



Australian Government
Department of Industry and Science

Science



Australia-China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF)

GUIDELINES

2015

Contents

PURPOSE OF THESE GUIDELINES.....	3
1. OVERVIEW.....	4
1.1. Background and Objectives	4
1.2. Research Priority Areas	4
2. JOINT RESEARCH CENTRES.....	5
2.1. Overview	5
2.2. Eligibility Criteria	6
2.3. Level and Duration of Funding Available	6
2.4. Eligible Expenses	6
2.5. Costs Not Eligible for Support	7
2.6. Round Dates.....	7
2.7. Application Process	8
2.8. Other Funding Sources.....	8
2.9. Assessment Criteria.....	8
2.10. Governance Arrangements and Intellectual Property Rights.....	8
2.11. Eligibility Checks and Assessment of Applications	9
2.12. Successful JRC Applicants – Funding Agreement	9
2.13. Reporting	10
2.14. Payments.....	10
2.15. Changes in circumstances.....	10
3. THEMATIC SCIENCE WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA (INCLUDING AUSTRALIA-CHINA SCIENCE ACADEMIES SYMPOSIA SERIES)	11
3.1. Overview	11
4. YOUNG SCIENTISTS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME.....	12
4.1. Overview	12
4.2. Eligibility	12
4.3. Funding	12
4.4. Assessment Criteria.....	12
4.5. Reporting.....	12
5. ACSRf ADMINISTRATION	13
5.1. Evaluation of the ACSRf	13
5.2. Unsuccessful ACSRf Applicants	13
5.3. Questions, Feedback and Complaints.....	13
5.4. Freedom of Information (FOI).....	13
5.5. How we will use and disclose the information you give us	14
5.6. Ethics and Research Practices.....	15
6. GLOSSARY	16

PURPOSE OF THESE GUIDELINES

These guidelines are provided in respect of the components of the Australia-China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF).

The guidelines apply only to activities supported by the Australian Government. Chinese applicants should consult relevant Chinese organisations for guidance on processes and procedures governing activities supported by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

These guidelines should also be read in conjunction with the relevant instructions for funding through respective components of the ACSRf.

1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Background and Objectives

The Australian Government, in partnership with the Government of the People's Republic of China, has established the Australia-China Science and Research Fund (ACSRF), hereafter referred to as "ACSRF".

The ACSRf is jointly managed by the Australian Government Department of Industry and Science, (hereafter referred to as "the Department"), and the Chinese Government Ministry of Science and Technology (hereafter referred to as "MOST").

The objective of the ACSRf is to support strategic science, technology and innovation collaboration of mutual benefit to Australia and China.

The emphasis of the ACSRf is on building enduring science, technology and innovation relationships between Australia and China, while drawing on the strengths of Australia and China to the mutual benefit of both. ACSRf will also facilitate activities that encourage the application and commercialisation of research outcomes to the mutual benefit of both countries and provide early career researchers the opportunity to gain relevant Australia-China research experience.

ACSRf consists of three components:

- Australia-China Joint Research Centres (JRCs);
- Thematic science workshops, seminars and symposia, including the Australia-China Science Academies Symposia Series; and
- Australia-China Young Scientists Exchange Programme (YSEP).

1.2. Research Priority Areas

Priority areas which are of mutual benefit to both countries, for support under the various components of the ACSRf will be determined jointly between the Australian and Chinese Governments. These priorities will be publicly available on the Department's website: <http://www.science.gov.au/ACSRF>.

2. JOINT RESEARCH CENTRES

2.1. Overview

For the purpose of the ACSRf, Joint Research Centres (JRCs) are virtual centres which link Australian and Chinese research institutions conducting a portfolio of research-related activities in a specified field of research. JRCs facilitate a concentration of effort and outcomes beyond that which can be expected with individual research projects. JRCs may be used as a catalyst to bring together leading institutions in Australia in a particular research field with Chinese partners to achieve economic, environmental and social benefits for Australia and China, and to maximise the application and commercialisation of research outcomes.

The following activities can be included in JRC applications, where they also meet the eligibility criteria (see section 2.2):

- Joint research projects with Chinese partner/s
- Conferences, workshops, symposia related to the joint research
- Exchanges and secondments of personnel between Australia and China from the JRC's partners for purposes related to the joint research
- New research-related information sharing and communication initiatives related to the joint research
- Application and commercialisation of research outcomes

The size of each JRC, in terms of the number of organisations involved, may vary. A JRC must include at least one Australian Eligible Research Organisation (ERO), one Chinese partner, and one Australian industry partner or end user. More than one of each type of organisation may be included in a single JRC, provided the minimum requirements are met.

The application for funding for a JRC is to be submitted by the participating ERO. Where a JRC includes more than one ERO, only one ERO may apply on behalf of that JRC. An ERO may only **submit** one JRC application per round. If successful, the ERO that submitted the application will be the Recipient and manage the Australian component of the JRC. An ERO that has applied for funding for a JRC may be a partner in other JRC applications.

Other Australian entities, including Australian businesses, can be partners in a JRC application.

EROs that have received funding for collaboration with China under the previous ACSRf or the International Science Linkages (ISL) programme are eligible to apply, but must demonstrate how the new JRC activities differ from the activities which have previously been supported.

2.2. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible to apply for funding through the ACSRf, the Australian applicant must:

- Submit an application in accordance with the JRC Application Instructions.
- Be an Eligible Research Organisation (ERO), who has not previously submitted an application in the current round; and
- Be an organisation that is registered for GST, and, if a university, is registered as exempt from income tax; and
- Not be a non-corporate Commonwealth entity (as defined under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*); and
- Have at least one Chinese partner who has submitted a corresponding application to MOST; and
- Have at least one Australian end user or industry partner; and
- Seek support for international collaborative research activities in a priority area specified by the Department and MOST; and
- Include a Valid Reference Number (VRN) obtained from the Department (see Application Instructions); and
- Provide all of the information required in the application; and
- Accept the intellectual property rights principles outlined in section 2.10; and
- Not be seeking funds for activities previously funded or currently being funded by the Australian Government; and
- Complete and submit an online application, available at <http://www.science.gov.au/ACSRF>. All assessment criteria must be addressed in full.

Applicants must satisfy all of the above eligibility criteria to be considered for funding.

2.3. Level and Duration of Funding Available

Under the ACSRf the Australian Government will contribute towards the direct costs of joint projects.

The maximum funding available to Australian JRC applicants is **AUD1,000,000 (exclusive of GST)**, in total for up to three years.

2.4. Eligible Expenses

ACSRf funds must only be spent for the purposes of undertaking the activities of the JRC as specified in the Funding Agreement.

Eligible expenses for JRCs include:

- International travel and associated costs to mainland China and living allowance for periods of time in China by Australian personnel directly involved in JRC activities, including postgraduate students (consistent with the requirements of the Australian Postgraduate Award), for the purposes of the activities. Travel and living allowance expenses must not exceed 20% of the funds awarded. Eligible costs are:
 - Travel costs for international economy class return airfares to China and domestic economy class transportation within China;
 - Living allowance during periods of time in China; and
 - Visa and insurance costs associated with travel to China.
- Salaries for researchers and support staff, fellowships and student stipends, and direct salary and on-costs for Australian personnel directly employed for the JRC's activities;
- The direct support costs of activities undertaken by the JRC; and
- Other costs agreed in writing by the Department.

2.5. Costs Not Eligible for Support

Ineligible expenses for JRCs include:

- Any activities, equipment or supplies that are already being supported through other sources.
- Any cost incurred prior to signing of a Funding Agreement with the Department.
- The indirect costs of research, not listed in eligible expenses.
- Costs associated with activities undertaken by the Chinese partners, for example, travel to Australia, living costs in Australia, research undertaken solely by Chinese researchers etc.
- Institutional overheads and administrative charges.
- Costs that duplicate the in-kind support from the applicant or other participants in the project.
- Costs associated with the internal preparation of finance and audit statements.
- Capital expenditure for the purchase of assets such as office furniture and equipment, motor vehicles, computers, printers or photocopiers and the construction, renovation or extension of facilities such as buildings and laboratories.
- Costs involved in the purchase or upgrade / hire of software (including user licences) and ICT hardware (unless it can only be used for the project).
- Costs associated with research activities with researchers in Hong Kong, Macau or Taiwan.
- Costs associated with market research for products or research carried out by surveys to assess the size of the market and the price of a particular service or product.
- Costs associated with marketing projects, i.e. activities aimed at creating demand for goods and services of consumers, businesses and government.
- Costs such as rental, renovations and utilities.
- Salaries for non-Australian personnel, including consultants.
- Fees for international students, or the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) and Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP) liabilities for students.
- Insurance costs (the ERO must effect and maintain adequate insurance or similar coverage for any liability arising as a result of its participation in ACSRF funded activities).
- Staff recruitment and relocation costs.
- Australian researcher domestic travel and living allowance.
- Debt financing.
- Costs of Australia's membership of international science and technology projects.
- Subscription costs for access by Australian personnel to major international research facilities.

This list is not exhaustive. Other costs may be ineligible where the Department decides that they do not directly support the achievement of the planned outcomes for the JRC's research activities or that they are contrary to the objective of the ACSRF. The ERO must ensure it has adequate funds to meet the costs of any ineligible expenditure associated with the JRC's research programmes.

The ERO may choose to support ineligible expenses through the use of in-kind contributions to the JRC.

2.6. Round Dates

Each round of JRCs will be held as agreed by the Department and MOST. The opening and closing dates of the funding round will be advertised on the ACSRF website. Applications for JRCs will not be accepted outside the call for a funding round.

2.7. Application Process

All applications must be submitted to the Department in accordance with these guidelines and any other information provided by the Department. The Chinese partner must submit an application to MOST in accordance with any guidelines or instructions issued by MOST. Applications may include other international partners. The Australian applicant should inform the Chinese applicant of their JRC VRN.

The research office (or other single authorised central office) of each ERO preparing an application for JRC funding must contact the Department via acsrf@science.gov.au to be allocated a VRN for its application. Applications without a VRN will not be accepted.

For further information, please see the supporting document 'Joint Research Centre Application Instructions'.

2.8. Other Funding Sources

Applicants must confirm that they do not receive any other funding for the activities proposed to be undertaken in the application.

It is not permissible to duplicate support available from other sources, including other Australian Government funding mechanisms with ACSRf grants. Where applicants already receive Australian Government funding for their core activities, they will only be eligible if they can demonstrate that the activity for which funding is sought is additional to their core activities.

2.9. Assessment Criteria

Providing the eligibility criteria have been met, applicants will be assessed against the following assessment criteria, all of which must be addressed in the application:

- A. The scientific merit of the proposed research, including the potential of the anticipated outcome to advance the knowledge base of the discipline, and its likely scientific impact;
- B. The ability of the centre to maximise the application and commercialisation of research outcomes;
- C. The contribution of the centre to building enduring Australia-China collaboration in a priority area of research;
- D. The capacity of the partners to manage the centre and deliver the activities.

2.10. Governance Arrangements and Intellectual Property Rights

Applicants must provide details of intellectual property (IP) issues in their applications. This includes both the use of IP in the project and the proposed ownership rights to IP generated by the project as well as strategies for protecting Australia's interests. Where IP is likely to be generated by the project, successful applicants will be required to conclude protocols or contracts with their Chinese and other collaborating partners on the management of IP issues. These agreements should be in accordance with laws and regulations prevailing in Australia and China and adhere to the following principles:

- adequate and effective protection and equitable distribution of any benefits from IP or resulting directly from cooperative activities (foreground IP rights);
- ownership of foreground IP rights to be allocated on the basis of respective contribution and equitable interests;
- terms and conditions for the commercialisation and other forms of dissemination of the foreground IP rights; and
- adequate and effective protection of IP rights provided by the organisations, enterprises and institutions prior to or in the course of such cooperative activities, for example, the licensing or utilisation of such IP rights on equitable terms (background IP rights).

2.11. Eligibility Checks and Assessment of Applications

All Australian applications received by the Department by the advertised closing date will be checked to confirm the eligibility criteria have been met.

Eligible Australian applications will undergo a competitive selection process. Applications will be peer reviewed against the assessment criteria by an independent Australian advisory panel. Panel members are required to adhere to the *Roles and Responsibilities* document that defines and details processes for the identification, disclosure and management of conflicts of interest. Any conflicts of interest will be managed by a departmental probity officer in accordance with departmental policy.

Should an applicant identify a potential conflict of interest (e.g. they become aware that a panel member is a current or former supervisor, colleague or collaborator, or a relative, friend or personal acquaintance), they should notify the Department via email at acsr@science.gov.au as soon as they become aware of such a situation, and quote the VRN and project title. A potential conflict of interest will not adversely affect the application; however, the Department will seek to ensure it is assessed independently, by other members of the panel in order to avoid any potential probity concerns being raised subsequently.

Chinese applications will be assessed by MOST in accordance with its processes.

Typically, JRCs will be jointly funded by the Australian and Chinese Governments. However the provision of unilateral funding by either the Australian or Chinese Government under the ACSRF may be considered, subject to availability of funds and agreement by both governments during the selection process.

Drawing on recommendations from the relevant advisory panels, the Australian and Chinese governments, represented by the respective officials with responsibility for administering the programme, will decide on the projects to be supported under the round. Their decision will be final.

The contact officer listed in each application will be notified by email of the outcome of the assessment process and the list of successful applicants will be published on the Department's website.

2.12. Successful JRC Applicants – Funding Agreement

The Department will contact all successful Australian applicants advising them of the level of funding the Australian Government will offer to support the proposed activities. To accept this offer, successful applicants will be required to enter into a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth.

The Funding Agreement is the contract between the Department and the successful applicant ("the Recipient"). The Funding Agreement outlines the responsibilities and obligations of all parties and includes the terms and conditions relating to the JRC activities funded using the grant. Applicants should be aware that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

The project plan and budget submitted in the application will form the basis of the Funding Agreement, which will also include schedules that set out the details of payments, performance indicators, reporting requirements and other terms and conditions associated with the funding.

Successful applicants will have 20 business days from the date of notification and provision to sign the Funding Agreement and return it to the Department. Should an applicant be unable to sign the Funding Agreement within that period the offer of funding may be withdrawn.

Successful applicants should note that they must not start work on the project until the Funding Agreement is in place.

The Department will not provide successful applicants with any funding until the Funding Agreement has been executed by both parties and will bear no responsibility for costs incurred by the applicant prior to the Funding Agreement being signed.

The ERO is responsible for ensuring that it has entered into an agreement with its partners about the operation of the JRC.

2.13. Reporting

The Funding Agreement stipulates reporting obligations and relevant due dates. Reports must be submitted using the templates provided by the Department at the ACSRF website. If the Recipient is unable to submit a report by the due date specified in the Funding Agreement, they must notify the Department prior to the due date. This notification must include the reason for the delay, which will be considered by the Department and may result in action being taken in accordance with the Funding Agreement.

2.14. Payments

The Funding Agreement will outline the schedule of payments and reporting requirements.

The Department reserves the right to reduce, recall or terminate funding where an expenditure report or audit report demonstrates that funds have not been used in accordance with the Funding Agreement and these guidelines.

2.15. Changes in circumstances

The Recipient must notify the Department immediately upon becoming aware of any circumstances that are likely to adversely affect the Recipient's ability to comply with the terms of the Funding Agreement.

The Department, at its sole discretion, will determine whether the changed circumstances and proposed changes require a formal written variation to the Funding Agreement. Variations in retrospect will not be considered.

3. THEMATIC SCIENCE WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND SYMPOSIA (INCLUDING AUSTRALIA-CHINA SCIENCE ACADEMIES SYMPOSIA SERIES)

3.1. Overview

The ACSRf has provision to financially support Australia-China science and technology workshops, seminars and symposia, including the long standing Australia-China Science Academies Symposia Series. These forums seek to strengthen cooperative research links between Australia and China in areas of mutual interest by:

- creating, promoting and strengthening relationships between Australian and Chinese researchers and research institutions;
- promoting scientific and technological cooperation between Australia and China; and
- identifying further areas and projects of cooperation with significant potential for mutually beneficial outcomes.

In relation to forums supported by the ACSRf, the Australian and Chinese governments, represented by the respective officials with responsibility for administering the programme will be involved in:

- agreement of the themes, scope, timing and venue of supported workshops, seminars and symposia;
- overseeing the national participation process for involvement in each workshop, seminar or symposium; and
- decide on the nature, level and duration of financial support to be granted in support of the workshop, seminar or symposium.

The Australia-China Science Academies Symposia Series between the Australian Academy of Science, the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and the Chinese Academy of Sciences (hosted alternately in Australia and China) is expected to be held each year with the support, in part, of the ACSRf.

Further information about the Australia-China Science Academies Symposia Series can be obtained by contacting the Australian Academy of Science.

4. YOUNG SCIENTISTS EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

4.1. Overview

The Young Scientist Exchange Programme (YSEP) facilitates future long term science, technology and innovation collaboration between Australia and China, by bringing together future science leaders from both countries to foster long term relationships.

The annual exchange of Australian and Chinese early to mid-career researchers aims to support the development of expertise in international collaboration.

The purpose of the exchange is to:

- increase the researchers' understanding of the cultures, particularly the science and research practices and systems, of the two countries;
- develop the researchers' leadership skills as future "science ambassadors" for Australia and China; and
- provide a catalyst for future Australia-China research collaboration.

Further information about the YSEP is available at the ACSRF website.

4.2. Eligibility

To be eligible to undertake an exchange under YSEP an applicant must:

- be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident;
- be an early to mid-career researcher;
- have shown the potential to become a leader in the research community (demonstrated outstanding skills and potential for senior positions in science and technology);
- not have previously participated in the Young Scientist Exchange Programme (previously known as the Young Researchers Exchange Program);
- not have consolidated links with China; and
- not have lived, studied or worked in China for longer than a total of 3 months.

4.3. Funding

Funding will be available for return economy airfares from Australia to China; visa application fees and travel insurance. MOST's representative will arrange and provide accommodation and domestic travel within China, and allowances for meals and incidentals.

4.4. Assessment Criteria

Applications will be assessed against the following selection criteria:

- A. The experience and track record of the participating researchers.
- B. The quality of their past and current research projects.
- C. The potential of their research projects to involve collaboration with China and to result in ongoing collaborative relationships.
- D. The potential of the researcher to become a leader in the research community.
- E. The added value (to the discipline, institution, company and wider society) from the cooperation.

The officials with responsibility for administering the YSEP will decide on the applicants to be supported under the round. Their decision will be final.

4.5. Reporting

Successful participants will be required to present on their experience in China, and provide a written report.

5. ACSRf ADMINISTRATION

All proposed activities to be undertaken by applicants funded through any component of the ACSRf must comply with all Federal and State laws, codes and regulations relevant to the conduct of science and research and associated activities.

5.1. Evaluation of the ACSRf

Individuals and organisations receiving support under the ACSRf are required to participate in an evaluation of the ACSRf if requested to do so by the Department. This evaluation will seek to identify the degree to which the ACSRf is meeting its objectives.

The evaluation of the programme will be guided by the Department of Finance expenditure review principles.

5.2. Unsuccessful ACSRf Applicants

Limited written feedback on individual applications will be provided to unsuccessful applicants. No further correspondence will be entered into.

5.3. Questions, Feedback and Complaints

Feedback on the ACSRf is welcome and can be submitted by email to acsr@science.gov.au

If you have a question or complaint concerning the ACSRf, assessment and/or decision, please contact the ACSRf team in the first instance via the email address above, or call the information line on (02) 6276 1093 (9am–5pm AEST/AEDT, Monday–Friday).

If you are not satisfied with the response or handling of your complaint, you can contact:

General Manager
Science and Commercialisation Policy Division
Department of Industry and Science
GPO Box 9839
Canberra ACT 2601

E-mail: acsr@science.gov.au

You may lodge a complaint with the Commonwealth Ombudsman. There is no fee for making a complaint and the Ombudsman will conduct an independent investigation of your concerns. You should note that the Ombudsman usually prefers that you first work through relevant internal processes before lodging a complaint.

The Ombudsman has offices in all States and Territories. You can contact the Ombudsman by telephone on 1300 362 072 or in writing to the relevant contact address specified on the Ombudsman's website at www.ombudsman.gov.au.

Complaints about alleged breaches of privacy should be referred to the Department's Privacy Contact Officer at privacy@industry.gov.au.

Privacy complaints also can be made directly to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). Further information on making a privacy complaint to the OAIC is available on its website at <http://www.oaic.gov.au/privacy/making-a-privacy-complaint>. However, the OAIC prefers that the Department be given an opportunity to deal with the complaint in the first instance.

5.4. Freedom of Information (FOI)

All documents created or held by the Department with regard to the ACSRf are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act). Unless a document is exempt, it will be made available to the general public if requested under the FOI Act.

All FOI requests are to be referred to the FOI Coordinator of the Department (foi@industry.gov.au). Decisions regarding requests for access will be made by an authorised officer in accordance with the requirements of the FOI Act.

5.5. How we will use and disclose the information you give us

Unless the information you give us is:

- Personal Information as defined below; or
- Confidential Information as defined below;

We may disclose the information you give us to any person for any purpose, including but not limited to the purposes set out below.

Disclosure of information for certain purposes

Without limitation, the Department may publish the following information for activities supported through the ACSRF on the Department's website, or in media releases issued by the Government:

- the project title;
- name of successful grant recipients;
- the names of the Australian and Chinese partner organisations;
- the contact details provided by the recipient organisation;
- a project summary; and
- the amount of Australian Government funding awarded.

Additionally, the online JRC application form offers applicants an opportunity to provide consent to release information to a third party, specifically the Australian Trade Commission, known as Austrade. Austrade has close links with companies in Australia, China and in other countries and may be able to identify and support further opportunities. If you elect to provide this consent, the Department may share basic details of your application with Austrade (i.e. the Australian project manager's name and contact details, names of participating organisations, project title, summary and priority area). The provision of this consent is entirely voluntary and will not affect your JRC application in any way.

What is Personal Information?

The Department is bound by the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) outlined in [Schedule 1 of the Privacy Act 1988 \(Cth\)](#). The APPs regulate how the Department may collect, use, disclose and store Personal Information.

'Personal Information' under the *Privacy Act 1988* means information or an opinion (whether true or false) about a natural person who is reasonably identifiable.

How will we use your Personal Information?

Except where authorised or required by law, Personal Information obtained by the Department will only be disclosed to:

- Commonwealth employees and contractors;
- the Minister and Ministerial office;
- MOST and its partner agencies for the delivery of the ACSRF; and
- any members and external assessors appointed to assess the applications;
- for the purposes of:
 - administering the Program and any related purposes, including Program and policy evaluation and development; and
 - departmental research, analysis, and evaluation.

If you include an individual's Personal Information in an application, you must obtain consent from the individual before providing their Personal Information to the Department.

For further information as to how the Department handles personal information, please refer to the Department's [Privacy Policy](#).

When will we treat the information you give us as Confidential Information?

We will treat your information as Confidential Information if:

- you clearly identify the information as confidential; and
- the information has the necessary quality of confidence (that is, it must be significant information which is private and not already be in the public domain).

How will we use and disclose your Confidential Information?

Unless we obtain your consent, we will not disclose your Confidential Information other than to Commonwealth employees and contractors, the responsible Commonwealth Minister, MOST, any members appointed to assess the applications, and any external assessors, for the purposes of:

- administering the Program and any related purposes, including Program and policy evaluation and development; and
- Departmental research, analysis, and evaluation.
- In addition, from time to time the Department may be authorised or required by law to disclose information to other persons, including but not limited to:
 - a Commonwealth Minister or Ministerial office;
 - a House or a Committee of the Parliament of Australia;
 - the Auditor-General under the *Auditor-General Act 1997*;
 - the Commonwealth Ombudsman under the *Ombudsman Act 1976*; and/or
 - the Privacy Commissioner under the *Privacy Act 1988*.

5.6. Ethics and Research Practices

The National Health and Medical Research Council's (NHMRC) web site (www.nhmrc.gov.au) provides a series of publications which outline the principles of ethical conduct in research. All proposals and funded research projects must conform to the principles and requirements of these publications (and their successor documents), included but not limited to the:

- NHMRC/ARC/UA Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (2007);
- as applicable, the NHMRC/ARC/AVCC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007, updated March 2014); and
- as applicable, the NHMRC/ARC/UA/CSIRO Australian Code for the Care and Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (2013).

If there is any conflict or inconsistency between a successor document and its predecessor, then the successor document prevails.

6. GLOSSARY

Term	Description
ACSRF	Australia-China Science and Research Fund as established by the Australian Government and the Government of the People's Republic of China
Application Instructions	The accompanying instructions that detail how to complete the JRC application form
Australian Personnel	Australian citizens or Australian permanent residents
Department ('the Department')	Department of Industry and Science
Early to mid-career researcher	A researcher who has had between 3 and 10 years of research experience since the award of his/her PhD, with the PhD having been awarded between 3 and 15 years at the closing date for submission of applications
Eligible Research Organisation (ERO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian tertiary education institution (as per the <i>Higher Education Support Act 2003</i>) • Australian Cooperative Research Centre • Publicly Funded Research Agency (PFRA) • Australian State/Territory-funded research organisation • Australian public research company • Australian private research company • Australian not-for-profit research organisation • Other Australian incorporated entity <p>Must not be a non-corporate Commonwealth entity (as defined under the <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>)</p>
Funding Agreement	The Agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia and the ERO
GST	Goods and Services Tax
JRC	Joint Research Centre
MOST	Ministry of Science and Technology, People's Republic of China
Postgraduate students	Honours, Masters and PhD students enrolled at an Australian higher education institution
Publicly Funded Research Agency (PFRA)	<p>An Australian organisation to which the following criteria apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is at least 50% owned or controlled by the Commonwealth, or an Australian state or territory government; • It is primarily carrying out research and development activities; and • It is providing services, or making facilities available in relation to science or technological research; or collecting, interpreting or publishing information relating to science or technology
Recipient	The ERO which has submitted an approved application and entered into a funding agreement with the Department
Valid Reference Number (VRN)	The number allocated by the Department to the ERO for a JRC application