

ANZSOG Academic Fellowships 2026 Call for Expression of Interest

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Call for Expression of Interest – positions available in 2026

Introduction

ANZSOG collaborates with Academia and the Public Sector to develop and deliver innovative research and professional and higher education in public governance, leadership and capability. ANZSOG makes a unique contribution to the field because of its deep connection to practice supported by its 10 government owners and 15 university partners from Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. We draw upon both internal and external academic expertise, as well as leading practitioners, across our activities. Distinguished by both its proximity and independence from its government and university members over its now more than 20-year history, ANZSOG serves public institutions and public sector leaders by transcending the boundaries that intersect theory and practice contributing to public governance that people trust.

In 2025, ANZSOG launched an ambitious 2030 strategy that will ensure that it continues to be a leader in transforming public sector capability generating and shaping discourse on public governance in and for the 21st century. Integral to achieving these goals are investments in growing and strengthening our academic eco-system and relationships. Strengthening this academic eco-system is integral to building ANZSOG's standing and place as a world class binational School of Government leading in thought, practice and legacy that is underpinned and driven by our five goals of:

1. **Impact:** Leading in the 21st century transformation of public leadership
2. **Value:** Being an essential partner to our members
3. **Insight:** Bringing the best minds together for brave conversations
4. **Change:** Contributing to positive outcomes for and with First Nations and Māori people and communities
5. **Sustainability:** Securing a future that paves the way for the next generation to continue our work.

To this end, ANZSOG has embarked upon a new engagement strategy, underpinned by principles of flexibility, mutuality and collaboration with academics and universities. A key plank of this strategy is the **Academic Fellows Scheme** which was launched in December 2024. ANZSOG hosted its first round of Academic Fellows in the second half of 2025, and we are now launching a Call for Expressions of Interest for the second round of this scheme starting in 2026.

Through its Academic Fellows Scheme, ANZSOG is seeking to provide opportunities for academics to develop and undertake a research development and engagement

program that anticipates and addresses the knowledge needs of governments. ANZSOG Academic Fellows will benefit from sectoral knowledge building and cross-disciplinary peer exchange with ANZSOG academics, extended Faculty, academics based at its university partners and its government members; as well as career development that maintains continuity with and provides benefit back to their home institutions.

ANZSOG Academic Fellows Scheme

ANZSOG offers short-term Academic Fellowships in two streams:

- **Resident Academic Fellows**, open to scholars from ANZSOG Partner Universities (see Appendix 2) for a period of 4-6 months between February and November 2026, and
- **Visiting Academic Fellows**, open to academics from other Australian and New Zealand universities, as well as international institutions, for a period of 1-3 months between February and November 2026.

Fellowships are designed to support research engagement for impact. Engagement can foster mutual understanding, build trust, and help ensure that academic insights are relevant and timely for policy and practice. Applications are invited from eligible academics seeking to realise the benefits of recent and novel research and/or seeking to develop deep and authentic understanding of the public sector, its principles, values, cultures and capabilities, and knowledge needs. Fellows must show how their program of activities at ANZSOG will deliver impact for our government members and contribute to building public governance that people trust.

The fellowship program provides an opportunity to inform research agendas in support of transformative public governance and capability development in the four Areas of Focus that inform the ANZSOG 2030 Strategy:

Leadership, capability, development	First Nations & Māori perspectives & practice in public governance	Policymaking, design and impact	Structures and operation of government
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public sector leadership practice, including the skills, knowledge, culture, attributes are needed to deliver public value with ethics and integrity Workforce design and planning for the next generation Learning and development: practitioner led learning, craft skill transfer, continuous learning, the institutionalisation of learning Dealing with uncertainty and complexity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creating workplace and learner environments where First Nations and Māori people can develop and achieve with dignity and with cultural safety. Analysis and understanding of the structures, systems, cultures, and frameworks that promote / prevent improved outcomes for Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and Māori communities and people & how these can be improved. Workforce leadership, participation and representation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public service interface with political class (political administrative interface) and other influences on decision making (community / industry: balance interests, obligations) Policy infrastructure (systems, frameworks) Regulatory infrastructure (systems, frameworks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relational / collaborative / participatory/ co-governance: bringing others into decision making and delivery: citizen engagement, delivering with and through others in the wider ecosystem, place-based approaches Machinery: processes, incentives, accountability Institutional design

ANZSOG's Academic Fellows Program welcomes applications for 2026 from individuals with a wide range of academic and professional expertise, addressing one or more areas of focus. The Areas will guide the content and relationships proposed by Fellowship applicants and ANZSOG's selection assessment criteria.

ANZSOG Resident Academic Fellows

ANZSOG will provide a financial contribution to support a flexible academic residency for a dedicated period of 4 to 6 months for this category of fellows. Financial contributions are modelled on a *teaching buyout* approach up to a specified amount. However, academics that are ‘research only’, or otherwise not engaged in substantial teaching or administration, can apply to use the funding in support of an alternative agreed program of activity.

Amount for 2026: \$37,300¹ (plus contribution to domestic travel costs)

Fellowships should be scheduled between February and November (so as not to include the months of January and December).

What activities are anticipated and what support does ANZSOG offer?

To get the most benefit out of ANZSOG’s extensive and unique sector influence and relationships, ANZSOG Fellowship applicants should consider: why and how you would want to connect and share with both peers and practitioners in our extended networks; what issue or question you might seek to engage or convene interested parties and stakeholders around; why and in what ways this issue or question would be of relevance and interest to the public sector and our government members.

ANZSOG offers channels for sector engagement that academics can harness to ground their own research and build opportunities to collaborate. We can provide connection with public service professionals through a range of agreed education, engagement and research activities, building links for two-way transfer for the Fellow and between universities and the government sector more broadly.

In return, ANZSOG is seeking to build a collegial, collaborative and rich intellectual environment. We will provide support to build engagement and facilitate exchange, information on ANZSOG programs and events planned for the period, and the scholars and practitioners that we expect to be co-resident or periodically available around their teaching and other activities. Your contributions to our initiatives and culture are part of the offer.

Whether you are interested in insights for new teaching material, seeking ways to build impact for your current research or generate new research questions, or to better understand policy and governance in practice, the success of your fellowship application will turn on its relevance to contemporary public governance theory *and*

¹ Modelled to approximate with a 0.4 FTE teaching buyout replacement for up to 1semester. CPI adjustment annually. ANZSOG will in addition fund fellows to travel to Melbourne and Sydney for a short-term visit or residential where they reside outside of either location.

practice, your appreciation of the context, the mutuality of the proposal for ANZSOG, other faculty and fellows and for the field of practice.

Please note, we do not fund direct fieldwork costs for current or proposed research projects, for example, conducting large surveys or waves of interviews in the public sector. In keeping with our commitment to collaboration, gaining consent and input into any research design from both ANZSOG and potential partners is vital. The opportunity through sector engagement to build such design collaboration or validate a project's data and findings *could* be a component of a fellowship activity. Fellows should consider what is feasible in 4-6 months or what could be usefully shared publicly. Programs of activity need to show the generation of independent outputs throughout the Fellowship and within short timeframes. Fellows should expect to work periodically from ANZSOG locations, as well as virtually and at their home institution as agreed with each fellow as part of their individual program. ANZSOG offices are in Melbourne and Sydney. Typically, a resident fellow would spend a minimum 18 days located in either ANZSOG office with a contribution to accommodation and travel costs by ANZSOG. The remaining time commitment to ANZSOG over the 4–6-month period negotiable as online or face to face. You will have access to a desk and meeting rooms in your ANZSOG location.

Fellowships should be scheduled between February and November (so as not to include the months of January and December).

Eligibility

- Australian and New Zealand academics substantively employed at any of ANZSOG's member universities (see **Appendix 2** for listing). This means employed at one member institution at least 50% FTE at fellowship commencement.
- A completed PhD in a relevant field with at least 5 years *post PhD experience* career interruptions permitting. Note, this is a minimum, not a signal that the fellowships suit a particular career stage.

How to apply:

Stage 1: Submit your application using the EOI template:

- A proposed program of activity (1000 words maximum);
- A statement on what you hope to gain from the experience, how it will contribute to ANZSOG and how you would evaluate its impact (500 word maximum);
- A short-form CV (3 pages maximum)
- A brief letter of support from your supervisor, i.e., the person who will approve your leave of absence.

NOTE: you are required to submit all documents as a *single* PDF file – please add your surname to the start of the filename.

Attachment A: [EOI Form link](#)

Due Date: 7th August 2025

Selection and recruitment:

Stage 1: Selection process with shortlisted applicants, mid-August 2025 as arranged.

Stage 2: Outcomes of selection process communicated to applicants, by early September 2025.

Stage 3: Activity agreements agreed with Fellows and university partners where relevant, by late October 2025.

Timelines are indicative and maybe subject to change. Decisions will be based on the outcomes of the selection process along with consideration of diversity criteria, available capacities and spread of Fellows across the different Areas of Focus and at different times throughout the year.

ANZSOG actively seeks to welcome and value the unique contributions of people from all backgrounds and is committed to diversity and inclusion practices to achieve our vision.

Selection Criteria (unweighted):

1. Innovation, Significance, and Benefits of your proposed activities to ANZSOGs stakeholders in one or more of ANZSOGs Area of Focus
2. Outstanding Academic research track record in fields relevant to ANZSOGs mission and Areas of Focus
3. Research engagement: Experience in partnerships, collaborations with government/industry/community sector
4. Feasibility: will your proposed activity turn on assumptions or outcomes that are unrealistic

5. Value for money: time you will commit relative to the fellowship opportunity; Extent of support you will need for your program of activity; quality of proposed contribution to ANZSOGs academic environment.
6. **Equity and Diversity** are important to ANZSOG and will be a consideration in each selection round. We welcome applicants that reflect the diversity and address the underrepresentation of Australia and New Zealand's populations.
7. ANZSOG will also take into consideration the range of proposals received such that they reflect the breadth of our Areas of Focus.

MORE INFORMATION: Dr Patrick Brownlee via: research@anzsog.edu.au

ANZSOG Visiting Fellows

ANZSOG Visiting Fellowships are tailored for academics outside of Australia and New Zealand who have a planned study program with colleagues in Australia and seeking travel support and the benefits of working in one of our ANZSOG offices located in close proximity to university campuses in Sydney and Melbourne

Fellows can apply for a **1-3 month visit** to situate some or all of their proposed program with ANZSOG, contributing to our intellectual environment by connecting with ANZSOG faculty, staff and fellows, sharing and advancing their research and scholarship. We can also provide opportunities for you to connect with a broader network of academics based within our extensive range of partner universities.

What activities are anticipated and what support does ANZSOG offer?

To get the most benefit out of ANZSOG's extensive and unique sector influence and relationships, ANZSOG Fellowship applicants should consider: why and how you would want to connect and share with both peers and practitioners in our extended networks; what issue or question you might seek to engage or convene interested parties and stakeholders around; why and in what ways this issue or question would be of relevance and interest to the public sector and our government members.

ANZSOG's Strategy 2030 presents four **Areas of Focus** that guide our academic activities. These Areas or themes expand into a range of topic areas reflecting ANZSOG's research and education programs. The Areas will guide the topics and content proposed by Fellowship applicants and assessment selection criteria. In addition, international visiting fellows should consider how their proposed activities would generate interest from Australian government agencies. Learning via engagement on comparative international and transnational governance, leadership and policy capability is one way to achieve this interest. First Nations scholars are strongly encouraged to apply including in addressing the area of focus concerning First Nations and public governance in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Visiting Fellows will be able to access desk and meeting rooms in either of ANZSOGs Sydney or Melbourne locations, access to our teaching and research support, including support for agreed engagement and outreach activities, guest lectures, seminars and workshops.

Visiting Fellows will be supported with a capped contribution to international airfares travel and local accommodation costs.

For 2026, ANZSOG will contribute to or purchase economy airfare and accommodation (as a guide, approx. 20 days) with ANZSOG, up to **AUD \$8,000**²

ANZSOG will provide a collaborative intellectually stimulating and sector-engaged environment. We will provide support to build connections and engagement with the sector via exchange, information on and participation in ANZSOG programs and events planned for the period, and introductions to the scholars and practitioners that we expect to be co-resident or periodically available around their teaching and other activities.

A minimum expectation is a research-informed paper, publishable by ANZSOG, that incorporates insights from engagement with government in Australia and/or Aotearoa New Zealand. Please see **Appendix, Table 1**, for a summary of examples of just some additional activities/support that could build up your contribution to, and through, ANZSOG.

Fellows might periodically work from ANZSOG locations, as well as virtually and at affiliated institutions as agreed with each Visiting Fellows' individual program, noting a minimum face-to-face/office requirement to contribute to scholarly connection and culture.

Fellowships should be scheduled between February and November (so as not to include the months of January and December). Visits during July should also be avoided.

Eligibility

- Academics substantively employed at any university, worldwide.
- A relevant valid visa if not resident of Australia or New Zealand.
- A completed PhD in a relevant field with at least 5 years *post PhD experience* career interruptions permitting. Note, this is a minimum, not a signal that the fellowships suit a particular career stage.

How to apply:

Stage 1: Submit your application using the EOI template

- A proposed program of activity (1000 words maximum)

² ANZSOG will arrange and pay for travel and accommodation according to its policies or decide on other arrangements with a fellow within the funding cap. Global regions will affect amount of airfare contribution.

- A statement on what you hope to gain from the experience, how it will contribute to ANZSOG and how you would evaluate its impact (500 words maximum)
- A short-form CV (3 pages maximum)
- A brief letter of support from your supervisor, i.e., the person who will approve your leave of absence.

Attachment A: [EOI Template LINK](#)

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3. Outstanding academic research track record in fields relevant to ANZSOGs mission and Areas of Focus

4. Research engagement: Experience in partnerships, collaborations with government/industry/community sector
5. Feasibility: will your proposed activity turn on assumptions or outcomes that are unrealistic
6. Value for money: time you will commit relative to the fellowship opportunity; Extent of support you will need for your program of activity; quality of proposed contribution to ANZSOGs academic environment.
7. **Equity and Diversity** are important to ANZSOG and will be a consideration in each selection round. We welcome applicants that reflect the diversity and address the underrepresentation of Australia and New Zealand's populations.
8. ANZSOG will also take into consideration the range of proposals received such that they reflect the breadth of our Areas of Focus.

MORE INFORMATION: Dr Patrick Brownlee via research@anzsog.edu.au

APPENDIX 1

Table 1: Summary list of *example* activities and support

ANZSOG OFFER (options)	ANZSOG REQUEST (options)
Industry engagement (short/med term)	Collaborate in collegial evidence-informed Ideas sharing
Consults and workshops with public sector	Peer review of ANZSOG materials (teaching/research)
Publishing support	Lead roundtable across sectors/chair event
Grant writing support	Consult/liaise with staff and colleagues on ANZSOG programs
Co-teaching opportunities	Lead reading/in house sessions
Scholarly engagement with peers on ANZSOG Areas of Focus	Conference paper draft/public lecture

Media engagement	Masterclass
Network building & systems intelligence	Convene and engage across our partner universities
Peers and practice fellows	Public debate

APPENDIX 2: List of ANZSOG Eligible Institutions for *Resident Fellows* category

[Australian National University](#)

[Charles Darwin University](#)

[Curtin University](#)

[Flinders University](#)

[Griffith University](#)

[Melbourne Business School](#)

[Monash University](#)

[University of Melbourne](#)

[University of New South Wales](#)

[University of Queensland](#)

[University of Sydney](#)

[University of Canberra](#)

[University of Tasmania](#)

[University of Adelaide](#)

[Victoria University of Wellington](#)