

UNIVERSITIES AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA-GERMANY JOINT RESEARCH CO- OPERATION SCHEME

GUIDELINES FOR CONTACT OFFICERS AND
SELECTION PANELS IN PARTICIPATING
AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITIES

2019 APPLICATION ROUND
(FUNDING COMMENCING IN 2020)

ABOUT THE AUSTRALIA-GERMANY JOINT RESEARCH CO-OPERATION SCHEME

This scheme is a joint initiative of Universities Australia¹ and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)². It is funded by Universities Australia member universities and the DAAD and acknowledges the financial and other support by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training.

It aims to foster research collaboration of the highest quality between Australia and Germany. It supports exchanges for Australian researchers from participating Australian universities and German researchers from publicly funded German universities and research institutes.

The support of early career researchers is a significant goal for this scheme. For the purpose of this scheme 'early career researcher' means: a PhD student enrolled at a participating Australian university, a researcher who has had a Research Masters or PhD awarded within five years from the date of the application, or a researcher who received his or her award more than five years before the date of the application but who, due to career interruptions such as carer responsibilities, has had less than the equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.

Proposals **must provide opportunities** for exchanges between early career researchers. It is encouraged but not compulsory to be an ECR to apply.

The full terms and conditions of the scheme are available from the [UA website](#).

Key dates for 2019 application round:

3 April 2019	Call for applications
13 June 2019	Closing date for applications
22 July 2019	Universities submit information about projects they wish to fund/support to the Universities Australia (UA) office via a ranked list. Do not send applications to UA. The spreadsheet will suffice.
October 2019	DAAD selection panel meets in Bonn, Germany, with advice provided by UA in advance.
November 2019	UA provides letters to the contact officers in each university for the successful applicants and requests the contact officers inform both successful and unsuccessful applicants of the outcomes.
1 January 2019 to 31 December 2021	Exchanges occur
28 February 2020	Submission of final or interim project reports
28 February 2021	Closing date for submission of final project reports for projects running over two years.

¹ Universities Australia is the national peak representative body for universities in Australia.

² www.daad.de. The German Academic Exchange Service's mission is to advance Germany's international engagement in the fields of education, science, culture and research.

RANKING/PRE-SELECTION PROCESS IN AUSTRALIA

UA and the DAAD have agreed that Australian universities will carry out an official pre-selection process of their own applications before the final selection which occurs in Germany in October. Effectively this means each Australian university will decide which projects it is willing to fund and will determine the number it will fund.

UA will issue a spreadsheet to each university in that allows each university to nominate the projects it considers worthy of funding and to rank them.

The spreadsheet will need to be completed and returned to UA by 22 July 2019. There is no need to send the original applications.

Please ensure that the members of the selection panel at your institution refer and use the expert evaluation form included on pages 7-8 below.

FURTHER INFORMATION FOR AUSTRALIAN APPLICANTS

All relevant information about the scheme, including comprehensive terms and conditions, is available through the Universities Australia website at:

<http://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/australia-germany-joint-research>

The contact officer in the Universities Australia office is Ms Grace Fox, Policy Officer:
Ph: 02 6285 8115. Email: g.fox@universitiesaustralia.edu.au

INFORMATION FOR GERMAN APPLICANTS

The [website for German applicants](#) is available here:

Requests from German applicants should be directed to the contact person at the DAAD, Martin Müller, Section P33, Telephone: +49 (0) 228 882 – 833, m.mueller@daad.de.

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION PANELS

The DAAD uses a system of points to assess each application. UA and the DAAD have agreed that all projects with a score of 80 and above will be discussed at the selection meeting in Bonn in October 2019 and will be considered for funding. Anything scored under 80 on either side will not be discussed **but should still be listed on the final rankings spreadsheet issued to each university to complete.** This will ensure the DAAD and UA can determine whether there is a corresponding application submitted on both sides.

Australian universities are advised to follow the DAAD's guidelines as closely as possible.

There are nine main criteria to be used in assessing applications and overall marks are divided as follows:

Selection Criterion 1	Knowledge transfer between research group in Australia and Germany	5%
Selection Criterion 2	Added value of co-operation between the two groups (subject-related, institutional, interdisciplinary)	5%
Selection Criterion 3	Appropriate involvement of early career researchers	25%
Selection Criterion 4	Scientific quality of the project (clarity of project, objectives and methodology)	25%
Selection Criterion 5	Scientific status of the project: topicality and degree of innovation of the project	5%
Selection Criterion 6	Feasibility of the research project (basic financial security, preliminary work and further planning, appropriate planning of reciprocal visits)	15%
Selection Criterion 7	Project-relevant competence of research groups	9%
Selection Criterion 8	Complementarity of the two research groups in the joint project (with regards to methodology, content and instruments)	10%
Selection Criterion 9	Scientific and/or industry potential usability of the project results	1%

The weighting scale for the selection criteria will be:

Selection criterion 1	5 %
Selection criterion 2	5 %
Selection criterion 3	25 %
Selection criterion 4	25 %

Selection criterion 5	5 %
Selection criterion 6	15 %
Selection criterion 7	9 %
Selection criterion 8	10 %
Selection criterion 9	1 %

The rating scale for each criterion of the application will be:

Not suitable for funding	Case for discussion	Suitable for funding
0–39	40–79	80–100

EXPERT EVALUATION FORM

Selection Criterion 1	Do not recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Knowledge transfer between research group in Australia and Germany										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant expertise of researchers • Necessity of collaboration 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 1	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.05)									

Selection Criterion 2	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Added value of co-operation between the two groups										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subject-related value • Value to institution (reinforcement of academic relations between Germany and institution) • Value to Australia and Germany 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 2	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.05)									

Selection Criterion 3	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Appropriate involvement of early career researchers										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement of early career researchers on both sides of the project 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 3	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.25)									

Selection Criterion 4	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Scientific quality of the project										

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity of objectives • Sound methodology 	
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 4	/100
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.25)

Selection Criterion 5	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Topicality and degree of innovation of the project										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topicality • Degree of innovation 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 5	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.05)									

Selection Criterion 6	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Feasibility of the research project										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic financial security • Preliminary work • Project planning • Planning of reciprocal visits 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 6	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.15)									

Selection Criterion 7	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Project-relevant competence of research groups										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant experience in research field • Appropriate instruments and facilities • Content relevant to both the Australian and German side of application 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 7	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.09)									

Selection Criterion 8	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Complementarity of two research groups in the joint project										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the skills set of each research group will work together • Links between the research groups 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 8	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.1)									

Selection Criterion 9	Don't recommend funding							Worthy of funding		
	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
Scientific and/or industry potential usability of the project results										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential outcomes of project 										
Score awarded for Selection Criterion 9	/100									
Weighted Score	(Score x 0.01)									

Criteria	Raw Score	Weighted Score
Selection Criterion 1		
Selection Criterion 2		
Selection Criterion 3		
Selection Criterion 4		
Selection Criterion 5		
Selection Criterion 6		
Selection Criterion 7		
Selection Criterion 8		
Selection Criterion 9		
Total score	-	/100

Commentary