General statement about COVID-19 impacting Practera Consulting Projects 2021

Due to the evolving situation of COVID-19, there may be unexpected changes to the delivery of Practera Consulting Projects (formerly known as Live Projects and GSTAR) in July 2021. The program is planned to be delivered entirely virtually for the July 2021 intake (subjecct to further updates).

Am I eligible for Practera Consulting Projects?

To be eligible for the July 2021 intake of Practera Consulting Projects, you need to be, **at the time of application (e.g. between Monday 12 April to Friday 30 April 2021):**

- A currently enrolled international student at the University (e.g. not an Australian Permanent Resident or Citizen)
- **An undergraduate student in your third year and above (e.g. have successfully completed more than 200 UoM credit points), or a postgraduate coursework or graduate research international student**
- Have the appropriate IT and technical resources to successfully participate in Live Projects (e.g. laptop and reliable internet connection)
- Have attended / watched the Careers and Employability Session on "Preparing your consulting projects application" with information on Smart Resume and addressing Key Selection Criteria.

You cannot apply for Practera Consulting Projects (formerly known as Live Projects or GSTAR) if you have participated in the program in the past.

Am I eligible for Global Trade Accelerator (GTA) too?

To be eligible for the July 2021 intake of GTA, you need to be, at the time of application (e.g. between Monday 12 April to Friday 30 April 2021):

- An undergraduate student, **or**
- A postgraduate coursework student in your first year and under (e.g. have successfully completed less than 100 UoM credit points).

You may be eligible to apply for GTA too if you are, at the time of application (e.g. between Monday 12 April to Friday 30 April 2021):

- An undergraduate international student in your third year and above (e.g. have successfully completed more than 200 UoM credit points), **or**

- A postgraduate coursework international student in your first year and under (e.g. have successfully completed less than 100 UoM credit points)

Eligible students can apply for both GTA and PCP but due to conflicting dates, students cannot complete placements for both Practera Consulting Projects (PCP) and Global Trade Accelerator (GTA) under the same July 2021 period.

Please note, you will need to submit separate applications and apply for both programs and the selection panel expects to receive different responses to each Key Selection Criteria.

If you are still unsure about your eligibility, please email the Student Engagement team (**student-engagement@unimelb.edu.au**).

How can I get assistance preparing my application?

We recommend students consult all available resources listed on the **Practera Consulting Projects webpage**. This includes:

1. Attending the Careers and Employability Session on **"Preparing your consulting projects application"** with information on Smart Resume and addressing Key Selection Criteria at **11:00am, Thursday 15 April 2021**.

   To register for the session, please visit http://go.unimelb.edu.au/c5pi. Please register with your University email address and student ID.

   If you cannot attend the 'live' session, the session will also be recorded. Please note attending or watching the recording of this session is a *hurdle* requirement.

   The link to the recorded session will be made available on the Practera Consulting Projects webpage after the 'live' session at **https://students.unimelb.edu.au/careers/get-career-ready/leadership-and-employability-programs/live-projects-for-international-students**

You can also preview a PDF of the Practera Consulting Projects July 2021 Application Form ahead of formally commencing an application via Careers Online (SSO required) at: https://careersonline.unimelb.edu.au/docs/494/PCP-JULY-2021-APP-FORM.pdf

For more information on how you can develop your employability while you study, please visit The University of Melbourne's Careers website **https://students.unimelb.edu.au/careers**

Can I make changes to my application after I have submitted it?

If you need to make any changes to your application answers after submitting the form, you will need to resubmit a new form. After the closing deadline, we will take your latest submission as your final application.

How will my application be assessed?

Your application will be assessed by a selection panel of University staff using the Key Selection Criteria listed on the Application Form. All applicants will be notified about their application outcome by **Friday 4 June 2021**, latest.

I am working/planning to work/studying over the summer/winter break, can I apply for Practera Consulting Projects?

While it is not strictly recorded, it is expected that students will spend ~50 to 60 hours overall across the 3-week timeframe on Practera Consulting Projects with their project team. This includes 10 to 12 hours (including deliverable feedback) of engagement with their project client and mentor, and ~6 hours of online content a week. The exact hours of commitment will depend on your project team and the project deliverables from your client, as this varies from client to client and are based on the client's project brief and guidelines. Deliverables are group-based.

You will need to ensure that you are able to make yourself available to participate in the University's and Practera's compulsory sessions to successfully complete this program.

Are there any fees required for participation in this program / do I receive any payment post program?

No, there are no fees required for participation in this program. The University of Melbourne, together with Study Melbourne subsidize the cost for students to be involved with Practera Consulting Projects. It is important to note that this program is an unpaid, extra-curricular skills development opportunity.

Students who successfully complete Practera Consulting Projects will receive a digital certificate from Study Melbourne and Practera.

Can we choose our team, and industry partner or client?

The matching process is done by Practera and not The University of Melbourne. Please note that the exact host organization and client you will be working with will only be determined once Practera receives student confirmations from the other participating Victorian Universities. Host organization matching, and allocations are only done closer to the start of the placement dates.

If there is not a particular industry aligned to your area of study and/or interests, we would encourage you to take this opportunity to explore potential career paths and industries you may not have previously considered in line with the objective of the Practera Consulting Projects Program.

Do we have to meet up as a team?

For the July 2021 round, the project will be delivered virtually. This means that you will be working with your team members, your mentor and client entirely online. If circumstances change once Practera Consulting Projects commences, we will advise if you can choose to meet up and do group work in person. However please monitor **COVID-19 website** for updates and contact the program coordinator if you have any questions/concerns.

Are there any "marks" associated with this program?

No, there is no mark that you or your team receives. You will get feedback from your client and mentor throughout the program, but there is no formal "mark". Post program, students who successfully complete Practera Consulting Projects will receive a digital certificate from Study Melbourne and Practera.

Are we located at the client's office?

No, you will be working remotely for the duration of the three-week program. If circumstances allow at the time Practera Consulting Projects is in session, the client may invite you to meet at their office. Please monitor **COVID-19 website** for updates and contact Practera Consulting Projects Program Team if you have any questions/concerns.

What if I am unavailable for part of the program?

If you are unavailable for part of the program and you are concerned that this will impact your team significantly, please contact the Practera Consulting Projects Program Team. If you are partially unavailable, but can still contribute as a team member, please communicate this with your allocated team members.

How do I communicate with my team?
Successful students will be placed into teams and will receive further instructions from Practera, including details about the project brief, and the email addresses of your team members so you can reach out via email. You can also use the Practera chat function. You may also decide as a team to use other communication tools.

Do I have to present in the Practera Consulting Projects program?
Yes, each team is expected to present their findings in their submitted report to the client/s towards the end of Week 3. Presentations will be delivered virtually via zoom (subject to further updates) and although not compulsory, it is expected each person in the team should have a turn at presenting.

How do I contact my/our client?
Successful students will be placed into teams and will receive further instructions from Practera. This includes the details of their project brief, client and mentor. From there, you can email your client, or you can reach out to them via Practera chat.

For any further clarification and/or advice, please contact the Student Engagement team (**student-engagement@unimelb.edu.au**).