Application guide
Visiting Scholar Bursary

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Introduction
The guide was developed to assist organisations to apply for Visiting Scholars Bursary funding from Wine Australia.

The guide provides information on:
- Wine Australia
- the process for applying for funding
- our approval process
- our criteria, and
- how to commence an online application for funding.

Please contact us at applications@wineaustralia.com or on (08) 8228 2000 if you require further information or assistance.

About us
Wine Australia is the single Australian Government statutory service body for the Australian grape and wine community.

We support a prosperous Australian grape and wine community by investing in research and development (R&D), building the international and domestic markets, disseminating knowledge, encouraging adoption and protecting the reputation of Australian wine.

We are funded by grapegrowers and winemakers through levies and user-pays charges, and by the Australian Government, which provides matching funding for RD&E investments.

We focus on extracting the full value of our investments in RD&E for the benefit of our levy payers, the Australian Government, and the wider community. Our investments are guided by the sector’s strategic priorities which are detailed in our Strategic Plan 2015–2020.

The application
Wine Australia will consider applications that seek funding to bring international experts to Australia to participate in workshops, meetings, conferences and symposia and in research projects. These activities are required to align with our RD&E priority areas and applications should focus on the anticipated benefits for the Australian grape and wine community and/or existing research. The justification to bring in an international participant for these activities, rather than use a local expert, needs to be clearly articulated

Expenses that may be supported include economy airfares for the international expert, a contribution towards reasonable living expenses, domestic travel, and field or other research-related expenses if the activity includes a research component. A cash and/or in-kind co-contribution to the proposal by the applicant and other parties is expected. If the application seeks to bring a speaker to Australia for a workshop or conference, the commercial nature of the event will be considered when determining the level of support to be offered.

Applications must show the anticipated benefit to the Australian grape and wine community. Additionally, they should highlight the mechanism for dissemination of knowledge across the sector and identify the expected professional benefits for those with whom the expert will interact while in Australia. The relationships between the proposed visit and current or potential R&D should be clearly explained.
We assess investment applications through a process that uses clear and objective criteria and excludes any individuals with a conflict of interest from the assessment.

**Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Due to ongoing developments with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), we recommend that students and researchers consult their university/workplace's current guidelines on international travel.

It is difficult to determine whether grants awarded for travel are likely to be adversely affected by international restrictions and policies linked to novel coronavirus (COVID-19). In accordance with our guidelines and travel bursary contracts, please be aware Wine Australia will:

- be the sole arbiter of the number and value of travel bursary applications supported
- request return of funds if some or all of the funds are not used for the activities described in the travel application, and
- will not be liable for any loss, damage, expense, claim, settlement or judgement whatsoever in or arising out of your acceptance of the fund or the activities funded by those funds.

Expenses that may be supported by Wine Australia include economy airfares, reasonable accommodation expenses and conference registration, and reasonable cancellation expenses incurred due to circumstances outside of traveller’s control, such as conference cancellation or advice from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to not travel. Please refer to Smartraveller at [https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations](https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/destinations) for current updates.

**Assessment Criteria**

Wine Australia is the sole arbiter of the number of Visiting Scholar Bursary applications supported.

Visiting scholar proposals are assessed against the following questions.

- Does the proposed visit benefit the Australian grape and wine community and meet the sector’s strategic goals?
- Are the outputs and activities appropriate?
- Is the plan for knowledge dissemination appropriate?
- What is the risk that the activities will not be delivered as planned?
- How will the activities contribute to professional development of the Australian stakeholders involved?
- What is the value of the contribution made by the international expert to the planned activities compared to a local expert?
- Is the proposal value for money, taking into account the cash and in-kind co-contribution by the applicant and other parties?

In approving the application, we may approve the funding of all or part of the proposal and may attach conditions to any approval. Our staff will work through any required changes with applicants prior to issuing a contract.
A **final report**, including an executive summary and an abstract, and a financial reconciliation is required to be submitted to us within one month of the completion of the travel (unless otherwise specified by the contract). Please see the Travel & Visiting Scholar Bursary reporting guidelines for assistance.

**Applying**

To apply for a Wine Australia Visiting Scholar Bursary, you must complete an online application through the Clarity Investment Management System (CIMS). CIMS requires a log in and password which can be obtained via email from applications@wineaustralia.com.

We invite and assess applications for Visiting Scholar Bursaries throughout the year.