

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION IV-A CALABARZON

03 December 2024

Regional Memorandum
No. 879 s. 2024

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: AUSTRALIA-ASEAN BRIDGE
SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2024-2026**

To **Schools Division Superintendents**

1. With reference to DM-OUHROD-2024-3443 from DepEd Central Office, this Office, through the Human Resource Development Division, announces the **Call for Nominations** for the **Australia-ASEAN Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) School Partnership Program** of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).
2. The program aims to build connections between educators and students across Australia, ASEAN member-countries. Expected outcomes of the program are as follows:
 - a. Stronger relationships with peers in Australia and Southeast Asia;
 - b. Professional opportunities to exchange know-how and good practices between schools;
 - c. People-to-people connections for educators and students that add regional contexts to their learning; and
 - d. Stronger global focus in the learning opportunities offered to students.
3. These are the following criteria/qualifications set by the Australia-ASEAN BRIDGE School Partnership Program:
 - a. Senior High School STEM or TVL teachers;
 - b. Must be residing in Metro Manila (NCR) and in either Region IV-A or Metro Cebu (Region VII);
 - c. Proficient in the English language (advanced language skills);
 - d. Must have reliable internet connectivity;
 - e. Must have a two-year commitment including participation in professional learning workshops, reciprocal immersion experiences, and school partnership collaboration; and
 - f. Must adhere to reporting requirements.




Address: Gate 2, Karangalan Village, Cainta, Rizal
Telephone No.: 02-8682-2114
Email Address: region4a@deped.gov.ph
Website: depedcalabarzon.ph



Certificate No. PHP QMS
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4. Each Schools Division Office is encouraged to nominate one (1) qualified applicant for the program and submit the following documentary requirements to hrd.calabarzon@deped.gov.ph on or before **December 5, 2024**, for evaluation of the Regional Office Scholarship Secretariat:
 - a. Personal Data Sheet
 - b. Endorsement from Immediate Supervisor
 - c. Endorsement from the Schools Division Office through the Office of the SDS
 - d. Proof of Outstanding Accomplishments (certificate, photo of plaque/medal/trophy, manuscript, etc.) **duly certified true and correct by the applicant's immediate supervisor.**
 - e. Rated IPCRF for the past two years
 - f. Medical Certificate
 - g. Updated Service Record
 - h. Certificate of no pending administrative/legal charges
 - i. Scholarship Clearance Form (bit.ly/46X2TrU)
5. Please note that applications may be disqualified due to various reasons, such as but not limited to, incomplete submission of documentary requirements, lack of official endorsement/s, etc.
6. Kindly refer to the attached Program Briefer and Flyer for the Australia-ASEAN BRIDGE Program 2024-2026 for further details.
7. For inquiries and concerns, please contact the Regional Office Scholarship Secretariat through email hrd.calabarzon@deped.gov.ph.
8. Immediate dissemination of the Memorandum is hereby enjoined.


ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
Regional Director



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education

OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY
HUMAN RESOURCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

DM-OUHROD-2024-3443

TO : **Regional Directors** (Region IV-A, Region VII, and NCR)
Schools Division Superintendents
All Others Concerned

FROM : **WILFREDO E. CABRAL**
Undersecretary
Human Resource and Organizational Development

SUBJECT : **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE AUSTRALIA-ASEAN BRIDGE SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM 2024-2026**

DATE : 28 November 2024

1. The **Australia-ASEAN Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) School Partnership Program** of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) **invites the Department of Education to nominate four (4) teachers to participate in its 2024-2026 program.**
2. The program aims to build connections between educators and students across Australia, ASEAN member-countries (excluding Indonesia and Myanmar), and Timor-Leste. Expected outcomes of the program are as follows:
 - a. Stronger relationships with peers in Australia and Southeast Asia;
 - b. Professional opportunities to exchange know-how and good practices between schools;
 - c. People-to-people connections for educators and students that add regional contexts to their learning; and
 - d. Stronger global focus in the learning opportunities offered to students.
3. In this regard, **the Regional Directors of Region IV-A, Region VII, and NCR are requested to each nominate two (2) teachers**, based on the following criteria/qualifications set by the *Australia-ASEAN BRIDGE School Partnership Program*:
 - a. Senior High School STEM or TVL teachers;
 - b. Must be residing in Metro Manila (NCR) and in either Region IV-A or Metro Cebu (Region VII);

- c. Proficient in the English language (advanced language skills);
 - d. Must have reliable internet connectivity;
 - e. Must have a two-year commitment including participation in professional learning workshops, reciprocal immersion experiences, and school partnership collaboration; and
 - f. Must adhere to reporting requirements.
4. The **concerned Regional Offices shall then submit their regional nomination along with the nominees' pertinent documents (in PDF form)** through the Microsoft Office Form which can be accessed through the link <https://forms.office.com/r/dr4e079hfE> on or before **09 December 2024**.
 5. Upon receipt of the regional nominations, the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP) Scholarship Secretariat shall conduct the final screening and endorse the final four (4) nominees to the DepEd Central Office Personnel Development Committee for approval and endorsement to the Australian Embassy.
 6. **The Australian Embassy shall then select the final two (2) participants who will join the program, whose schools are required to submit an *Expression of Interest (EOI)* until 13 December 2024.** For instructions regarding EOI submission, please visit the link <https://shorturl.at/NRETi>.
 7. Please note that applications may be disqualified due to various reasons, such as but not limited to, incomplete requirements, lack of official endorsement/s, direct sending of requirements to the Secretariat's email, discrepancies in documents, etc.
 8. NEAP further reiterates that the established qualifications and selection parameters for its scholarship programs are in adherence to the Equal Opportunity Principle (EOP).
 9. Kindly refer to the attached *Program Briefer and Flyer for the Australia-ASEAN BRIDGE Program 2024-2026* for further details.
 10. Should you have questions or concerns, please coordinate with **NEAP Scholarship Secretariat** through email scholarships@deped.gov.ph and/or landline (02) 8715-9919.
 11. For dissemination and appropriate action.

Copy furnished:
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ATTY. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary for Operations

GEORGINA ANN H. YANG
Assistant Secretary, External Partnerships Service

[NEAPScholarshipSecretariat/Pereyra]



Room 102, Rizal Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City 1600
Telephone Nos.: (+632) 86337206, (+632) 86318494, (+632) 86366549
Email Address: usec.hrod@deped.gov.ph | Website: www.deped.gov.ph

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Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



ASEAN-Australia
Centre



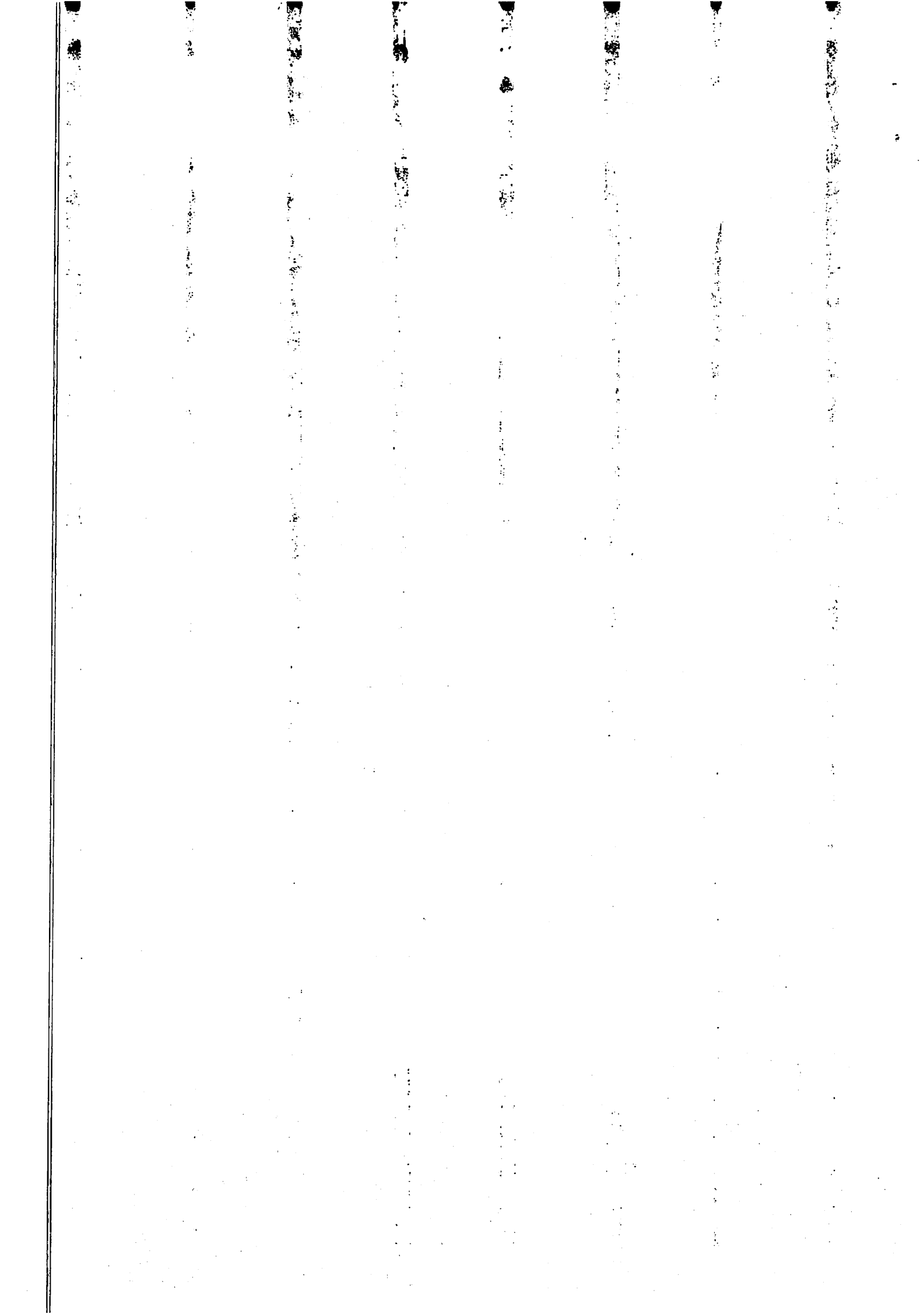
Asialink
EDUCATION



Australia-ASEAN BRIDGE Program 2024 - 2026

Build rewarding partnerships with schools in Australia and Southeast Asia - Express your interest in becoming one of the 36 schools to participate

The 2024-2026 Australia-ASEAN Building Relationships through Intercultural Dialogue and Growing Engagement (BRIDGE) School Partnership Program is an initiative of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, funded through the ASEAN-Australia Centre and implemented by Asialink Education (formerly the Asia Education Foundation) at the University of Melbourne.





Program outcomes

- ✔ Stronger relationships with peers in Australia and throughout Southeast Asia
- ✔ Professional opportunities to exchange know-how and good practices between schools
- ✔ People-to-people connections for educators and students that add regional contexts to their learning
- ✔ A stronger global focus in the learning opportunities offered to your students

Program requirements

School requirements



- ▶ Interest in and commitment to global and regional (Australia-ASEAN) engagement
- ▶ Commitment to sustained engagement with one partner school
- ▶ Ability to host one educator for a one-week school visit
- ▶ Supportive school leadership
- ▶ Reliable internet access

Participants



- ▶ Suitable teaching qualification and registration (bachelor's degree or equivalent)
- ▶ Two-year commitment, including participation in professional learning workshops, reciprocal immersion experiences and school partnership collaboration
- ▶ Adhere to reporting requirements
- ▶ Advanced English language skills
- ▶ Sound computer skills

“Strong people-to-people ties will remain a foundation of our partnership.”

ASEAN-AUSTRALIA LEADERS' VISION STATEMENT 2024

Program highlights

By participating in the program, your school will:

- ▶ join a dynamic network of 36 schools across ten countries - Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam
- ▶ be matched with a partner school in Southeast Asia (for Australian schools) or Australia (for Southeast Asian schools)
- ▶ gain opportunities for teacher and student connections and learning across the region
- ▶ host a visiting educator from a partner school and enable one teacher from your school to travel to their partner school overseas
- ▶ establish foundations for ongoing school partnership that enhance learning opportunities for your students into the future
- ▶ help prepare your students for greater cross-regional collaboration in their future lives

Program inclusions

- ▶ **18 school partnerships:** The program will establish 18 new school partnerships between Australian and ASEAN+ schools
- ▶ **8 workshops:** The program includes 8 virtual professional learning workshops for nominated educators
- ▶ **4 student forums:** The program includes 4 virtual student forums for up to 8 selected students per school
- ▶ **36 journeys:** All 36 educators will travel to their partner school for a week-long in-country immersive learning experience

Educator peer relationships

In the dynamic context of ever-changing expectations for schools, this program offers educators in your school unmatched opportunities to enhance their professional practices through engagement with peers around the region. Program components include:

- ▶ vibrant communities of practice that enable educators to showcase achievements and share resources and know-how
- ▶ quality professional learning workshops in which expert input will expand the awareness of educators on key topics including:
 - developing students' global competence and intercultural understanding
 - supporting students to use design thinking and problem solving to address real-world challenges
 - leveraging the arts to encourage student collaboration in creative projects
 - fostering student curiosity to enhance learning outcomes
- ▶ wrap around support in establishing and maintaining school partnerships through an ongoing program of guidance and support
- ▶ exciting school partnership activities that involve the whole school community in regional partnership
- ▶ international experiences for one teacher in each school, gaining exposure to different cultural practices and expectations around learning that they can share with their colleagues, and can inform school innovations
- ▶ recognition as a school that places preparation of students for an integrated global future at the forefront of their endeavours.

International exchange

Southeast Asian educators will travel to Australia during June-August 2025, and Australian educators will travel to ASEAN during January 2026 or April 2026.*

Pre-departure guides and webinars will help teachers plan and prepare for in-country immersive experiences.

** If possible, teachers will visit their partner school during a vacation period.*

Students learn together

Each school will be able to nominate a group of outstanding students to join their peers from around the region in a unique series of student forums. Highlights include:

- ▶ opportunities to strengthen global competence, intercultural understanding and regional relationships
- ▶ a focus on leadership, and the chance to design and implement practical projects that lead to meaningful change in schools and communities
- ▶ the chance to hear from inspiring speakers and to discuss important contemporary challenges with peers from other countries
- ▶ collaborating on projects and showcasing their achievements in a virtual exhibition space.

Partnership projects

Participating educators will work with their partners to engage students in their respective schools in projects around a theme. Examples from previous BRIDGE projects include:

- ▶ collaborative cultural exchange activities where students link up virtually and exchange information about cultural traditions
- ▶ wellbeing activities where students work together to develop anti-vaping campaigns in their schools
- ▶ environmental projects where students plant trees in both schools and share photos.

To support ongoing partnerships beyond the program, schools will be provided with guidance, support and resources to encourage long-term school partnerships, collaboration and engagement.



Timeline

October - November 2024: Schools Expressions of Interest (close **Friday 29 November**)

December 2024: School selection

January - February 2025: Confirmation of nominated educators & pairing

February - March 2025: Orientation and commencement of learning activities

April - May 2025: Preparation for ASEAN educators' travel to Australia and continuation of learning activities

June - August 2025: ASEAN educators in Australia

September - December 2025: Preparation for Australian educators' travel to ASEAN and continuation of learning activities

January - April 2026: Australian educators in ASEAN and conclusion of learning activities

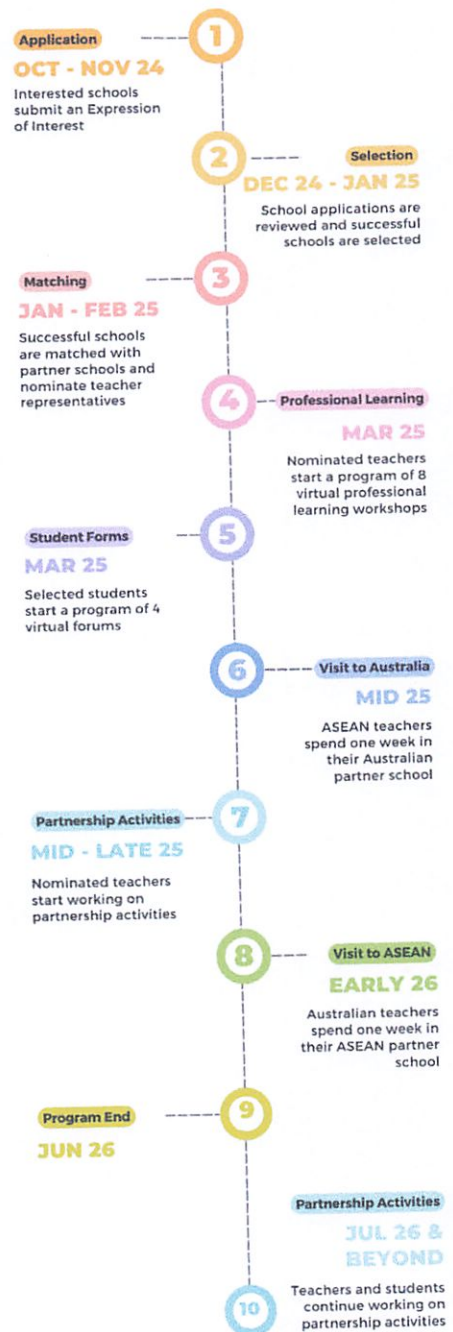
May - June 2026: Reporting

July 2026 and beyond: Schools, teachers and students continue collaborative activities

Next steps

To submit an Expression of Interest for your school to participate in the 2024-2026 ASEAN BRIDGE program, please complete the form here:

<https://shorturl.at/NRETI>



For more information:

Contact the ASEAN BRIDGE team at Asialink Education

+61 (3) 8344 3590

Asean-bridge@unimelb.edu.au

asialink.unimelb.edu.au/

Level 4, Sidney Myer Asia Centre
The University of Melbourne, Victoria 3010 Australia