



referee report guide

Introduction

Science & innovation have been essential in combating the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. In recognition of the important role of innovation to Victoria's economic recovery & future in these challenging times, and the need for Victorians to be skilled in science, technology, engineering and mathematics the Victorian Government will continue to provide twelve Victoria Fellowships.

Each Fellow receives a travel grant of up to \$18,000 to undertake a short-term overseas study mission to assist in developing a commercial idea; undertaking specialist training; or career development not available in Australia.

Activities that may be supported by a Victoria Fellowship during the overseas study mission include:

- attending a laboratory or industrial site(s) to learn practices which will assist with the rapid advancement of the Fellow's Victorian activities;
- undertaking specialised advanced technological courses or training not available in Victoria;
- using test facilities not available in Victoria;
- delivering an oral presentation at an international meeting;
- progressing start-up initiatives or a commercial idea which would be assisted by work or development within a professional environment not available in Victoria.

In 2021, on behalf of the Victorian Government, **veski** will award:

- Six \$18,000 Fellowships for Life Sciences
- Six \$18,000 Fellowships for Physical Sciences.

Life Sciences

The Life Sciences category comprises the fields of science that involve the scientific study of living organisms and their life processes and ecosystems, covering fields such as biology, medicine or anthropology.

Physical Sciences

The Physical Sciences category encompasses the branches of science that study non-living systems, including but not limited to fields such as physics, chemistry, earth sciences, engineering, ICT, mathematics and statistics, or astronomy.

Study missions offer Victoria Fellows the opportunity to broaden their experience, develop networks and better identify where their activities fit into the local and international community.

Applications are sought from:

- early-career individuals who have an original and innovative idea which needs development;
- individuals employed in research and development in industry, research institutes or universities; and
- postgraduate students undertaking a 100% research based degree, nearing the completion of their studies.

Proposals that demonstrate a link to Victoria's knowledge base or technological strengths or show significant potential for innovative advances are encouraged.

2021 Victoria Fellow's study missions due to commence in 2022 may be affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. Due to the disruption to global travel, the period for approved travel has been extended to allow travel between 1 January 2022 and 31 March 2023.

Important notes

Thank you for agreeing to provide a Referee Report. Referee Reports form an important part of the assessment process. The Referee Report is confidential.

Following the submission of a Victoria Fellowship application, you will receive an email 'Victoria Fellowship in 2021 - Referee Report Requested' containing a link to the form. Referee Reports can only be accessed via this link and must be submitted no later than 5.00pm [AEST] **Monday, 26 July 2021.**

- Please do not pass the Referee Report to the applicant.
- Please note receipt of the Referee Report is time critical to the assessment process.
- Referees will receive an email acknowledging receipt of their Referee Report.
- Referee reports received after 5:00pm (AEST), **Monday, 26 July 2021** will NOT be considered by the selection panel.

The selection panel will, with absolute discretion, select the proposed Victoria Fellows on the basis of the key criteria. The panel's recommendations will be submitted to the Minister for Jobs, Innovation & Trade for endorsement.

The recommendations of the selection panel are final and appeals will not be considered. Feedback on unsuccessful applications will not be provided by either the panel or **veski** and the Victorian Government reserves the right not to make awards in any given year.