

BRIDGE School Partnerships 2020 - Application for Australian Schools

BACKGROUND INFORMATION, TERMS AND CONDITIONS

APPLICATIONS CLOSE Sunday 17 November 2019

Asia Education Foundation (AEF) is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the following **2020 BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs**:

- **India**
- **Indonesia**
- **The Pacific Islands** – for partnerships with Fiji, Kirabati, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Through funding provided by the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), these programs will establish 31 new school partnerships between Australian schools and schools across the region. This will include 31 Australian schools, 7 schools from India, 16 schools from Indonesia and 8 schools from across The Pacific Islands with half being primary and half being at secondary level.

BRIDGE (*Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement*) is a school partnership program that:

- builds teachers' capability to develop deeper learning experiences for students
- supports teachers to explore new pedagogies and use technologies to open their classrooms to the world
- supports students to collaborate on projects, build their global competence and develop life-long friendships with their counterparts in the region
- supports people-to-people links between Australia and the region
- establishes sustainable school partnerships and an international community of learners.

Over the past ten years, the AEF has established 475 BRIDGE school partnerships across Australia and Asia (Brunei, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, The Solomon Islands, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam) and built the capability of 950 schools and over 1120 teachers.

AEF is Australia's premier organisation supporting schools to educate a new generation of globally competent and Asia capable young Australians. AEF is focused on ensuring that all Australian students develop a deep understanding of Australia and our place in the world, intercultural understanding and language skills to communicate and collaborate with the peoples of Asia and the world. AEF is a national not-for-profit initiative of Asialink at The University of Melbourne.

PLEASE READ THIS THOROUGHLY BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION.

Please note that schools in India and The Pacific Islands will be selected by the relevant Ministry or Department of Education and cannot apply using this form. Schools in Indonesia will be undergoing a separate application process.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to take part in the BRIDGE School Partnerships Program, an Australian school must:

- agree to the conditions of participation and be interested in partnering with a school in India, Indonesia or The Pacific Islands. Nominate one or two teacher/s to participate in the teacher training program in Australia and overseas and lead the school partnership.
- support the nominated teacher to attend the program in Australia (four-days; two of which are over a weekend) and visit their partner school over 2020 school breaks (ten days, for India and Pacific Islands programs only)
- be able to host their partner teacher at their school and organise a homestay within the school community during their time in Australia (eight days for India and Pacific Islands programs, two weeks for Indonesia program).
- commit to work collaboratively with their partner school for at least one year following the Australian teacher's visit to their partner school.
- have written support from the school principal.
- have suitable hardware, software, Internet access and IT support.
- have an interest in furthering the use of ICT in the school curriculum.

To be eligible, an Australian teacher must:

- have a bachelor's degree or equivalent teaching qualification and registration.
- be motivated to lead a BRIDGE school partnership with a school in the region and engage with their partner teacher's classes and school.
- be able to travel for the four days of professional learning in Australia (with a potential additional travel day for remote schools).
- be able to host their partner in their home (or find a suitable host) and school for eight days for India and Pacific Islands programs, two weeks for Indonesia program.
- be able to travel to their partner country and live and work with their partner teacher and school for ten-days, for India and Pacific Islands programs, one-week for Indonesia program.
- commit to working with their partner teacher for at least one year following the Australian teacher's visit to their partner country through online collaborative projects.
- cover costs associated with obtaining a passport, visa and travel insurance
- have sound computer skills.
- have an interest in furthering the use of ICT in their classroom practice.
- be committed to teaching in their school for the next two years.

Program-specific requirements:

Australia-India BRIDGE Program:

- One nominated teacher required.
- Schools must cover two-days teacher release for the nominated teacher to attend the professional learning program in Australia.
- Schools must contribute \$1800 towards the costs of the program.

Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE program:

- Two nominated teachers required.

Australia-Pacific BRIDGE Program:

- One nominated teacher required.
- Schools must cover two-days teacher release for the nominated teacher to attend the professional learning program in Australia.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Throughout the delivery of the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs, participating teachers will be asked to provide feedback through a range of surveys as well as share examples of collaborative activities undertaken with their partner school on the AEF professional learning network.

FUNDING SUPPORT

Australian teachers will be supported to participate in the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs. This includes:

- Four days of teacher training in Australia, including transport, accommodation and most meals.
- Four days of teacher training in Indonesia (Indonesia program only), including transport, accommodation and most meals.
- Ongoing support in relation to professional learning, student engagement and partnership sustainability.

Program-specific funding:

- **India:** Return international airfare to India for the 10-day reciprocal visit, as well as accommodation and most meals for the three-day teacher training in India. Domestic travel and accommodation for four-day Professional Learning Program in Australia.
- **Indonesia:** International airfare and accommodation in Indonesia for Professional Learning Program and one-week homestay/school visit.
- **Pacific Islands:** Return international airfare to their Pacific Islands partner country for the 10-day reciprocal visit. Domestic travel and accommodation for four-day Professional Learning Program in Australia.

ASSESSMENT

A selection panel managed by AEF will select 40 Australian schools to take part in the 2020 BRIDGE Programs. Applications will be ranked according to the quality of schools' responses to the selection criteria. Only applications that satisfy the eligibility criteria will be considered.

The selection criteria are:

Demonstrated capacity to support the establishment of a school partnership.

- a) Why does your school want to establish a BRIDGE school partnership? Consider curriculum priorities and broader interests in engaging across Asia and Australia, specifically your country of preference.
- b) Outline how a BRIDGE school partnership will engage your broader school community.

Motivation of nominated teacher to lead the BRIDGE school partnership at your school.

- a) Outline what drivers influence the teacher's decision to take on this role in the school.
- b) Outline how this opportunity will build the teacher's capacity and how they will share his/her learning across the wider school community.

Capacity to support a visiting teacher for a homestay and school visit program.

- a) Outline how the school aims to host its BRIDGE partner, including homestay host/s and support within the school. Consider how you will address cultural differences such as religion, customs and values.

Special Selection Criteria: Disability & Inclusive education

Schools with a substantive focus on providing support for students with a disability and offering inclusive education programs are also invited to respond to the following:

- a) Outline your school's expertise in working with students with a disability, how a school partnership could support this and what your school can offer to its partner in terms of an exchange on inclusive education practices.
- b) Outline the nominated teacher's specific expertise, experience and/or qualifications in inclusive education for students with a disability.

Possible areas of collaboration

Schools are also asked to identify possible areas of collaboration for their school partnership to assist AEF with matching teachers and schools. Some examples area provided below:

- Co-designing programs and activities that support vocational learning.
- Exploring issues of local and regional environmental importance.
- Collaborating in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).
- Strengthening intercultural understanding through the exploration of religious and cultural diversity and values education. Understanding the role of culture and its impact on social justice.

KEY DATES

The following timeline is indicative only and is subject to change.

- Applications close for Australian schools/teachers - **Sunday 17 November 2019**
- Successful applicants announced – **Early December 2019**
- Matching of Australian and overseas schools - **January-February 2020**
- Pre-program webinar briefings for participants - **March 2020**
- Pre-visit communication with partners - **March-April 2020**
- Professional Learning Program in Australia, followed by partner teacher's school visit and homestay with their Australian partner - **May-June 2020**
- Professional Learning Program in Jakarta (Indonesia Program only), followed by partner teacher's school visit and homestay with their Australian partner – **July – August 2020**
- Reciprocal Visits (India and Pacific Islands Programs only)
 - India: September-October 2020
 - Pacific Islands: September-October 2020 or January 2021

PRIVACY STATEMENT

All material received from schools by AEF is accepted on the understanding that such material may only be used:

- in assessing applications for the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs
- in administering the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs
- for the purposes of informing the program funders and the public about the outcomes of the BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs.

All information collected or created will be treated in accordance with the Privacy Act 1988, which prevents personal information from being disclosed without appropriate consent, unless disclosure is required or authorised by law.

Asia Education Foundation may publish the names and school of participants of the 2020 BRIDGE School Partnerships Programs for promotion and publicity of the programs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This program is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Australian Government or the University of Melbourne

BRIDGE Program 2020 – Summary

	India	Indonesia	The Pacific Islands (Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)
# Partnerships	7 partnerships	16 partnerships (10 existing [partnerships, 6 new partnerships)	8 partnerships
	31 partnerships in total		
# Schools	7 Australian and 7 Indian schools	16 Australian and 16 Indonesian	8 Australian and one school from Fiji, Nauru, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, two schools from Kirabati and Tuvalu
	62 schools in total, half primary and half secondary schools		
# Teachers	One teacher per school	Two teachers per school (one teacher per school for existing partnership)	One teacher per school
	74 teachers in total		

BRIDGE Program 2020 – Funding Support

India	Indonesia	The Pacific Islands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three days of teacher training in Australia, including transport, accommodation and most meals. • Return international airfare to India for the 10-day reciprocal visit (three-day PL and seven-day school visit and homestay immersion) • Three days of teacher training in India, including accommodation and most meals • Ongoing support in relation to professional learning and student engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-departure training and post-program debrief for Indonesian teachers. • Four days of teacher training in Jakarta, including transport, accommodation and most meals. • Ongoing support in relation to professional learning and student engagement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four days of teacher training in Australia, including transport, accommodation and most meals. • Return international airfare to the Pacific Islands partner country for the 10-day reciprocal visit (school visit and homestay immersion) • Ongoing support in relation to professional learning and student engagement.

BRIDGE Programs 2020 – School & teacher contribution

India	Indonesia	The Pacific Islands
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One day of teacher release for the nominated teacher to participate in the PL in Australia • AUD\$1800 contribution fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two days of teacher release for the nominated teacher to participate in the PL in Australia
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Passport • Visas (If necessary) • Travel Insurance for reciprocal visit and homestay 		