



WOMEN'S
BUSINESS
ACTIVATOR

2026 APEC Women's Business Activator Program

For Women-led SMEs to Access Global Markets



THE AUSTRALIAN
APEC STUDY CENTRE
Asia Pacific
Economic Cooperation



Are you ready to GO GLOBAL?

The APEC Women's Business Activator Program aims to help women-led businesses grow globally by strengthening the capacity of private sector participants from women-led SMEs to build business competencies and help navigate barriers to both local and global markets.

Apply to the APEC Women's Business Activator Program and connect with a cohort of visionary women business leaders. We will support you through a series of online workshops, networking opportunities, mentoring, and an intensive face-to-face 5-day session in Melbourne, Australia.

Period	Activity
Monday, 23 Feb 2026	Welcome & Introduction Session
Wed, 25 Feb 2026	Workshop: Navigating Market Opportunity
Monday, 2 March 2026	Workshop: International Strategy Streamliner
Tuesday, 10 March 2026	Workshop: Million Dollar Market
Wed, 11 March 2026	Group Mentoring 1
19-20 March 2026	led AI-Fitr holiday
Tuesday, 24 March 2026	Workshop: Your Ideal International Client
Wed, 25 March 2026	Group Mentoring 2
Mon, 30 March 2026	Workshop: Your Winning Offer
Wed, 1 April 2026	Group Mentoring 3
3-7 April 2026	Easter Break
Monday, 13 April 2026	Workshop: Market Entry Part 1
Wed, 15 April 2026	Workshop: Market Entry Part 2 & Building Strategic Alliance
Mon, 20 April 2026	Workshop: Powerful Promotions & Your Digital Presence
Wed, 22 April 2026	Group Mentoring 4
Monday, 27 April 2026	Workshop: Funding Your International Business
28 April - 1 May 2026	Break & Travel Prep
Sun, 3 May 2026	International travel
4-8 May 2026	F2F Program in Melbourne - Program Schedule TBA
Sat, 9 May 2026	International travel
Mon, 11 May 2026	Group check-in 1
Mon, 18 May 2026	Group check-in 2
Mon, 25 May 2026	Final check-in

By registering to the program, you are committing yourself to complete the whole series of sessions. The weekly sessions are designed to be sequential and missing one may impact your progress. Additional self-managed exercises may be required for you to apply your learnings.

Apply Now! bit.ly/APECWBAP_2026



**Applications
open until
Friday, 30
January 2026 at
23:45 AEDT**

We're excited to hear from you and your business. If you have any further questions before applying, simply send us an email at apec.australia@rmit.edu.au



Program Information

Eligibility criteria

- Women citizens or permanent residents of an APEC economy*;
- Founder or key decision maker in a small to medium enterprise (1 applicant per enterprise);
- Professional proficiency in the English language;
- Have a reliable internet connection to commit attendance for all online sessions from **23 February to 25 May 2026**;
- Available to travel to Melbourne, Australia to join the face-to-face sessions from **4-8 May 2026****

Note:

Selected women candidates from ODA-eligible economies (China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam) will receive free access to training material, participation in online workshops, personalised mentoring, and all travel costs to attend an intensive 5-day session in Melbourne, Australia (this includes return flight tickets in Economy class, visa cost, travel insurance, return airport transfers, 6-night accommodation in Melbourne, and per diem). Selected women candidates from non ODA-eligible economies can still participate in the program but will not receive funding for travel. The participants will be chosen based on the alignment of their application against the selection criteria

Application timeline

Applications close	: 30 January 2026
Announcement for successful applicants	: mid-February 2026
Program starts	: 23 February 2026
F2F Intensive in Melbourne	: 4-8 May 2026
Program ends	: 25 May 2026

Travelling to Melbourne

Successful women participants will be required to apply for their own visa from respective Australian diplomatic posts overseas. RMIT University, RMIT Activator, The Australian APEC Study Centre at RMIT University, or the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade are not responsible for visa applications or any delays in visa processing time.

Women with disabilities, Indigenous women, women from ethnic, religious or cultural minority groups, and women living in rural and remote areas are encouraged to apply. We are committed to enabling equitable and fair participation by all and are able to offer reasonable assistance and adjustments to meet specific accessibility requirements that applicants may have for both the online and face-to-face components of the program, including travel to Australia. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any requirements and you may contact apec.Australia@rmit.edu.au to find out more information.



About us

The Australian APEC Study Centre (AASC) at RMIT University is a center for excellence on economic trade and development policy issues affecting the Indo-Pacific Region. RMIT Activator is the university's center for entrepreneurship where we empower talents towards venture creation. Together, this program aim to provide a transformative learning experience for international women entrepreneurs. The partnership also intends to bring us closer to an advanced Indo-Pacific that is peaceful, stable and prosperous by providing a platform where we can cooperate, trade and thrive.



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