# Victorian International Teaching Fellowship

## ABOUT the program

### Program specifics

The Victorian International Teaching Fellowship (VITF) Program is a 12 month international professional development opportunity for outstanding Victorian teachers.

In an increasingly inter-connected world, the VITF provides Victorian teachers with a unique opportunity to build their Intercultural Capabilities and Global Citizenship skills while immersed in a new teaching environment. Upon returning to Victoria, participants share their new perspectives with their Victorian students and schools thereby enhancing their ability to engage with an increasingly multicultural community in Victoria.

The VITF is a reciprocal exchange program that is open to teachers from Victoria’s government, independent and Catholic schools who exchange with teachers predominantly from Canada, the US, UK and Germany.

Participants usually exchange teaching positions and housing for the period of a school year (January - December). Participants continue to receive their salary from their Local Education Authority (their local employer) in Victoria, but they are required to meet all of the costs associated with the exchange.

While on exchange, the Victorian Participants are required to complete a research project that is aligned with their school’s Annual Implementation Plan (AIP)/equivalent and informed by their VITF experience. The research project is an important element of the Program and an opportunity for powerful learning that can be shared and translated into action and school improvement by the Participants upon return.

The Program is a significant professional and personal undertaking. It involves moving countries, swapping houses and working in a new school. It requires a high degree of personal autonomy and a commitment to organizing the majority of the exchange (beyond the matching process) independently. Participants are expected to be proven self-starters, who are flexible and can manage ambiguity.

If you are interested in applying for the VITF, please discuss this with your Principal or Regional Director/equivalent (for Principal’s who are interested in applying) on how participating in the VITF could complement your school’s priorities and your own professional development goals.

A significant benefit of the program is also welcoming overseas VITF Participants into Victorian schools for the year. This exposes our teachers and students to different ways of teaching and the opportunity to learn about different cultures and customs.

**Teachers and school leaders who have a strong commitment to enhancing their practice and can demonstrate how a VITF experience will contribute to this are encouraged to apply!**

## administration of the program

### The Role of the Department of Education and Training

The program is arranged on a government-to-government basis. The International Education Division (IED) of the Department of Education and Training (DET) liaises with participating jurisdictions to identify possible matches. Principals have the right to accept or refuse a proposed match. Not all applicants will be able to be matched. For further information on program administration, please see the DET website for Frequently asked Questions about the program.

### International Teachers’ Association

### The Victorian International Teachers’ Association (ITA) is an organisation of past and present Victorian International Teaching Fellows. It is a Victorian membership based alumni organisation supporting Victorian and international teachers who are participating in the program. If you want to speak to a former VITF participant about the program and its benefits to you and your school community, the ITA will be able to assist you. The ITA has members across Victoria in metropolitan and regional schools.

For more details on the ITA please contact:

Mary Moore (President)

Moore.Mary.MK@edumail.vic.gov.au

### Applications for 2019 close on Tuesday 17 April. Early applications are welcome.

Applicants must read and accept the Terms and Conditions before completing the application form. By submitting an application form, applicants are taken to have accepted the Terms and Conditions of the VITF program. The application should be prepared electronically using the form provided.

When completed, applications should be emailed to vitf@edumail.vic.gov.au. Applications must include signed agreements, photographs as requested plus a Medical Certificate. Late applications will not be considered.

For further information on the VITF program please contact:

International Education Division on

Ph. +61 3 9637 3476 or

vitf@edumail.vic.gov.au