



**Australian
Science
Olympiads**

International Earth Science Olympiad 2026



**AUSTRALIAN
SCIENCE
INNOVATIONS**

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PROPOSAL



HISTORY

The International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) is an annual international competition for secondary school students that test skills in all major areas of Earth sciences through challenging theory and practical exams.

The IESO curriculum focuses on all major areas of Earth sciences, including geology, geophysics, meteorology, oceanography, terrestrial astronomy and environmental sciences. IESO aims to encourage students' interest and awareness of Earth Science; enhance Earth Science learning; encourage friendships among young learners from different countries; and promote international cooperation in exchanging ideas and materials on Earth sciences and Earth sciences education.

Australian Science Innovations (ASI) intends to host the International Earth Science Olympiad (IESO) in Adelaide in 2026. This event is a fantastic opportunity for Australia to showcase its world class facilities in Adelaide and its unique environment through a field trip to the Nilpena Ediacara National Park in the Flinders Ranges. To connect with international Earth Science educators and researchers and to showcase Australia's Earth and Environmental Science industry to the world's top Earth Science students.

The delivery of an International Science Olympiad is a significant operational and financial undertaking. ASI has considerable experience delivering international Science Olympiads having most recently successfully hosted the Asian Physics Olympiad in Adelaide in 2019.

The International Geoscience Education Organisation (IGEO) is also hosting their marquee event the Geoscience Education Conference (GeoSciEd) in Adelaide in 2026 and there will be significant cross over between attendees to the two events.

PROGRAM

ASI has developed a draft program for the event based on ASI's extensive experience supporting students to participate in the International Olympiads.

Two IESO programs run concurrently: one for students, one for team leaders. As team leaders are privy to the exams, the students and Team Leaders' programs run separately from each other to maintain the integrity of the competition.

The IESO program incorporates an International Team Field Investigation (ITFI), which will be held in the Flinders Ranges to take advantage of geoheritage sites that showcase extremely rare Ediacaran fossil assemblages in regional South Australia.

The IESO program also incorporates an Earth Science Poster (ESP) component. Both the ITFI and ESP are co-operative activities carried out by international groups of students during IESO promoting team work and networking amongst these talented students across international groups.



PROGRAM SCHEDULE

		Students			Team Leaders & Observers		
Date	Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
18-Aug	Tues	Arrivals			Arrivals		
19-Aug	Wed	Opening Ceremony	Free time	Meeting	Opening Ceremony	Exam Review	
20-Aug	Thu	Excursion		Meeting	Exam Review 2	Translation	
21-Aug	Fri	Theory Exam		Free time	Excursion		Free time
22-Aug	Sat	Practical Exam		Dinner with mentors	Excursion		Dinner with students
23-Aug	Sun	Travel to Flinders Ranges	ITFI Field work	Cultural evening	Travel to Flinders Ranges	ITFI observations	Cultural evening
24-Aug	Mon	ITFI Field work		Travel to Adelaide	ITFI observations		Travel to Adelaide
25-Aug	Tue	ITFI preparations			Exam moderation		Meeting
26-Aug	Wed	ITFI presentations		ESP* preparation	ITFI audience		Free time
27-Aug	Thu	ESP* preparation	ESP* presentations		Free time	ESP* audience	
28-Aug	Fri	Closing Ceremony	Free time	Farewell party	Closing Ceremony	Free time	Farewell party
29-Aug	Sat	Departure			Departure		

EARTH SCIENCE CAREER SHOWCASE

Australian Science Innovations plan to introduce a new element to the International Earth Science Olympiad 2026, an Earth Science Career Showcase.

The Showcase will include a range of Australian Earth Science industry partners and will provide them with an opportunity to showcase careers to the students after they have completed their ITFI and ESP presentations. Each industry partner will have a booth in the adjacent conference centre foyer where they can connect with students and discuss the amazing careers in Earth Science available in Australia.

WHY SUPPORT THE INTERNATIONAL EARTH SCIENCE OLYMPIAD BID 2026

Australia needs a robust pipeline of Earth Science professionals to pursue careers in areas of space, mining and mineral exploration, particularly to produce the critical minerals needed to manufacture batteries and renewable energy sources. Australia aims to triple the size of the Australia's space industry by 2030 and the mining and mineral exploration makes up 11% of Australia's GDP. Earth Science professionals also pursue careers in space, environmental science, groundwater monitoring, geotechnical work, and remote sensing, to name just a few of the potential applications of Earth Science. For Australia to produce innovative new technologies in these fields and to contribute to climate adaptation and mitigation strategies Earth Science professionals will be critical.

IESO2026 will not only develop Australia's top talent in Earth Science it will showcase Australia and Australian industries to the top global talent in these fields.



WE EXPECT:



500+
ATTENDEES



30+
COUNTRIES



100+
VOLUNTEERS



9 DAYS
**OF SOCIAL EVENTS
AND COMPETITIONS**

Around 30 or more countries are expected to attend, including Japan, USA, UK, Germany, France, Italy, Korea, Portugal, Indonesia, Estonia, Norway, China, Spain, Finland to name a few. Bringing approximately 250 students, and an additional number of team leaders, observers and visitors, we expect about 500 attendees at the main events such as the open and closing ceremony galas. These students are the brightest 15 to 18-year-old Earth Science students in their countries.

Australian and South Australian governments and industries will have the opportunity to showcase Australia, its industries and its education institutions to this extremely bright cohort of students – many of who are likely to become the world's future leading scientists and a number of whom may wish to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies or careers in Australia.



PARTNER WITH US TO DELIVER IESO 2026

ASI is looking for partners to support the International Earth Science Olympiad 2026 in Adelaide. Get your brand in front of the world's brightest students and help deliver a once-in-a-lifetime STEM event for students from across the globe. The nine-day program will include gala opening and closing ceremonies, challenging theory and practical competitions, and visits to scientific and cultural highlights around Adelaide, including the proposed World Heritage Ediacaran Fossil sites of the Flinders Ranges..

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES INCLUDE:

GOLD

150,000 ex GST

- Gold level company logo included on all signage, programming and website.
- Sponsorship of the welcome ceremony.
- Sponsorship of an IESO prize. Company representative invited to judge an IESO prize.
- Company representatives invited to attend the program (award ceremony, etc).
- Company representatives invited to attend the field trip in the Flinders Ranges.
- Company representatives invited to attend the cultural activities.
- Tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies.
- Tickets to the final celebration dinner.
- Booth at the Careers Expo Hall.
- Inclusion of promotional material in competitors' satchel.

SILVER

75,000 ex GST

- Silver level company logo included on all signage, programming and website.
- Sponsorship of an IESO prize.
- Company representatives invited to attend the program (award ceremony, etc).
- Tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies.
- Tickets to the final celebration dinner
- Booth at the Careers Expo Hall.
- Inclusion of promotional material in competitors' satchel.

BRONZE

15,000 ex GST

- Bronze level company logo included on all signage, programming and website.
- Tickets to the opening and closing ceremonies.
- Booth at the Careers Expo Hall.
- Inclusion of promotional material in competitors' satchel.

CAREER EXPO BOOTH \$2,500 EX GST

The career expo will be held in the foyer of the Adelaide Convention Centre across 2 days during the presentation phase of IESO2026.

Benefits include:

- Inclusion of promotional material in competitors' satchel.
- One standard booth.
- Company logo on website

Further sponsorship opportunities will be available as the program is finalised, contact Australian Science Innovations to find out more.



Proposal by:
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