

SUPPLIER PAYMENTS PROCEDURE

SCOPE

This procedure applies to staff, students and suppliers involved in the purchase and sale of goods and/or services at all Monash University locations.

For the purpose of this procedure, references to 'the University' includes activity at Monash University Australia, Monash University Malaysia and Monash Suzhou, unless indicated otherwise.

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

The University supports the procurement of goods and services where there is a demonstrated business need. This procedure outlines how supplier payments are facilitated for purchases on behalf of the University.

Staff should refer to the University's [Procurement Policy](#) and [Procedure](#) for information on undertaking procurement activities on behalf of the University.

1. University suppliers

Creating a supplier account

- 1.1 The creation and management of supplier accounts is undertaken by:
 - the Supplier Engagement Team (SET), Purchasing to Payment Services (P2P) for Monash University Australia;
 - the Procurement and Accounts Payable Team (AP) for Monash University Malaysia.
- 1.2 For a new supplier account to be created, the staff member responsible for raising the purchase request (the requestor) must submit a request via the University's e-procurement platform(s), Coupa for Monash University Australia or eProcure for Monash University Malaysia.
- 1.3 A vendor will not be created where there is conflict with existing strategic or endorsed supply arrangements, unless an exemption is approved in line with the University's [Procurement Policy](#).
- 1.4 Prior to creating a new account, SET or AP must obtain all relevant account information from the supplier, including source document evidencing the supplier's bank account details.
- 1.5 The University will not engage with Australian based suppliers that do not have an active ABN or a Malaysian-based supplier that does not have an active CCM except in exceptional circumstances as approved by Corporate Finance Australia or the Payment Finance Team Malaysia.

Modifying supplier information

- 1.6 Where a supplier requests a change to their account, SET or AP will undertake a verification process to confirm authenticity of the request prior to updating the information in the University accounting platform. The verification process will be based on whether a request is made to change sensitive supplier information or non-sensitive supplier information.

Deactivating a supplier

- 1.7 All active supplier records are reviewed on a quarterly basis. A supplier will be deactivated if either of:
 - the suppliers ABN (where applicable) or;
 - where there has been no account activity for more than 18 months and no open orders exist.
- 1.8 Where the supplier requests their account be deleted, SET or AP will undertake the following:
 - seek confirmation from the supplier of the reason for deleting the account and the supplier's current details; and,
 - implement restrictions on the supplier record to deactivate the account.

2. Invoicing requirements

Purchase requisitions

- 2.1 All purchase requisitions must be raised in the University's e-procurement platform.
- 2.2 Prior to engaging a vendor or commencing services under an agreement, the requestor must complete all relevant fields, including details of the purchase, commodity code or item code, cost centre and fund. The supporting documentation as set out in the [Procurement Policy](#) and [Procedure](#) must be uploaded for the applicable threshold value.
- 2.3 Where a purchase order is in a foreign currency and exceeds the threshold values set out in the [Foreign Exchange Hedging Procedure](#), the relevant faculty or portfolio should contact the Corporate Finance Treasury team to assess material exposure and the approach to hedging funds prior to the purchase requisition being raised, as set out in the [Foreign Exchange Hedging Procedure](#).
- 2.4 All requisitions over a value of AUD\$1000 for Monash University Australia will be submitted to the cost centre owner or authorised delegate for approval.
 - 2.4.1 In Malaysia, requisition values are approved as outlined on the Finance intranet site.
 - 2.4.2 All requisitions made by students, including requisitions under the value of AUD\$1,000 must be approved by the student's supervisor.
- 2.5 After the requisition has been approved, the supplier will receive the purchase order via email and through the e-procurement portal.
- 2.6 The supplier must submit the invoice into the e-procurement platform for approval by the requestor. In exceptional circumstances, the Manager, Payment Services (Australia) or the authorised member of the Accounts Payable Team (Malaysia) may approve an exemption to submitting the invoice to e-procurement platform.

Direct invoices

- 2.7 A direct invoice must be addressed to the University and clearly identify the vendor business name, address, description, value of the goods and services provided, and the value of any charges relating to the supply of goods or services.
- 2.8 All invoices provided by Australian suppliers must be made in accordance with Australia's GST legislation. See [ATO website](#) for more information. Invoices must be sent to invoicing@monash.edu to be entered into the e-procurement platform and submitted to the cost centre approver for review and approval.
- 2.9 All Invoices provided by Malaysian suppliers must be made in accordance with Malaysia's Sales and Services Tax legislation. See [MySST website](#) for more information. Invoices must be entered by the requesting staff member into the e-procurement platform to be submitted to the Accounts Payable team for authorisation and verification.

One-time suppliers (Monash University Australia only)

- 2.10 One-time suppliers may be advised to submit the invoice in accordance with requirements set out at 2.8, if:
 - the value of the purchase is less than AUD\$10,000 from a domestic supplier; or,
 - the equivalent of AUD\$15,000 for international vendors;
 - or the supplier will not be providing goods or services on more than three occasions

Disputing an invoice and credit notes

- 2.11 Where a requestor is disputing an invoice that has not been paid, the requestor may dispute the invoice in the e-procurement platform. The vendor will be notified of the dispute and may amend or withdraw the invoice.
- 2.12 If an invoice has been paid and is subsequently disputed (i.e. returned or faulty goods), a credit note must be provided by the supplier. The requestor must provide the reason(s) for the dispute in e-procurement platform.

3. Facilitating payments

- 3.1 Australian Supplier payments are made twice-weekly, with an exemption of month-end week one payments that are made on the 30th of the month, in accordance with the University's standard supplier terms. The standard payment term is 30 days End of Month from the date of invoice. A remittance advice will be sent with all payments.
- 3.2 Malaysian Supplier payments are made twice-monthly, with an exception for staff claims that are made once per month.
- 3.3 All payments will be made by EFT (domestic payments) or wire transfer (international), unless the supplier is unable to accept payment via either method.
 - 3.3.1 In exceptional circumstances, where EFT or wire transfer cannot be accepted, the University may make a cheque (domestic payments) or draft (international payments). These payments will normally be processed on a Thursday payment run (Australia).

- 3.4 An urgent payment request may be sent to accounts.payable@monash.edu for Australia or to revenuefinance@monash.edu for Malaysia, with supporting rationale and documentation. The Payments Team Leader (Australia) or Senior Manager Finance (Malaysia) has absolute discretion to approve an out of cycle payment based on the information provided.

Other Payments

- 3.5 In exceptional circumstances at Monash University Australia, and with approval by the Manager, Treasury, Corporate Finance, a supplier may be paid via direct debit.
- 3.6 The University may make supplier payments on a corporate credit card if a supplier only accepts payment via credit card, or where the staff member requests the payment method via the e-procurement platform due to the nature of the purchase (for example, immediate deposit requirement or subscription services). Staff who are making purchases on behalf of the University using their corporate credit card must adhere to the requirements outlined in the [Corporate Credit Card Policy](#) and [Procedure](#).

4. Stopping payments

- 4.1 A payment initiated as a cheque or draft (in accordance with 3.3.1 above) may be stopped by initiating the [Request to Cancel/Stop/Replace Cheque form](#). For payments commenced via draft, additional detail must also be submitted to Accounts Payable, as follows:
- the accounting platform document number, amount and draft number to be stopped;
 - whether a replacement is required.
- 4.2 Where the cheque or draft has not been presented, a stop will be put on the cheque and may be reissued, if requested by the supplier.
- 4.3 Stop payments for foreign drafts incur bank fees which will be charged back to the requesting department and will be apportioned to the cost centre per the account code charged on the original invoice.

5. Document retention

- 5.1 All relevant documentation will be maintained in accordance with the University's Recordkeeping Procedure, and be made accessible as required by the ATO in Australia or IRB in Malaysia.

DEFINITIONS

ABN	Australian Business Number
Authorised Supplier Contact	Email accounts listed in the University's procurement portal database as invited by the Primary Contact
ATO	Australian Tax Office
CCM	Companies Commission Malaysia
Direct Invoices	Non purchase order related invoices (non backed invoices).
EFT	Electronic Funds Transfer
IRB	Inland Revenue Board Malaysia
Purchase Order	A formal document initiated by the University and forwarded to a Supplier, normally used to form the basis of a one-off contract between the parties for the supply of goods and/or services to the University.
Remittance	Transfer of funds
Primary Contact	Individual that is detailed in the University's procurement portal database
Source document	Document evidencing authenticity of a supplier's details, including bank details
Sensitive Supplier Information	Includes all bank information and the Primary Contact record

GOVERNANCE

Parent policy	Cash and Financial Management Policy
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Supporting schedules	N/A
Associated procedures	Accounts Receivable Procedure Debtor Viability Assessment Procedure Foreign Exchange Hedging Procedure Procurement Procedure
Legislation mandating compliance	N/A
Category	Operational
Approval	Chief Financial Officer and Senior Vice-President 26 March 2021
Endorsement	Payment Services Manager, Purchasing Support 26 March 2021
Procedure owner	Payment Services Manager, Purchasing Support
Date effective	19 April 2021
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Content enquiries	accounts.payable@monash.edu