



Australian Government

# Career Pathways

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## **2026 Australian Government Graduate Program (AGGP) – Data Stream**

### **Information for Applicants**

*Help shape Australia's future*

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## Vacancy details

<b>Job streams</b>  Data Generalist Data Scientist Mathematician/Statistician	<b>Salary</b>  \$63,000 - \$84,000 plus superannuation*
<b>Security clearance</b>  You may be required to obtain a Baseline or Negative Vetting 1* <i>*Agency dependent</i>	<b>Location/s</b>  Most positions are available in Canberra, as well as Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, and Sydney.  Limited positions may be available in Darwin, Geelong, Hobart, Newcastle and Townsville.
<b>Contact officers</b>  Sonja Girazova and Rebecca De Nobrega <a href="mailto:recruitment@abs.gov.au">recruitment@abs.gov.au</a> 1800 249 583	<b>Applications close</b>  Monday 31 March 2025 at 11:30PM (AEDT)

*\* Salary, individual employment conditions and pre-employment requirements to be determined by the host agency.*

For a full list of agencies that are participating in the Data Stream, visit the [AGGP website](#).

## Have questions?

We will be hosting a virtual Ask Me Anything (AMA) session on Thursday 6 March from 2:30PM to 3:30PM (AEDT) via Microsoft Teams. You'll get to meet the Data Stream recruitment team and ask any questions you have about the recruitment process. Mark your calendars and [find the link here!](#)



## Become a Data Graduate

The Australian Government Graduate Program (AGGP) - Data Stream is looking for recent university graduates who are passionate about data. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is leading the AGGP Data Stream recruitment process on behalf of the Australian Government.

The Australian Government has access to some of Australia's largest and most unique data sets and provides endless opportunities for data professionals. As part of the graduate program, you will have the chance to work across all aspects of government such as policy development, program management and service delivery.

We are recruiting Data Generalists, Data Scientists and Mathematicians/Statisticians. It's your choice!





## Positions available

Over 200 data graduate roles are available with more than [35 Australian Government and Commonwealth agencies](#). The following agencies will be participating in the 2026 AGGP Data Stream (listed in alphabetical order).\*

Australian Bureau of Statistics	Department of Health and Aged Care
Australian Communications and Media Authority	Department of Home Affairs
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission	Department of Industry, Science and Resources
Australian Digital Health Agency	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
Australian Electoral Commission	Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Australian Federal Police	Department of Social Services
Australian Financial Security Authority	Department of the Treasury
Australian Institute of Family Studies	Department of Veterans' Affairs
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	Digital Transformation Agency
Australian Taxation Office	IP Australia
Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre	National Disability Insurance Agency
Civil Aviation Safety Authority	National Health Funding Body
Commonwealth Grants Commission	National Health and Medical Research Council
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	National Indigenous Australians Agency
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission
Department of Defence	Office of National Intelligence
Department of Education	Safe Work Australia
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations	Services Australia
Department of Finance	

*\*Subject to change. Suitable candidates will be invited to submit their preference of agency in the Placements stage.*

## Placement

Candidates rated suitable will be placed in a merit pool that will be considered by Australian Government and Commonwealth agencies.

Merit pool candidates will be asked to submit their preference for placement agencies and locations. While there is no guarantee of placement in a specific agency, candidate preferences will be taken into consideration wherever possible. It is important to note that the number of candidates in the merit pool may be greater than the number of available positions. There is no guarantee that everyone placed in the merit pool will be offered a position.



## Data Generalist Stream

Data roles filled through this stream include Data Analysts, Data Engineers, Data Managers and Geospatial Analysts. Most of the positions available are in the Data Generalist stream.

Data Generalists lead the design, analysis and delivery of relevant, trusted and objective statistics and data-related insights.

Recent work undertaken by APS data analyst graduates included exploring tertiary educational attainment by equity groups, impacts of the response to COVID-19 pandemic on International Trade, analysing tax revenue data, and building models using school NAPLAN data. Using departmental and government integrated datasets, graduates prepared, analysed, and communicated the results bringing insights to policy makers and stakeholders.



### Qualifications and experience

To be eligible for the Data Generalist stream, you must have an undergraduate (AQF7) degree or higher and meet all other eligibility requirements as outlined below. While there are no requirements for any particular disciplines, people who have completed a data related degree or have undertaken data subjects are more likely to be successful.

For Geospatial Analyst roles, people who have completed studies in Geospatial Information Systems (GIS), environmental science, geography and other related disciplines are more likely to be successful.



### Hear from recent Data Generalist graduates



## Data Scientist Stream

Specialist roles filled through this stream can include Applied Data Scientists, Data Science Developers and Data Modellers.

Data Scientists apply advanced analytics techniques and scientific principles to extract valuable information from data for business decision-making, strategic planning and other uses.

Recent work undertaken by APS Data Scientists includes the development and application of a range of advanced statistical, graph-theoretic, natural language processing (NLP) and AI/machine learning techniques, systems and pipelines for: automatically classifying and extracting information from text; combining and analysing heterogeneous multisource data for new insights into important policy problems; identifying and characterising complex relationship structures in survey, administrative and 'big' data sets; leveraging the information value of novel data sources to augment and transform statistical production; and automating the editing of large administrative data sets.



### Qualifications and experience

To be eligible for the Data Science stream, you must have an undergraduate (AQF7) degree or higher and meet all other eligibility requirements as outlined below. In addition, you must either:

- have qualification/s in data science, statistics, computer science, mathematics, actuarial studies, physics, engineering, economics, econometrics, OR
- have qualification/s in any other disciplines with a strong quantitative component.



### Hear from recent Data Science graduates



## Mathematician/Statistician Stream

Specialist roles filled through this stream can include Statistician, Mathematician and Evaluation Specialist.

Mathematicians/Statisticians provide specialist statistical advice on the methods used to produce high quality official statistics and generate timely new insights. Mathematicians/Statisticians identify, research, implement and maintain a range of innovative statistical solutions to embrace new methods and data sources.

Recent work undertaken by APS Mathematicians/Statisticians has focused on developing methods to create new timely economic indicators using new data sources; quantitative data evaluation including identifying statistical data gaps and performing statistical evaluations, developing confidentiality solutions to assist with the safe dissemination of statistical products and designing and evaluating experiments to assess the impact of government policies and programs.



### Qualifications and experience

To be eligible for the Mathematician/Statistician stream, you must have an undergraduate (AQF7) degree or higher and meet all other eligibility requirements as outlined below. In addition, you must either:

- have qualification/s in statistics (including biostatistics), mathematics, econometrics, actuarial studies, physics, data science, machine learning and artificial intelligence, operations research, OR
- have completed quantitative subjects in qualifications such as in science, commerce, business/data analytics, computer science, or engineering.



### Hear from recent Mathematician/Statistician graduates







## Eligibility requirements

To be eligible\* for the 2026 AGGP Data Stream you must:

- be an Australian citizen at the time of application
- have completed at least an Australian Qualifications Framework Level 7 qualification (a Bachelor degree), or higher equivalent by 31 December 2025\*\*
- have completed your most recent eligible qualification between 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2025
- be able to obtain and maintain a valid Australian Government security clearance if required
- be willing to undergo any police, character, health, or other checks as required.

*\* Participating agencies may have additional eligibility requirements for placement with their agency. Suitable candidates should discuss this with the agency if an offer is received.*

*\*\* As part of the application process you will be required to include your latest academic transcript for each qualification (including overseas qualification assessment advice for qualifications completed overseas).*



## Inclusion and diversity

The Australian Government recognises the importance of a diverse and inclusive work culture and appreciates the experiences, skills and perspectives of all individuals. It helps the APS provide better customer service, develop a greater capacity for problem solving and higher levels of performance.

We strongly encourage applications from people of all diversity groups, in particular:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- all genders
- people who are neurodivergent
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- people with disability
- LGBTQI+
- mature aged workers.



## How to apply

[Apply today](#) for the 2026 Australian Government Graduate Program – Data Stream. To complete your application form you will be required to:

- upload your resume (we suggest a maximum of 2 pages)
- provide a copy of your most recent academic transcript/s
- select a stream
- provide a 400-word written response to a question
  - we use your response here to assess your written communication. Responses that do not meet the minimum word count of 150 words will not progress.

All applicants can request a reasonable adjustment/s (e.g. access, equipment, or material in other formats).

If you have a disability or disabilities, you can opt in to the RecruitAbility scheme on your application. If you meet the minimum role requirements, you will progress to the next step of the recruitment process.

The online application form allows you to save your responses so that you can return to your application at a later stage, and you should save often so you don't lose any of your application.

Once you have submitted your application, you CANNOT edit the responses in your application form. You will receive a confirmation email if your application has been submitted successfully.

Late applications will not be considered.



## Use of AI during the recruitment process

We value authenticity and to understand who you are, your experiences, and what you bring to the table. You may use AI to polish your narrative, brainstorm ideas and structure your thoughts, but the final application should reflect your personal journey and skills.

We understand that you may use AI to:

- Describe examples of a skill which you can then personalise with your own story.
- Refresh your CV to bring to life your experiences, skill set and qualifications.
- Leverage AI for grammar and spelling checks.
- Research and prepare for the interview.

Do not use AI during the interview. Our interview process is designed to assess your unique skills and fit for the role, so we encourage you to express your genuine self, conveyed through your own words. The use of AI during the interview may hamper the panel's ability to adequately assess your skills resulting in them deeming you unsuitable for the role.

Remember, the goal of using AI in your job application and interview is to augment your natural abilities and showcase your best self. It's not about creating a persona that isn't you.



## Selection criteria

To be found suitable you should have most of the following skills and qualities.

Competency	Description
<b>Communication skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicates clearly and confidently (verbal and written) and adapts communication style to suit different people and situations.</li> <li>Demonstrates active listening and communicates opinions, information, and key points respectfully and convincingly to gain the agreement of others.</li> <li>Writes clearly and concisely in a well-structured and logical way, avoiding jargon and unnecessary complexity.</li> <li>Consistently uses professional and respectful language in all interactions of the recruitment process that complies with the <i>APS Values</i>.</li> </ul>
<b>Interpersonal skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develops positive rapport with people at all levels.</li> <li>Able to build and maintain professional relationships.</li> <li>Shows respect and sensitivity across a diverse workforce.</li> <li>Shows a willingness to accept, consider and act upon constructive criticism and suggestions from others, facilitating effective collaboration.</li> </ul>
<b>Critical thinking and problem-solving skills</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gathers and analyses information/data from multiple sources.</li> <li>Identifies gaps in the information/data and seeks additional information where required.</li> <li>Critically questions and reflects on new and existing information to make rational and informed judgements and decisions.</li> </ul>
<b>Data technical skills</b>	
<b>Data Generalist</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyses a dataset to tell the story about the data or produce a data visualisation.</li> <li>Applies analytical thinking to draw out relationships, explanations, predictions and trends.</li> </ul>
<b>Data Scientist</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analyses a dataset to tell the story about the data or produce a data visualisation.</li> <li>Able to undertake data wrangling or manage large datasets.</li> <li>Applies advanced algorithms, builds and uses sophisticated machine learning models, and identifies patterns from structured and unstructured datasets.</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematician/ Statistician</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to identify methods used to produce high quality official statistics.</li> <li>Can identify, research, implement and maintain a range of innovative statistical solutions to embrace new methods and data sources.</li> </ul>

## Suitability

Suitability of candidates will be determined by assessing their skills against the selection criteria.

However, at various stages of the process candidates will be asked to complete activities or submit information by a due date. Candidates that do not complete tasks on time or do not respond to our communications may be deemed unsuitable due to non-compliance.



## Selection process - key dates and steps

1

### Applications close



Monday 31 March 2025 at 11:30PM  
(AEDT)

2

### Short listing

Your application may be assessed on eligibility, written communication, academic transcript/ qualifications and resume.



April 2025

3

### Data skills assessment

10 multiple-choice questions assessing your skills for the data stream you have selected. There is only one correct answer to each question.



April 2025

4

### Panel interview

Via video conference with 2 or 3 members of the selection panel.



May to June 2025

5

### Reference checks\*

References will be sought after the Interview stage. Note: Contacting referees does not guarantee a suitable outcome.



End June 2025

6

### Outcome

Candidates will be advised of the outcome of their application.



August 2025

7

### Placements stage

Suitable candidates will be invited to submit agency and location preferences and offers begin.



From August 2025

8

### Graduate Development Program commences\*\*



February 2026

\* A third-party provider may be used, who has been confirmed to follow the Australian Privacy Principles of the Privacy Act 1988. In order to facilitate these processes, we provide your name, contact number and email address to these third-party providers.

\*\* Graduates may be given the opportunity to start as a non-ongoing or permanent employee earlier. Your availability to start early will have no bearing on your assessment of suitability.



## How you will hear from us

We will primarily communicate with you by email and SMS so please check your emails regularly and ensure you enter a valid mobile number in your registration (without spaces).



[recruitment@abs.gov.au](mailto:recruitment@abs.gov.au)



1800 249 583



*"Everyone showed a real interest in my development as a graduate and were willing to support and provide me with relevant opportunities."*

**Matthew Ringenbergs**  
Department of Social Services

*"My favourite thing about being a Data Graduate is that I can use my mathematical skills in a way that helps Australia."*

**Meredith Norman**  
Australian Bureau of Statistics

