

# WESTPAC AUSTRALIA-ASIA FELLOWSHIP

Information Session



# MEET YOUR HOSTS



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Westpac Scholars Trust



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**WESTPAC SCHOLARS TRUST  
WAS LAUNCHED IN 2014 WITH A  
\$100 MILLION GIFT FROM  
WESTPAC GROUP TO FUND  
100 SCHOLARSHIPS EVERY  
YEAR, FOREVER.**

# WESTPAC SCHOLARS ARE CREATING A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL AUSTRALIANS



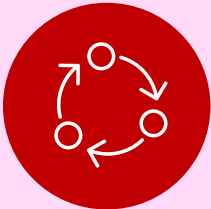
Westpac  
Scholars



Awarded in  
2025



Invested  
since 2015



## Our approach

Scholarships that  
shape futures

Leaders that create  
a better tomorrow

Collaboration that  
drives change



## Our Scholarships

Westpac  
Social Change  
Fellowship

Westpac  
Research  
Fellowship

Westpac  
Future  
Leaders  
Scholarship

Westpac  
Young  
Technologist  
Scholarship

Westpac  
Australia-Asia  
Fellowship



## Our focus areas

Sustainable  
Futures

Australia  
in Asia

An inclusive  
Country

Thriving Tech  
Sector

# **AUSTRALIA-ASIA FELLOWSHIP**



# BACKGROUND

## A brief history...

- The **Westpac Australia-Asia Fellowship** is an evolution of the Westpac Asian Exchange Scholarship.
- From 2016, the Asian Exchange Scholarship supported undergraduate Australian students to complete study abroad programs in the Asia-Pacific through financial support and leadership development.
- In 2025, Westpac Scholars Trust completed a review of the Asian Exchange Scholarship, with the aim of redesigning a future-proof program that complemented Australia's existing Asia-capability ecosystem.
- The Australia-Asia Fellowship was the outcome of this review – a new program focused on empowering high-potential Australian students to build on the foundation of their previous learning abroad programs through further, intensive engagement in the Asia-Pacific.



# AUSTRALIA-ASIA FELLOWSHIP



## Australia-Asia Ties

Looking for those who understand Asia's role in Australia's current and future prosperity and are keen to contribute to strengthening our connections in the region.



## Valued at \$16,000

The fellowship covers all major costs including flights, accommodation and your participation in both residential programs.



## Network

Gain lifelong membership to the **W100 Network**.

Growing by 100 Scholars every year, it's a diverse and collaborative community of Australia's brightest and boldest students, researchers and social entrepreneurs.

Attend events and participate in initiatives such as our Mentors in Residence Program.



## Leadership Development

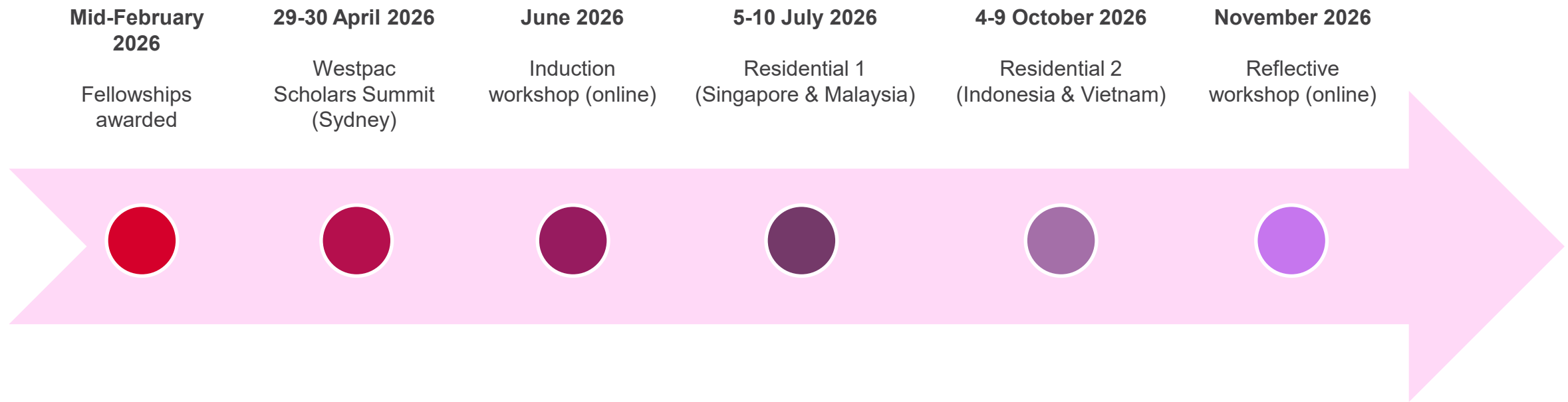
Focus on developing Asia-capable leadership skills through immersive bespoke residential programs.



## Explore

Explore ideas and perspectives from thought-leaders across the Asia-Pacific region.

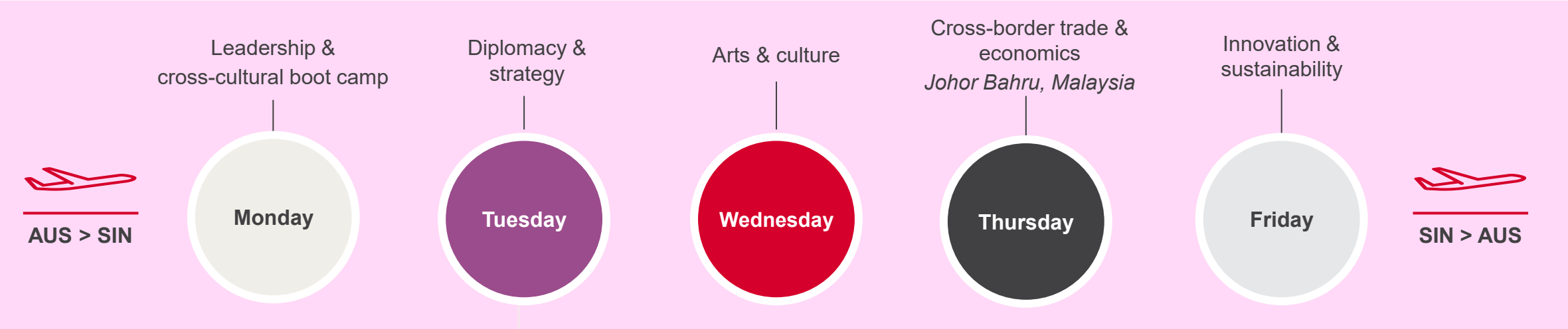
# 9-MONTH FELLOWSHIP JOURNEY



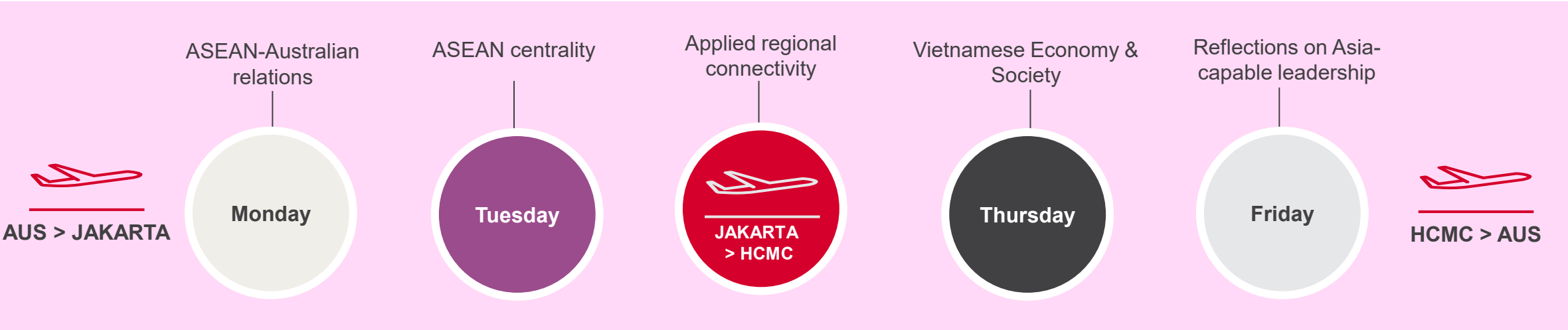


# RESIDENTIALS

## Residential 1: 5-10 July 2026, Singapore and Malaysia



## Residential 2: 4-9 October 2026, Indonesia and Vietnam



# W100 SCHOLARS NETWORK

## Attend events

Numerous opportunities to attend state-based social and development-focused events.

## Scholar-led

Get involved in leadership opportunities by volunteering for your State Committee to build leadership skills.

## Collaboration drives change

Collaborate with other scholars both within and beyond your stream and contribute to our goals of sustainable futures, Australia in Asia, an inclusive country, and a thriving tech sector.

## National initiatives

Get involved in successful scholar-led initiatives such as the Mentors in Residence Program, which pairs those seeking advice with our more experienced scholar-mentors.

## Growing

100 scholars a year, **forever**.



# **APPLICATION & SELECTION**

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1

Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident.

2

Be studying full-time at one of our 14 participating Australian university partners (undergraduate or postgraduate) during your fellowship year.

3

Currently hold, or have graduated, with a minimum of a credit average.

4

Have completed an eligible learning abroad program in the Asia-Pacific.

5

Be able to attend the Scholars Summit and 2 x Leadership Development Residentials.

# ELIGIBLE LEARNING ABROAD PROGRAMS

1

Have been undertaken in-person for a minimum of 1 semester (or 4 months).

2

Have been an approved program administered through an Australian university.

3

Have commenced during, or after semester 1, 2023.

4

Have been undertaken in one of the 38 eligible destinations in the Asia-Pacific. Full list available on our website.

5

Have been completed prior to submitting your application.



# KEY DATES

1

Applications opened 9am AEDT, Tuesday 28 October 2025.

2

Applications close 5pm AEDT, Tuesday 9 December 2025.

3

Successful applicants notified of outcome mid-February 2026.

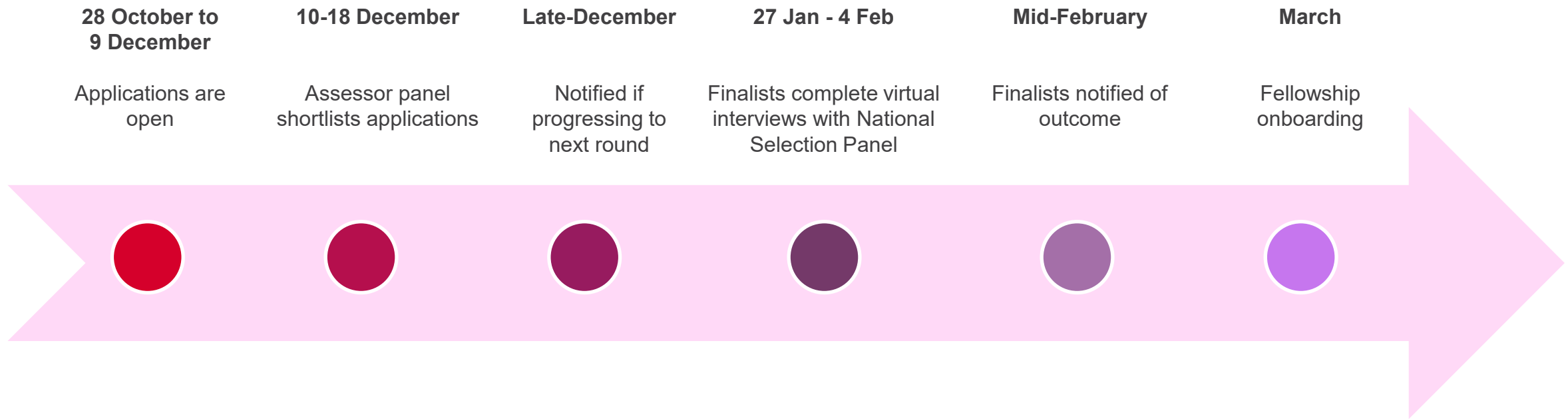
4

Westpac Scholars Summit 29-30 April 2026.

5

Residential 1: 5-10 July 2026; Residential 2: 4-9 October 2026.

# APPLICATION & SELECTION TIMELINE



# APPLICATION TIPS

- 1 Read the FAQs on the Westpac Scholars website.
- 2 Start the application early and proofread thoroughly.
- 3 Provide well-thought-out answers and avoid 'refer to above' as some answers are assessed in isolation.
- 4 Use language a non-specialist would understand and use storytelling to bring your answers to life.
- 5 Be inspiring and self-aware, talk about your strengths but remember to be humble.

# **ATTRIBUTES OF AN AUSTRALIA-ASIA FELLOW**

# WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?



## Generosity of Spirit

Westpac Scholars should demonstrate a passionate desire to contribute to their communities through their work or study.



## From All Walks of Life

Westpac Scholars are diverse in background, study areas and interests. The **W100** is an inclusive network that celebrates difference.



## Making the Uncomfortable, Comfortable

Westpac Scholars are encouraged to be curious and to challenge themselves.

The ability to make mistakes and learn from them is vital to developing cultural competency.



## A Scholarship for Life

Westpac Scholars are expected to be engaged in the alumni network by getting involved in initiatives and events.



## Asia-Capable

Westpac Scholars understand the importance of Australia's relationship with Asia and can demonstrate cultural intelligence and agility.



# SUPPORTING THOSE WITH THE DRIVE TO SHAPE AUSTRALIA

## Qualities of a Westpac Scholar include:

- Generosity of spirit and a strong desire to give back to their communities and society.
- Confident in taking on challenges and have a high level of responsibility, resiliency and adaptability.
- Emotionally intelligent, strong communicators, team players. They embrace diversity, inclusion, and openness.
- Belief in the power of collaboration, are energised by making connections and building networks.
- A keen desire to share ideas with others, be challenged, and be inspired.
- Excited by the opportunity to be part of the **W100 Network**. Will be actively engaged and will own the future of their scholar community.
- Embrace the uncomfortable. Scholars will see stepping out of their comfort zone as an opportunity to learn and grow.

**Passionate, committed to social change**

**Entrepreneurial, innovative & resilient**

**Able to lead change & deal with complexity**

**Collaborative, engaged & open**

**Passionate about the Asia-Pacific**

**Good communicator & candidly self-aware**

# Q&A

# CHALLENGE YOURSELF LEAVE YOUR MARK

## An important job...

The past few years have been difficult in many ways. Ensuring that we exchange people and ideas beyond our borders is more important now, than it has ever been before.

For Australia, this means looking beyond our northern shores to the opportunity and humanity found in the Asia-Pacific. The Asia-Pacific offers unmatched growth, innovation, and cultural exploration—where tradition meets cutting-edge progress.

Our future prosperity and security requires young Australians to develop Asia-capability and to continuously learn and engage with the region. Westpac Scholars Trust is excited to support high-potential Australians who are looking for the next step in their Asia-capability journey.





# THANK YOU!

## CONNECT WITH US:



[westpac.com.au/scholarships](https://westpac.com.au/scholarships)



[westpacscholars@westpac.com.au](mailto:westpacscholars@westpac.com.au)



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