

The Global Talent Attraction Program (GTAP) Candidate Merit Pool (CMP) aims to strengthen Australia's sovereign research capacity and science-led innovation by identifying exceptional international researchers interested in relocating to Australia. All applications to join the Candidate Merit Pool must be sponsored by a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science to be eligible for consideration.

To support the Academy in the process of assessing the calibre of Candidates, Fellows of the Australian Academy of Science are invited to sponsor applications to the Candidate Merit Pool. In doing so, the Fellow is endorsing the applicant as a person of exceptional calibre who would make a valuable and lasting contribution to Australian research and innovation. When considering whether to sponsor an applicant, Fellows are encouraged to reflect on the following:

- Do you have a sufficient level of familiarity with the applicant's work, character, or professional reputation to confidently vouch for their suitability?
- Do you believe the applicant has demonstrated a sustained record of research excellence and leadership in their field?
- Would the applicant's relocation to Australia significantly benefit the Australian research ecosystem or address a critical capability gap?
- Does the applicant exhibit the level of integrity, collegiality, and professionalism expected of someone representing high-calibre global research standing?
- Do you believe the applicant would be a strong ambassador for Australian science, both within the country and in international collaborations?
- Are you confident the applicant would thrive in and contribute positively to the Australian research environment, including mentoring, collaboration, and capability-building?
- Do you support the applicant's inclusion in a national merit pool used to identify candidates for possible funded roles within Australian partner institutions?

Fellows are encouraged to request the applicant's full application and supporting materials to prepare a thorough and accurate sponsorship letter. Any materials provided to assist in the preparation of your letter should not be distributed further.

The signed application sponsorship letter should:

- Be written on institutional letterhead.
- Be no more than two pages in length.
- Be returned directly to the applicant for inclusion in their application.

Please ensure your letter is provided to the applicant in time for them to complete their submission by **Friday, 29 August 2025**.

Thank you for your support of the Global Talent Attraction Program Candidate Merit Pool.