (GST exclusive) for Carriage 1.

There may be instances where additional assessments for applications are required at short notice where insufficient assessments have been received through the normal external assessor process.

Nomination Submission

Nominations **must** be submitted electronically by the nominee's primary employer (an approved nominator or delegate — see Table 1) to the ARC via the [ARC's Research Management System \(RMS\)](#) by **5:00pm (AEST) Thursday 9 July 2026**. Nominations will not be accepted directly from nominees (except those submitting as self-employed). Nominees who hold an

honorary or adjunct appointment or other affiliation with a higher education institution are encouraged to apply through that institution.

The Nomination Form is available on RMS. For more information, please see the [Instructions to Applicants](#) on the ARC website.

Late nominations will not be accepted. Amendments, replacements or additions to 2027 Nomination Forms will not be accepted after closing, unless invited by the ARC.

Table 1: Approved nominators are:

| <u>Primary Employer</u> | <u>Approved Nominators</u> |
|------------------------------|---|
| Higher education institution | Vice-Chancellor/Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) or equivalent |
| Industry or business | Chief Executive Officer or equivalent |
| Government | Agency Head / Deputy Secretary or equivalent |
| Self-employed | Self-nominator |

Advice on outcomes of the nomination process

It is anticipated that outcomes will be announced in November 2026

Confidentiality

The ARC will treat information contained in nominations as strictly confidential. However, nominated referees may be contacted to discuss the suitability of nominees.

Privacy

The information collected may be passed to third parties for the purposes of obtaining an assessment of the nomination.

The ARC is bound by the provisions of the *Privacy Act 1988*. Section 14 of the *Privacy Act 1988* contains the Information Privacy Principles (IPPs) which prescribe the rules for handling personal information.

References

For more information about the nomination process and the ARC College of Experts, please visit [ARC College of Experts page](#) or email any queries to college@arc.gov.au.

Successful nominees into the College of Experts will need an up-to-date RMS account. If you do not already have an RMS account please use the [RMS Register New User page](#) to request one.

More information on how to create an RMS profile is contained in the [RMS User Management Guide](#), on the RMS Information page under the heading Key documents and links.

Contacts

Please direct your inquiries to college@arc.gov.au or phone 02 6287 6600.