

# Business Project Program (BPP)

STUDY  
CAIRNS

CONNECTS

## Client Information

Practera

The CONNECTS BPP is a program offered by Study Cairns in partnership with Practera designed to enhance student employability and provide positive business outputs for local employers (clients).

## How It Works

The BPP is a 3-week program in which teams of international students work collaboratively to deliver a consulting project for a local **Government Agency, Business or Nonprofit**. Teams are guided by a structured program, learning content via Practera's technology platform and receiving support from an appointed professional mentor.

The program aims to provide:

- Cairns-based students with an opportunity to develop 21st century employability skills and expand their social and professional networks.
- Clients with real outputs by having culturally diverse, multidisciplinary teams work on key business challenges.



## Client Requirements

Clients are required to provide the following:

1. A **project brief** outlining the scope, desired outcomes and success criteria of the project.
2. A **single point of contact** for the project team, committing up to **2 hours per week** for meetings and feedback.
3. A **small amount of executive time** to attend a **briefing and networking session** and host the **final presentation**.
4. A **professional mentor** from within the organisation (with 2+ years of professional experience in any sector), who will commit up to **2 hours per week** for meetings and feedback to support the project team (and also benefit from the professional development experience).

Engage a team of international students to undertake a 3-week project for your organisation!

Next Cohort: 11 February – 1 March 2019

To find out how to get involved, please email [connects@studycairns.com.au](mailto:connects@studycairns.com.au)

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# BENEFITS FOR YOUR ORGANISATION



**Culturally diverse and interdisciplinary team**

Have a diverse and multidisciplinary team look at your business challenges and bring on a fresh, new perspective, as well as creativity and innovation. The team may have specific overseas market knowledge you can tap into.



**Real outcomes**

Your student team will be required to develop solutions and recommendations, and present these in a final report as well as presentation format.



**Employee learning and development**

Opportunity for the client and/or mentor to develop project management skills as well as experience leading a diverse team.



**Talent access**

Work with a team of students and see how they perform under time pressure on a real world team project. Note that there is no requirement to engage the students post-project.

## HOW IS THIS PROGRAM DIFFERENT?



**No costs incurred by you or your organisation.**



**Remote team that works independently**



**Manageable and efficient**  
Practera coordinates the program.



**Online and offline support for your team** through the app and a professional mentor. This ensures greater outcomes.



**250 - 300 hours of dedicated student work** over a three week period.



**Help students develop key skills** for the present and future of work whilst getting real outcomes for your organisation.



**Practera**

Practera is a multiple award-winning, recognised tech innovator and education provider that has facilitated high quality work-integrated learning experiences for over 10 000 students.

# FAQs

## **What discipline are the students from?**

You will get a team of 5 - 6 students, all studying different disciplines. The majority of students will be studying a non-technical discipline (e.g. marketing, finance, accounting, international relations, policy, etc.).

## **Can I request for the students to be from a specific cultural background or discipline, which align with my project?**

You can let us know your preferences, and we will do our best to make it happen, but we cannot guarantee it.

## **What's the commitment from their side?**

The students commit up to 50 hours of work each, over the 3-week period. They also commit to act as consultants and cater to the needs and schedules of their client.

## **Do I need to provide office space for the students?**

No. The students work remotely and are not located at your offices, unless you'd like to offer them the option.

## **Who owns the work that the students deliver?**

The client owns the outputs and outcomes of the project.

## **What type of projects work the best?**

Non-technical projects like market research, social media strategy and competitor analyses.

## **Do you have example project briefs you can share?**

Yes, we've got example templates for the three projects mentioned above.

## **What are some project brief tips?**

- **Quality over quantity:** set project outcomes that are achievable within a 3-week period, and will give you real value and depth vs. generic recommendations
- **Outline clear project requirements**
- **Have realistic expectations:** have high standards for your project, but remember that these are students
- **Ask for help, if needed:** If you're not sure about what project to focus on, or how to define a scope, ask the Practera team