

Trailblazer for Recycling and Clean Energy (TRaCE) Enterprise Academic 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. ENTERPRISE ACADEMIC FELLOWSHIP OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The TRaCE Enterprise Academics Fellowships Scheme is aimed at driving research collaboration, translation and commercialisation outcomes while supporting the professional development and career progression of promising academics.

The purpose of the scheme is to enable academics with demonstrated capacity for research excellence, to broaden their research output in critical sectors, reach personal career milestones and foster enduring long-term collaborations. Through engaging in a self-defined research roadmap, the scheme will support the career development of successful Fellows, by providing salary support up to a 3-year period to undertake high quality research with a focus on Industry engagement and commercialisation, in areas aligning to the research themes of the TRaCE Initiative.

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 in science and technology between industry and academia,
- Support the career development of the fellow, gained through leading defined research/industry projects and collaborations, and mentorship from a senior Academic,
- Provide support and opportunities to further the experience and expertise of the fellow,
- Enable the fellow to develop their network and initiate collaborative links leading to long term partnerships with industry, and
- Allow for research activities that facilitate the commercialisation of clean energy and recycling technologies.

5. ELIGIBILITY

5.1. Eligible Candidates

Eligible applicants must:

- Have obtained a PhD, and be employed at a level no higher than a Level D Academic, as defined by University [Academic Staff Position Classification Standards](#). Level E Academics wishing to apply for the Fellowship may be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Have the ambition to develop a roadmap of industry-engaged research, expanding the capability of the University.
- Declare all potential Conflicts of Interest in accordance with University [Conflict of Interest Policy and Procedure](#).
- Internal applicants must have completed all outstanding Discover Modules, and have an up-to-date [Academic Planning and Performance Plan](#).

5.2. Eligible Fellowship Activities

- Scope of research activities undertaken over the duration of the Fellowship must demonstrate alignment with the TRaCE Program and TRaCE Research Themes.
- Must involve research in collaboration with relevant Industry Partners, in alignment with research roadmap set out by the Fellow and agreed upon by the committee.

6. FUNDING

Fellowship funding will consist of the Fellow's salary, or portion thereof, for the duration of the award, determined based on the applicant's research proposal and employment circumstances at time of application.

Fellowship funding is not available to supplement R&D costs. It is expected that these costs would be covered by Industry Collaborations as outlined in the applicants Research Roadmap.

7. PROGRAM CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Duration and timing

Awards can be held full or part-time for a period of up to 3 years.

7.2. Fellowship completion

By the completion of their Fellowship, fellows will have been required to:

- Develop select research outcomes into a format to enable knowledge transfer to their wider research team, University colleagues, or a wider external market. The fellow will be free to determine the exact format, but should be in a format that allows for group participation, including but not limited to development of a short course, workshops, seminar series, or similar. Activities with a focus on outreach and with the ability to showcase achievements to the wider academic community and region are also encouraged.
- 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

8.1. Application Process

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

- A two-page CV,
- A personal statement outlining the candidate's suitability for the Fellowship, including their motivations and career goals,
- A detailed research proposal/roadmap, outlining the objectives of the Fellowship and how they will be achieved over the duration of the Fellowship, including:
 - Proposed focus of research,
 - Names of industry partners that would be involved,
 - Scope of research activities and intended outcomes,
- Evidence of research output and achievements to date, including but not limited to:
 - Notable Industry collaborations and outcomes
 - Intellectual property, including patents,
 - Research income from Australia and overseas
 - Research supervision, including Higher Degree by Research (HDR) student completions,
 - Examples of professional development, mentoring and research leadership,
 - Publications, including research books and chapters, journal articles and conference publications,
- A statement outlining how your proposed research aligns with the TRaCE Research themes and objectives of the TRaCE Initiative,

- Statement of support from a senior Academic at the University, willing to act as mentor over the course of the Fellowship.

8.2. Application Review

Application will need to be approved in principle by the applicant's Head of School (HOS), prior to being submitted for consideration. Upon receipt of application, the application will undergo review and final approval by:

- ▶ the designated TRaCE representative,
- ▶ Head of School
- ▶ College PVC, and
- ▶ final approval granted by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Innovation.

The applicant will then be notified of an outcome.