



ADDENDUM 1

to the Grant Opportunity Notice GO8468 – New Colombo Plan Mobility Program 2027 Round released on 9 June 2026.

DFAT provides the following information to assist prospective grant applicants. This includes answers to questions received by the New Colombo Plan (NCP) Secretariat between 9 June and 5 pm AEST 18 June 2026, including during the Industry Briefing on the NCP 2027 Round on 15 June.

Questions and Answers:

Ref	Question	Answer
1	Is the option to include up to 2 weeks of training in Australia available for all 2027 NCP Mobility Program projects? How should applicants design this component?	No. The option to include up to 2 weeks of relevant training in Australia applies only to projects under the First Nations priority, not to other NCP Mobility Program projects.
2	For the First Nations stream, do projects need to focus on First Nations themes, have First Nations participants, or both?	<p>Please read the 2027 New Colombo Plan Mobility Program Guidelines for detailed information, and the Frequently Asked Questions – New Colombo Plan Mobility Program (2027 Round), where we highlight examples of First Nations focused projects.</p> <p>The policy intent of this component is to support greater First Nations participation under the NCP Mobility Program. Projects should include First Nations student participants, but not all participants have to be First Nations.</p>
3	What happens when after an applicant is awarded Mobility grants for a First Nations project, but has been unable to recruit any First Nations students as project participants? Can the project still go ahead?	<p>Recipients should contact DFAT as soon as possible if they are unable to recruit First Nations students for a project awarded under the strengthening First Nations engagement priority.</p> <p>In line with section 6.1 of the 2027 NCP Mobility Program Guidelines, participation by First Nations students is central to demonstrating that the project is aligned with the intent of the priority.</p> <p>DFAT will need to consider whether the project can still meet the basis on which it was assessed and funded, or whether a variation or other administrative action is required.</p> <p>Part b) of criterion 2 requires applicants to explain how recruitment of students will be supported. Therefore, those seeking funding under the First Nations priority should develop a robust</p>



		recruitment plan, including specific measures to support the recruitment of First Nations students.
4	For universities which do not offer any language-learning courses, can they still apply for Mobility grants?	Please refer to the published Frequently Asked Questions – New Colombo Plan Mobility Program (2027 Round) document on DFAT's website, where this question has been answered.
5	There is a requirement in NCP Semester and Mobility programs that students must sign the Code of Conduct document before departure. How should universities administer this process?	<p>Universities can either use the New Colombo Plan Semester and Mobility Programs Code of Conduct published on DFAT's website (and generated as part of the Student Travel pack) or incorporate it into their own documentation, provided the wording remains identical to the DFAT version.</p> <p>Students must sign the document prior to departure, either in hard copy or electronically. The key requirement is that universities can demonstrate that students have read and agreed to the Code of Conduct, supported by clear and auditable records of this agreement.</p>
6	In section 6.1 of the Mobility Guidelines, there are 4 sub-sections for priority areas for selection. Do we only need to select one out of 4 priority areas that align with our strategies most?	Universities can only align a project application with one priority area. It is also possible to submit an application not aligned to a priority area. In the application form on SmartyGrants, applicants are required to select either one of the 4 priorities listed in the guidelines or the option of 'no priority'.
7	For Asian language priority projects, can we design experiences that involve language studies plus some field work for students, or does on the experience have to be exclusively language learning?	<p>Projects do not have to focus entirely on language learning.</p> <p>Per section 6.2 of the 2027 NCP Mobility Program Guidelines, priority in selection processes will be given to Mobility projects which meet the language target criteria, as per the definition in the Glossary (section 14) of the Guidelines.</p>
8	In a recent ILO update, there was a reference to 'multi-year travel' – what kind of arrangement would be considered multi-year travel in the 2027 Round?	<p>Section 5.5 of the 2027 NCP Semester Program and Mobility Program Guidelines specifies that the first student travel must commence by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 31 January 2028 for Mobility projects, and• 1 May 2028 for Semester projects. <p>While travel beyond these dates is possible within the grant period of both programs (section 3.2 of both Guidelines), they are meant for contingency arrangements only. If an applicant has tranches of travel planned after such dates specified in section 5.5, they should apply for relevant funding in the NCP's 2028 Round.</p> <p>Multiple tranches of travel before such dates specified in section 5.5 are not considered multi-</p>



		year travel and therefore are permitted under the 2027 Guidelines.
9	Is there a plan for another session on SmartyGrants?	<p>There is currently no plan to do another session on SmartyGrants for the application stage. SmartyGrants has documentation and guidance on how to use the platform, including how to complete the applications.</p> <p>Universities are encouraged to raise any challenges or issues they have with SmartyGrant by contacting us at NCP.Secretariat@dfat.gov.au.</p> <p>DFAT plans to have another session about managing projects on SmartyGrants later in the year.</p>
10	Is there a limit to the number of staff accessing SmartyGrants?	<p>There is no limit. It is up to the university to manage access to SmartyGrants/SmartyFile and internal Expressions of Interest (EOI) and application approval processes.</p> <p>Universities are encouraged to ensure the permissions features in SmartyFile are carefully managed and to have at least 2 staff allocated with administrator access.</p>

Clarification or further information:

1	In section 7 titled 'How to apply', the following hyperlink was incorrectly inserted into the text: http://www8.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/legis/cth/consol_act/cca1995115/sch1.html . It provides a link to the <i>Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)</i> which is referred to later in the section.
---	--

Attachments to this Addendum

1. New Colombo Plan 2027 Round Industry Briefing – Presentation Slides
2. [New Colombo Plan 2027 Round Industry Briefing – Presentation Recording](#)

All other information as set out in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines dated 9 June 2026 remains unchanged.

---End of Addendum No. 1---