

# Sir William Dobell Visiting Chair and Fellowship Program for 2026 - Application guidance document

This document is intended to assist applicants for the Sir William Dobell Visiting Chair and Fellowship Program for 2026 to ensure their application meets the requirements and addresses the criteria that will be used by the selection committee. Please use this in conjunction with the Fellowship description when drafting your application. Any specific questions about the application process should be directed to [admin.somad@anu.edu.au](mailto:admin.somad@anu.edu.au).

## Cover Letter (1 page)

Your covering letter should specify whether you are applying for the Sir William Dobell Visiting Chair position, or the Sir William Dobell Visiting Fellowship. It should also outline your preferred dates and duration of the fellowship.

For the Chair position, the dates must overlap with at least 4 weeks of the ANU teaching period. Fellows' visits must occur during the teaching period, though applications for visits outside the teaching period may be considered based on the merit of the application. The ANU 2026 semester dates are as follows:

- Semester 1 – 23 February to 29 May
- Semester 2 – 27 July to 30 October

## Biographical statement (300 words)

Your biographical statement will be input directly into the application portal and can be up to 300 words, please include your title, institutional affiliation, and research specialisations. You may wish to include other markers of research excellence (publications, grants, awards, etc.)

## Research Proposal including budget (4 pages)

You will be required to upload a research proposal (up to 4 pages) that outlines your intended research activities while at ANU. Please include a plan of research activities, and intended outcomes/outputs.

You must include a detailed budget in your research proposal as outlined below;

### Budget

The ANU will provide the following funding for the Chair and Fellows positions;

The Visiting Chair will be provided with:

- AUD\$15,000 (domestic-based) and AUD\$18,000 (international-based) maximum allowance in costs towards economy-class travel and accommodation in Canberra;
- Up to AU\$20,000 in research-related expenses, including living costs.

Each Visiting Fellow will be provided with:

- AUD\$5,000 (domestic-based) and AUD\$7,500 (international-based) maximum allowance in costs towards economy-class travel and accommodation in Canberra;

- Up to \$2,500 in research-related expenses, including living costs.

The ANU will pay for the travel and accommodation up to the amounts listed above. The ANU has well priced accommodation options, you can find more information on the [ANU Apartments Website](#).

In your research proposal you will need to outline (high level indication only) how much you will claim for living expenses and any remaining funding you intend to use for research related expenses. The total costs for the table must not exceed \$20,000 for the Chair or \$2,500 for a Fellow. To demonstrate this, the following table is recommended;

Expense	Total
Living expenses (can be calculated as \$76.35 per day, including travel days)	\$
Research Expenses*	\$
Total expenses	(total of the two items above)

\*Underneath your table, please provide a basic breakdown of what any proposed research expenses will be used for. All expenses will be understood to be approximate due to the fluctuation of costs across time and place, and the nature of the changeability of research requirements. If applicable, feel free to list any expenses as “Up to” a certain dollar amount.

## Curriculum Vitae

Please upload an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae.

## Referees

You will be asked to provide two referees details (Names and email addresses). Your referees should include your current or most recent academic/GLAM sector supervisor and can include peers and senior colleagues who can attest to the quality of your work.

## Important information

Please note that it is the Chair’s or Fellow’s responsibility to ensure they have researched and obtained the correct visa and travel insurance required for their stay. Once a contract has been signed by both the ANU and the Chair/Fellow, an official letter will be provided that can assist with obtaining a visa. The funding does not cover any visa application expenses.

Please note that while the Chair or Fellows are welcome to bring members of their family, there is no funding available through ANU to cover travel or living costs of family members.