Trailblazer Recycling & Clean Energy

Trailblazer for Recycling and Clean Energy (TRaCE) Mobility Fellowship Guidelines - University of Newcastle

1. ABOUT TRaCE

The Trailblazer for Clean Energy and Recycling (TRaCE) is a Commonwealth Government-supported program to boost prioritised research in recycling and clean energy, and drive commercialisation outcomes with Industry partners. The commercialisation of recycling and clean energy research aims to position Australia as a world leader in the use and export of recycling technology and materials and support the domestic production of price-competitive clean energy using low-emissions, scalable technologies.

2. MOBILITY FELLOWSHIP OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The TRaCE Mobility Fellowships Scheme is aimed at driving research collaboration, translation and commercialisation outcomes across industry and academia. The Scheme is open to talented early – mid career researchers at the University of Newcastle, or Industry-based researchers of partner organisations, to spend time working at each other's premises, on a specific research project which aligns with the research themes and objectives of the TRaCE initiative.

The aims of the scheme are to broaden and deepen research translation by promoting knowledge exchange and fostering long-term collaborations. Through engaging in a defined research project, the scheme will support the career development of successful Fellows, by providing a collaborative cross-sector research experience, and the opportunity to create personal and professional links between the University and Industry sectors.

3. TRaCE RESEARCH THEMES

TRaCE targets four complementary technology themes to shift toward renewable energy sources, cost-effective and efficient alternatives to fossil-fuel based products as well as recycling and re-use of waste materials:

NEXT GENERATION SOLAR PV AND SYSTEMS

New projects that accelerate integration and scale of solar technologies.

ELECTRIFICATION, ENERGY SYSTEMS AND STORAGE

New projects that drive manufacturing in industry electrification, clean energy systems and storage.

SUSTAINABLE FUELS AND CHEMICALS MANUFACTURING

New projects that commercialise green fuels and chemicals.

RECYCLING, REFORMING AND REUSE OF MATERIALS

New projects for recycling, reforming and reuse of waste materials.

4. PROGRAM BENEFITS

The Fellowships program will:

- Enhance knowledge exchange between industry and academia,
- Support the career development of the fellow, gained through working in the host setting on a defined research project,
- Enable the fellow to develop their network and initiate collaborative links which may lead to long-term partnerships, and
- Allow for research activities that facilitate the commercialisation of clean energy and recycling technologies.

5. ELIGIBILITY

The Mobility Fellowships program is seeking applications that fit the eligibility criteria below. Proposed fellowship activities outside of those eligibility criteria will be considered on a case-by-case basis, based on the strength of the application.

5.1. Eligible Candidates

University Fellow embedded with Partner Organisation

Eligible applicants must:

- Have obtained a PhD, and be employed at a level no higher than a Level C Academic, as defined by University of Newcastle Academic Staff Position Classification Standards.
- Hold an employment contract with the University of Newcastle on an ongoing or fixed term basis, with a contract end-date after the expected end-date of the Mobility Fellowship activity.
- Have the required technical background, skills and experience to undertake the proposed mobility fellowship activity.

Industry Fellow embedded within the University

Eligible applicants must:

- Hold an employment contract with the nominated Partner Organisation on an ongoing or fixed term basis, with a contract end-date after the expected end-date of the Mobility Fellowship activity.
- Have the required technical background, skills and experience to undertake the proposed mobility fellowship activity.

5.2. Eligible Partner Organisation

To be eligible for the Program, the nominated partner organisation:

- Must be a business or organisation with a facility or premises, which are equipped to undertake the required research activities,
- Must have a current active research contract with the University of Newcastle, and
- Be willing to provide appropriate access to its facilities, equipment and related support to enable proposed fellowship activities to be carried out by the fellow.

5.3. Eligible Fellowship Activities

- Must include research activities related to an existing research contract between the nominated partner organisation and the University of Newcastle.
- Scope of the Fellowship Activity must demonstrate alignment with the TRaCE Program and TRaCE Research Themes.
- Must involve mobility between industry and academia.

6. FUNDING

University Fellow embedded with Partner Organisation

- Fellowship funding will be determined on a case-by-case basis, dependent on employment type and commitments. Funding can consist of the Fellow's salary and/or travel costs for the duration of the award.
- Total TRaCE funding available per Fellowship is $200,000 AUD.

Industry Fellow embedded within the University

- Fellow remains the employee of the nominated partner organisation. An appropriate contribution by the University towards relevant costs will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

7. PROGRAM CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Duration and timing

- Awards can be held for a minimum duration equivalent to 2 weeks of full-time work up to a maximum of 12 months per candidate, which may be completed on a full-time or part-time basis.
- Successful Fellows must commence their fellowship activity within 6 months of receiving fellowship.

7.2. Fellowship completion

Upon the completion of their fellowship activity, fellows will be required to:

- Provide a written report outlining the outcomes of their activity, and
- Develop their research outcomes into a format to enable knowledge transfer to their wider research team. The fellow will be free to determine the exact format, but this should be in a format that allows for group participation, including but not limited to a workshop, seminar, or similar.
- Participate in any TRaCE related evaluation activities, such as surveys, short reports or video that can inform improvements or promote future engagement and outreach programs between industry and academia.

8. APPLICATIONS

Applications are now open and will remain open on a rolling basis.

The potential fellow is required to submit their application by following the instructions listed online.

8.1. Application Process

In order to apply to the scheme, the Applicant will be required to complete an application, including the below information:

- Name and location of nominated partner organisation,
- Duration of proposed fellowship activity,
- Demonstrated alignment of research to TRaCE Research themes and objectives,
- Outline of the scope of proposed fellowship research activity, the challenge being addressed and its potential impact,
- Summary of how this research project will contribute knowledge to one of the four TRaCE Research Themes,
- Demonstrated mutual benefit to the Fellow/Partner Organisation / University including potential to lead to longer-term collaboration.

8.2. Application Review

Application will need to be approved by the Chief Investigator of the research project prior to being submitted for consideration. Upon receipt of application, the application will require review and approval by the applicant's Head of School and the designated TRaCE representative, with final approval granted by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Innovation. The applicant will then be notified of an outcome.

9. PROGRAM SUMMARY

	TRaCE Mobility Fellowships
Duration	Minimum duration equivalent to 2 weeks of full-time work.
Candidates	▶ University Fellows: Postdoctoral Researchers, employed at a level no higher than a Level C Academic at the University of Newcastle. ▶ Industry Fellows: Employees of Partner Organisation
Embedment	Undertake research activities at partner organisation/University, on projects which align with TRaCE Research Themes and demonstrate alignment with the TRaCE program.
Funding	**University**
	N/A
	Partner Organisation
	N/A
	Mobility Fellow
	▶ University Fellows: up to $200,000 for salary and/or travel costs for the duration of the award. Determined on a case-by-case basis, dependent on employment type and commitments. ▶ Industry Fellows: Contributions determined on a case-by-case basis.