



ADDENDUM 2

to the Grant Opportunity Notice GO7825 – New Colombo Plan (NCP) 2026 Mobility Program released on 12 August 2025.

DFAT provides the following information to assist prospective grant applicants.

Questions and Answers:

Ref	Question	Answer
1	Can you confirm NCP can only support around 300 mobility projects this year for 40+ universities?	DFAT does not have an assumed number of Mobility projects it will fund in the 2026 round. DFAT anticipates offering 300 to 350 NCP scholarships for the round. There is an indicative allocation of \$8.2 million for NCP Mobility program in the 2026 round as published in the Guidelines. The final budget allocation will depend on the demand for Scholarship and Semester programs.
2	If my application relates to studies in a non-priority sector such as health, but it is for a priority host location – will it likely get approved?	Please refer to the relevant program Guidelines for selection criteria. It is important to note that health-related programs are considered as part of the <i>Law, Asian Studies, Culture, and Human Development</i> priority sector, which is set out in the Advice to Applicants across all 3 programs. DFAT encourages applicants to read the regional strategic documents and other information relevant to host locations, including (but not limited to) <i>Invested: Australia's Southeast Asia Economic Strategy to 2024</i> and <i>A New Roadmap for Australia's Economic Engagement with India</i>, available on DFAT's website.
3	What does the language target mean in the NCP Guidelines? Does it refer to the number of students who have to undertake language studies?	The language target (set at 15 percent for 2026) is applied at the <u>project level</u> for NCP Semester and NCP Mobility projects, and to the number of scholars under the NCP Scholarship Program. The language target does not relate to the <u>amount</u> of language studied at the student level under Semester and Mobility projects. As an example, if there are 100 NCP Mobility projects funded as part of the 2026 round, it is hoped that 15 would meet the language target. The target is not a quota but is designed to send a signal to the education sector and to students



		of the importance placed by Government on Asian language learning.
4	If a location is listed as a priority host location but does not have a corresponding priority Asian language, can I still apply without including a language study component?	NCP programs do not have a compulsory language learning element, although it is strongly encouraged. Applicants should note that, consistent with the advice to applicants, all NCP Scholarship and NCP Semester applications will need to satisfactorily answer the language criterion of the selection criteria. This includes addressing how such a program will lead to exposure of a language other than English.
5	Can students apply for locations outside the priority host locations?	Yes. DFAT welcomes high-quality applications for all eligible host locations in the Indo-Pacific.
6	Is Macau an eligible host location?	Programs proposed for Macau should have China listed as their host location.
7	Noting projects for Vietnamese language pathways will receive priority, do applicants need to include formal language studies to be considered having met this requirement?	Yes.
8	Can there be blended learning under the Mobility Program, for example 3 weeks in the host location and one week online learning in Australia?	No.
9	How do I meet the language target for the Mobility Program?	The language target is an overall target for the Mobility Program and it is not mandatory for an application to meet the language target. Examples of a program that may meet the language target include programs that include at least 50 per cent of the experience being the formal study of an official or commonly spoken language (other than English), for instance 2 weeks business studies and 2 weeks of a language acquisition intensive.



Update on the NCP Mobility Program Guidelines:

1	DFAT wishes to clarify that 28 February 2028 is the correct program term end date (Guidelines sections 2.2, 3.2, 7.4 and glossary). DFAT has extended this to include the 2027-28 summer break period for Mobility projects to provide maximum flexibility to universities to complete projects.
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Clarification or further information:

1	The information in this Addendum reflects discussion at the 2025 International Liaison Officer Forum on 13 August 2025 – including a presentation and Question and Answer session on Phase 2 of the NCP and the 2026 Grant Opportunity Guidelines. This addendum also incorporates responses to questions received to 18 August 2025 by the NCP Secretariat mailbox seeking clarity on program Guidelines.
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Attachments to this Addendum

1. Presentation slides on 'New Colombo Plan Phase 2' delivered by DFAT's NCP Secretariat on 13 August 2025, during the 2025 International Liaison Officer Forum.

All other information as set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines dated 12 August 2025 remains unchanged.

---End of Addendum No. 2---