



Explanatory Statement

Employability skills development through AI-powered interview and resume simulations

Invitation to Participate in Research

You are invited to participate in a research project being conducted by Monash University. This document provides information about the research to help you decide whether you would like to participate.

What is this research about?

Chief Investigator: Dr Amna Mazeah, Office of Deputy Vice chancellor, Student Experience

We are evaluating the effectiveness of the ATLAS platform - an innovative AI-powered educational tool designed to help university students develop employability skills in resume writing and interview techniques. The platform provides interactive simulations and personalised feedback to help you build confidence and competence in job application processes.

This research aims to understand how students engage with AI-powered career skill development tools and whether these tools effectively prepare students for real-world job applications.

What does participation involve?

Using the ATLAS Platform (Available to all students)

You can access the ATLAS platform to:

- Build and improve your resume with AI-powered feedback
- Practice job interviews with virtual AI avatars
- Receive personalised suggestions for improvement
- Develop confidence in job application processes

Platform access is available to all students regardless of research participation.

Research Participation (Optional)

If you choose to participate in the research component, you may be asked to:

1. Complete online surveys (5-10 minutes each)

- Brief questionnaires about your experience using the platform

- Questions about confidence levels and skill development
- Feedback on platform features and usability

2. Participate in focus group discussions (Optional - 1 hour)

- Small group discussions about your platform experience
 - Share insights about what features were most helpful
 - Provide suggestions for platform improvements
 - **Focus group participants will receive a \$50 AUD voucher**
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What are the benefits and risks?

Benefits

- **Contribution to research** that may improve career education for future students
- **\$50 AUD voucher** for focus group participants

Risks

This research carries minimal risks. The main considerations are:

- **Time commitment** for surveys and optional focus groups
 - **Privacy protection** - we implement strict data security measures to protect your information
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What happens to the information I provide?

Data Collection and Use

- Survey responses will be **anonymous** - we cannot link responses to individual participants
- Focus group discussions will be **audio recorded and transcribed**
- **Interview transcripts** from your platform interactions may be analysed
- All data will be used solely for research purposes to evaluate platform effectiveness

Privacy and Confidentiality

- Your identity will be **protected** in all research outputs
- Data will be stored securely on **Monash University systems**
- Only authorised research team members will have access to the data
- **No individual students will be identifiable** in research publications

Data Storage and Retention

- Data will be stored securely for **5 years** after research completion
 - After this period, all data will be permanently deleted
 - You can request removal of your data at any time during the study
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Your rights as a participant

Voluntary Participation

- Participation in this research is **completely voluntary**
- You can **use the ATLAS platform** whether or not you participate in the research
- You can choose to participate in surveys but not focus groups, or vice versa

Withdrawal

- You can **withdraw** from the research at any time without penalty
- Your platform access will **continue unchanged** if you withdraw from research
- You can request **deletion of your data** up until research analysis begins

Questions and Concerns

If you have any questions about this research, please contact:

atlas.ai@monash.edu

Consent and Next Steps

How to Participate

- **Platform access:** Available immediately upon registration
- **Research participation:** Indicate your interest during platform registration
- **Focus groups:** You'll be contacted with available times if interested

Consent Process

By proceeding with research participation, you indicate that you:

- Have read and understood this explanatory statement
- Understand that participation is voluntary
- Consent to the collection and use of your data as described
- Understand you can withdraw at any time

Contact Information

Primary Contact: Dr Amna Mazeh - 0422268343

Thank you for considering participation in this research. Your contribution will help improve career education tools for future students at Monash University.