



ACAMAR Visiting Fellowship - Information for Host Institutions

Background

Through a generous endowment of funds from [CSIRO](#), [ICRAR](#) and the [Australian Department of Industry, Science and Resources](#) (DISR), ACAMAR has funding to sponsor distinguished Chinese researchers to make extended visits to Australia and enhance collaborations on areas of common interest within astronomy, astrophysics and cosmology.

The program focuses on the SKA with at least two-thirds of the funding expended on SKA-related activities in Western Australia.

Aims

The ACAMAR Visiting Fellowship aims to:

- Enhance scientific collaborations in astronomy, astrophysics and cosmology between Australia and China.
- Maximise the scientific return on investment in astronomy infrastructure.
- Explore opportunities for future projects and grant collaborations.

The Fellowship visit

Successful applicants will have the opportunity to visit Australia for up to three months and are encouraged to visit multiple institutions. ACAMAR will offer the successful applicants financial support for travel and living expenses of up to \$15k per applicant. Co-investment from the host institute is highly valued.

Applicants are responsible for securing the approval of their home institutions/organisations to undertake the ACAMAR Visiting Fellowship. This includes securing a visa to visit Australia or China and authorisation to conduct collaborative research.

Host Institution responsibilities

It is expected that the Host Institution will benefit from the visit by providing opportunities for host institution staff to interact and collaborate with senior Chinese researchers. Host institutions are responsible for administering Fellowship funds and supporting the Fellow before, during, and after the visit.

Before the visit

- Work with the Visiting Fellow to apply for the Fellowship. This includes:
 - Providing information and support for the Fellow regarding accommodation and living arrangements in Australia.
 - Supporting the applicant to put together a research proposal and budget based on the host's recommendations for accommodation and living expenses.
 - Provide the applicant with a letter of support to include with their application.
- Sign a Letter of Agreement between the Host Institution and AAL which outlines each parties' roles and responsibilities, and funding provided for the Fellowship.
- Assist the Fellow with meeting any necessary visa and related requirements to undertake the ACAMAR Fellowship. This is likely to include an invitation letter from the Host Institution and a Visiting Appointment at the Host Institution.
- Ensure compliance with Host Institution's policies to minimise foreign interference risks to teaching, research, engagement, operations and other activities.

During the visit

- Provide facilities and resources to undertake the Fellowship, including providing a suitable workspace.
- Ensure relevant inductions, training, and introductions are provided.
- Ensure the Fellow complies with the Host Institution's administrative procedures.
- Reimbursement
 - Advise the Fellow of the Host Institutions' process for reimbursement
 - Reimburse the Fellow for expenses incurred as noted in the Letter of Agreement, including obtaining documentation (e.g. receipts) from the Fellow to demonstrate that the funds have been spent for the purpose awarded.
 - Ensure Fellows are reimbursed in a timely manner.
- Support the Fellow to carry out research as described in their application.
- Maintain communications with AAL including alerting AAL to any issues that arise, and any successes or notable stories to share.

After the visit

- Provide input into the post-visit Fellowship report (authored by the Visiting Fellow).
- Share your experience with colleagues in China and Australia if you wish, for example through conference presentations.

How to apply

Applications are completed by Chinese researchers and must include a letter of support from the proposed Host Institution in Australia.

Applications should be emailed to: kate.barnard@astronomyaustralia.org.au and include the following documents:

1. ACAMAR Visiting Fellowship Application Form – download [here](#).
2. Applicant CV
3. Letter of support from the proposed Host Institution in Australia.

Applications close at 11pm AEDT on Sunday 26 November 2023

For more information

Please see the [ACAMAR Visiting Fellowships webpage](#) or contact ACAMAR secretariat in Australia or China with any questions:

- Australian secretariat: Kate Barnard kate.barnard@astronomyaustralia.org.au
- Chinese secretariat: Dr Lin Li lilin@pmo.ac.cn