



Australian Government

# Career Pathways

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## **2027 Australian Government Graduate Program (AGGP) – Data Stream**

### **Information for Applicants**

*Create change that matters*

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## Vacancy details

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Job roles</b><br><br>Data Generalist<br>Data Scientist<br>Mathematician/Statistician  | <b>Salary</b><br><br>\$69,761 - \$94,270 plus superannuation*  |
| <b>Security clearance</b><br><br>You may be required to obtain a Baseline or Negative Vetting 1**  | <b>Location/s</b><br><br>Most positions are based in Canberra, with additional opportunities in Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide, Brisbane and Perth.<br><br>Limited positions may be available in Darwin, Geelong, Hobart, Newcastle and Townsville.<br><br>A small number of positions may be available in Alice Springs, Penrith, Richmond, Robina and Albury. |
| <b>Contact officers</b><br><br>Showmi Raj and Sonja Girazova<br><a href="mailto:recruitment@abs.gov.au">recruitment@abs.gov.au</a><br>1800 249 583 | <b>Applications close</b><br><br>Tuesday 31 March 2026 at 11:30pm (AEDT)   |

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

\*\* Dependent on placement agency

## Have questions?

We're hosting a virtual Ask Me Anything (AMA) session on **Tuesday 10 March from 5:00pm to 6:00pm (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 join the [Teams meeting to participate!](#)

If you are unable to attend the Ask Me Anything session, you can still find answers to many common questions in the [Q&A Hub](#).



## 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

Approximately 170 data graduate roles are available across more than [30 Australian Government and Commonwealth agencies](#).

The following agencies will be participating in the 2027 AGGP Data Stream (listed in alphabetical order).\*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission                         | Department of Finance   |
| Attorney General's Department                                   | Department of Health, Disability and Ageing   |
| Australian Bureau of Statistics                                 | Department of Home Affairs  |
| Australian Communications and Media Authority                   | Department of Industry, Science and Resources   |
| Australian Electoral Commission                                 | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts |
| Australian Financial Security Authority                         | Department of Social Services   |
| Australian Institute of Family Studies                          | Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  |
| Australian Institute of Health and Welfare                      | Department of the Treasury  |
| Australian Public Service Commission                            | Department of Veterans' Affairs   |
| Australian Taxation Office                                      | Digital Transformation Agency   |
| Australian Transaction Reporting and Analysis Centre            | Geoscience Australia  |
| Commonwealth Grants Commission                                  | National Disability Insurance Agency  |
| Defence Housing Australia                                       | National Health Funding Body  |
| Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry               | National Indigenous Australians Agency  |
| Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water | Office of National Intelligence   |
| Department of Defence   | Organ and Tissue Authority  |
| Department of Education   | Productivity Commission   |
| Department of Employment and Workplace Relations                | Services Australia  |

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



## Placement - Where your journey begins

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

Here's what happens next:

- **You choose your preferences:** Merit pool candidates will be asked to submit their preference for placement agencies and locations.
- **We match your preferences where possible:** While there is no guarantee of placement in a specific agency, candidate preferences will be taken into consideration wherever possible.
- **Opportunities vary:** It is important to note that the number of suitable 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 roles

We are recruiting:

- Data Generalists
- Data Scientists
- Mathematicians/Statisticians.

Applicants must select one role to apply for in the application form, and this selection will determine the assessments to complete throughout the selection process. Applicants cannot apply for multiple roles, and once submitted, the selected preference cannot be changed.

*Note, reassignment to a different role after placement is unlikely. Candidates can discuss this with the placement agency if they receive an offer.*

## Data Generalist

Step into a career where data drives decisions. Through this role you may become a Data Analyst, Data Engineer, Data Manager and/or Geospatial Analyst. Most opportunities available through the 2027 AGGP Data Stream are for Data Generalists.

As a Data Generalist, you will 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
- analysing tax revenue data to inform policy
- 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 role, 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 multiple data subjects are more likely to be successful.

Stand out for Geospatial Analyst roles with studies in Geospatial Information Systems (GIS), environmental science, geography and other related disciplines.



### Hear from recent Data Generalist graduates



## Data Scientist

Step into specialist roles like Applied Data Scientists, Data Science developers and Data Modellers, where innovation meets impact.

As a Data Scientist, you will 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
- automating the editing of large administrative data sets.



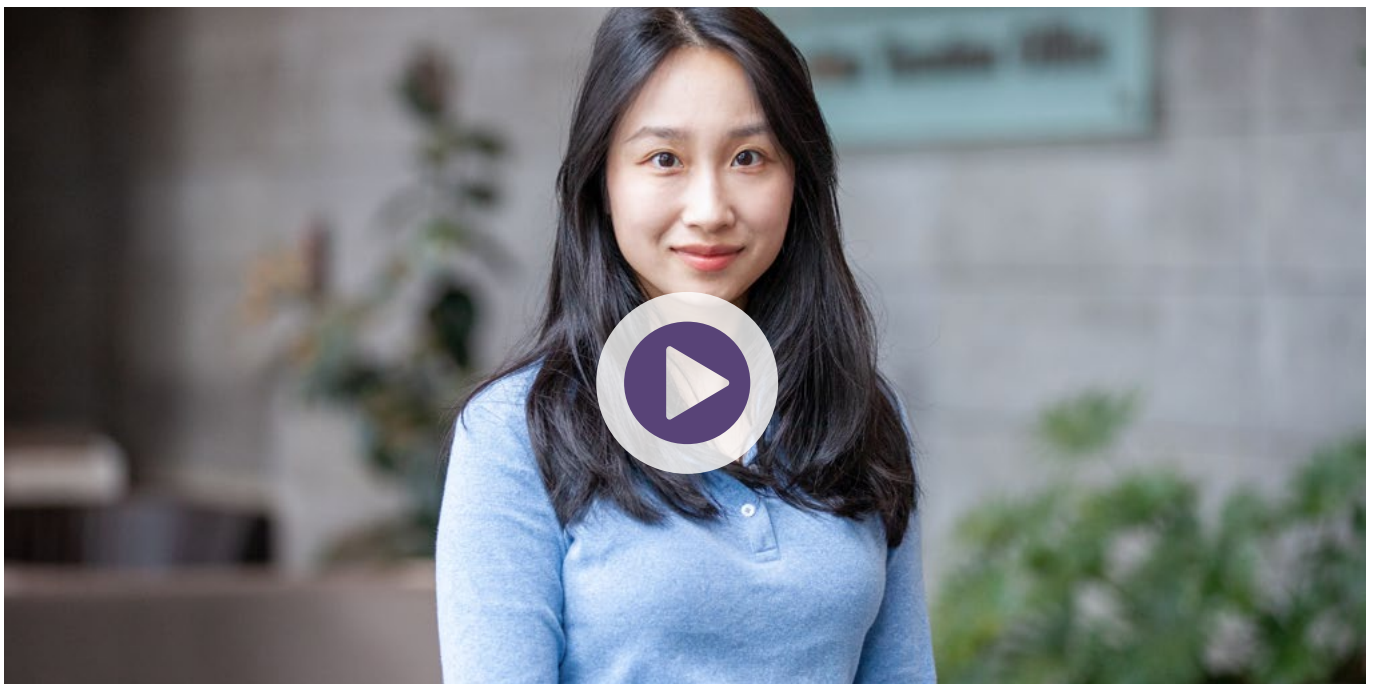
### Qualifications and experience

To be eligible for the Data Science role, 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, business analysis, information technology, 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

If you have studied a specialised degree and enjoy solving complex problems with numbers, this role is your gateway to high impact jobs like a Statistician, Mathematician and Evaluation Specialist.

As a Mathematician/Statistician you will:

- provide specialist statistical advice on the methods used to produce high quality official statistics and generate timely new insights
- 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 role, 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, economics or engineering.



### Hear from recent Mathematician/Statistician graduates





## Eligibility requirements

To be eligible\* for the 2027 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 2026\*\*
- have completed your most recent eligible qualification between 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2026
- 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.

The Data Scientist and Mathematician/Statistician roles have additional qualification criteria. Refer to the role descriptions above.

*\* 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 must 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 2027 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 for each qualification
- select a role
- provide a 400-word written response to a question (responses that do not meet the minimum word count of 150 words will not progress).
- complete a Data Skills Assessment for your selected role.

Candidates rated suitable and placed in the merit pool will be invited to submit their preference for agencies and locations later in the process.

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 stage 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.



## 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.



## Candidate use of AI during the recruitment process

We want to get to know the real you—your experiences, your strengths, and what you can bring to the role. You're welcome to use AI to help you polish your application, but the final result must reflect *your own* story and abilities.

Here is a simple guide on how you *can* use AI, and where you *must not* use it.

### You can use AI to support your preparation:

- Get examples of how to describe a skill, then personalise it with your own experience.
- Refresh or review your CV so it better highlights your skills, experience, and qualifications.
- Check your grammar and spelling.
- Research and prepare for your interview.

Your responsibilities:

- Your resume and application must be accurate and a true representation of your own experiences, qualifications, and capabilities.
- Your answers in any online assessments must be entirely your own and show your genuine capabilities, judgement and behaviours.

### During the interview:

- You cannot use AI.
- The interview is designed to understand your unique abilities and fit for the role. Using AI may prevent the panel from properly assessing you and could lead to being deemed unsuitable.

Remember, AI is a tool to support you, not replace your voice. Use it to help you express your best self—but make sure everything you submit or say represents *you*.

## Is AI used in the recruitment process?

No. Real people—not algorithms—design and run every part of our selection process. A diverse team of APS professionals plans, tests, and oversees the process to make sure it is fair, inclusive, and transparent for everyone.

For Data Graduate applicants, this means your application is reviewed by real people who understand the value of your skills and are committed to selecting candidates based on merit and capability.



## Essential skills (selection criteria)

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

### Communication and collaboration

- Communicates clearly and inclusively across digital and in-person channels, adapting style to suit different audiences and contexts.
- Structures messages logically and concisely, avoiding jargon and unnecessary complexity.
- Engages authentically with others, valuing diverse perspectives and seeking understanding before responding.
- Collaborates effectively by contributing ideas, sharing resources, and addressing disagreements with professionalism. Seeks to find resolutions and strengthen relationships.

### Critical thinking and problem-solving

- Gathers and analyses information from multiple sources.
- Identifies gaps in the information and seeks additional information where required. Asks thoughtful questions to understand issues clearly.
- Breaks down problems into manageable parts.
- Critically questions and reflects on new and existing information to make informed, evidence-based decisions.

### Agility and resilience

- Adapts quickly to change, including sudden change, and remains composed under pressure and uncertainty.
- Manages shifting priorities and competing demands while maintaining accuracy and focus.
- Responds constructively to setbacks and challenges, showing resilience and flexibility.
- Demonstrates self-awareness by reflecting on feedback and taking personal responsibility.

### Motivation and commitment to APS Values

- Understands the purpose of Government and shows enthusiasm and commitment to serving the public and making a positive impact.
- Understands how their work and the work of the agency supports government goals and community outcomes.
- Consistently models behaviour that complies with APS Values.



## Data technical skills

### Data Generalist

- Analyses a dataset/s to tell the story about the data or produce a data visualisation.
- Applies analytical thinking to draw out relationships, explanations, predictions and trends.

### Data Scientist

- Analyses a dataset/s to tell the story about the data or produce a data visualisation.
- Able to undertake data wrangling or manage large datasets.
- Applies advanced algorithms, builds and uses sophisticated machine learning models, and identifies patterns from structured and unstructured datasets.

### Mathematician/ Statistician

- Able to identify and apply methods used to produce high quality official statistics.
- Can identify, research, implement and maintain a range of innovative statistical solutions to embrace new methods and data sources.



## Selection process - Key dates and milestones

### 1 Applications closing



Tuesday 31 March 2026 at 11:30pm (AEDT)

### 2 Shortlisting

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



April 2026

### 3 Online assessment task

A Data Fundamentals Task, assessing your foundational data skills, and a Situational Judgement Task, looking at how you approach common workplace situations.



Late April 2026

### 4 Panel interview

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



May to June 2026

### 5 Reference checks\*

References will be sought after the Interview stage.  
Note: Contacting referees does not guarantee an offer of employment.



End June 2026

### 6 Outcome

Candidates will be advised of their suitability for the role. Suitable candidates will be placed in a merit pool (does not guarantee an offer of employment).



Mid to end July 2026

### 7 Placement stage \*\*

Merit pool candidates will be invited to submit agency and location preferences. If successful, the Data Stream will present you with an offer on behalf of the participating agency.



From end of July 2026

### 8 Graduate Development Program commences\*\*



February 2027

\* 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

You can also reach out to us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) or [X](#).



*"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

