

AI Flagship Allocation Scheme 2023

This document outlines specific information relevant for applications to NCI's AI Flagship Allocation Scheme.

What is it?

The AI Flagship is one of the three new initiatives NCI launched at the Australasian Leadership Computing Symposium in June 2023. The AI Flagship aims to catalyse AI progress, address critical challenges, promote ethical AI development, foster collaboration, nurture talent, fuel economic growth, establish leadership, and make AI resources accessible to a broader audience. This flagship acts as a driving force behind the positive impact that AI can have on society.

The scheme invites applications specifically centred around AI projects.

What are the benefits?

Access to High-Performance AI Infrastructure: The scheme provides access to cutting-edge AI infrastructure, including GPUs, CPUs, and specialised AI hardware accelerators. This access will greatly enhance the computational power available for your research and business development.

Technical Support: The NCI team offers AI experts and technical support for the development and deployment of complex AI models and algorithms, ultimately advancing your research and business outcomes.

Collaboration Opportunities: The scheme fosters collaboration among AI researchers. We anticipate seeing interdisciplinary collaborations and knowledge exchange that can result from participation in this program.

Training and Workshops: NCI will organise dedicated training support to advance continuous learning and skill development in the rapidly evolving field of AI.

How long will each grant last?

AI Flagship Scheme allocations in this first call will be between **1 to 2 MSU** per project, valid for **7 months** starting from **1 December 2023**.

Who is eligible to apply?



All fields of research are eligible to apply as long as applications focus primarily on AI.

Eligibility Criteria

Applicants are expected to hold a substantive appointment at an Australian university or publicly-funded research organisation, or related industry, and have a strong track record in their respective areas of AI/ML.

How to apply?

AI flagship applications are a one-step process using the online form:

https://anu.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2f9WCNrVLa2yUGG

Please see Appendix A – application form template for your preparation.

Key Dates

20 Sep 2023	Call for Applications opens
25 Sep 2023	Online information session
22 Oct 2023	Application submission deadline (11pm AEDT)
Mid November 2023	Allocations announced
1 December 2023	Allocations start

Information Session

NCI will run one online information briefing, which will be recorded. The information session will take place on the 25th of September 2023 from 3-4pm AEST.

Click here to register:

<https://anu.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUufuCorDkoHtO6Bd5kgmjCox041OGZBtmA>

Appendix A: AI Flagship Application Form Template

AI Flagship Proposal Template

Notes: Guidelines indicating the information to be provided in each section of your proposal are given in blue font. Note that the recommended length for the body of an AI flagship proposal (i.e. sections 3–6) is 1000 words.

Delete all blue italicised text before saving your proposal as a PDF. When saving, give your PDF a descriptive filename that clearly identifies the Lead CI's firstname and lastname in this format: "CIFirstnameLastname_AI flagship2023.pdf".

1. Lead CI Name:

2. Project Title:

3. Project Description:

- a) a brief description of the project,*
- b) justification of the significance, originality and innovative nature of the project,*
- c) an explanation of demonstrable contributions to economy, society, environment and culture beyond the contribution to academic research*

4. Investigators:

- a) a brief description of team members' roles and expertise in the field of research specific to the project,*
- b) any relevant details of track record relative to opportunity (do not include a list of team members' publication outputs in this section; that information will be available to assessors through the ORCID profiles of the Lead CI and any CIs)*

5. Technical Plan:

- a) details of the software code(s) to be used,*
- b) an execution and workflow plan, and*
- c) a well-justified resource budget outlining the types and costs of resources requested*

6. Data Plan:

- a) a plan for managing project data during the project,*
- b) indicative plans for data management at completion of the allocation period. The data plan can include descriptions of data repatriation, archiving, or deletion on project completion.*

7. If any member of the project team currently holds an active NCMAS allocation, describe how this AI flagship project is distinct from the NCMAS project.