

Research, Commercialisation and Startup Fund

STREAM 1: CALL FOR PROPOSALS COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – ROUND 21 SUPPORT

The Commonwealth Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) Program was established in 1990 and supports industry-led collaborations between businesses, government, researchers and the community. It is a proven model for linking researchers with industry to focus on research and development towards the development of new products and services.

The Research, Commercialisation and Startup Fund (RCSF) supports collaboration between businesses, researchers and universities to solve industrial problems, commercialise new products and services, attract investment into research and research infrastructure into the State and encourage the establishment and growth of startups. This includes those initiatives that leverage investment to build research and development capabilities in South Australia from Commonwealth Government Programs.

As part of the RCSF, the Department for Innovation and Skills has announced a Call for Proposals which aims to optimise the strategic benefits of the Commonwealth CRC Program within South Australia by encouraging South Australian Government agencies to be involved in a national CRC.

For clarity, for this Call for Proposals, funding is only available to applications being made for a CRC not a CRC Project.

Proposals are encouraged that have outputs that will encourage opportunities to strengthen the future of South Australia.

Funding awarded from the Research, Commercialisation and Startup Fund through this Call for Proposals will be conditional on the award of funding from Round 21 of the Commonwealth CRC Program.

The objectives of this Call for Proposals are to:

- provide South Australian Government agencies with the opportunities to participate in CRCs; this provides additional capacity to the agency and improved access to knowledge transfer, which can deliver direct economic, social and/or environmental benefits to the State;
- influence the CRC's research objectives, activities and projects to address issues relevant to South Australia;
- provide funding to contribute to capacity building through the employment of researchers and technologists in South Australia;
- promote regional development through the creation of new jobs and the seeding of future industry development opportunities; and
- assist to develop networks between researchers, industry participants and regulators both nationally and internationally.

Eligibility

- Proposals for the CRC Assistance Program will be accepted from South Australian based public or private research organisations (including universities, research institutes, and Commonwealth research organisations)
- Proposals are required to have at least one South Australian Government agency participant in the CRC.

Funding

The Department for Innovation and Skills will provide up to three years of funding at the following rates:

- Up to \$100,000 per annum for a CRC node located in South Australia
- Up to \$200,000 per annum for a CRC headquarter located in South Australia.

Funding is subject to the provision of a satisfactory response to an annual survey and a CRC annual report to be submitted to the Department for Innovation and Skills in March each year.

Selection criteria

Eligible Proposals will be assessed competitively against the following criteria:

- purpose of the CRC and the proposed benefits to South Australia, aligned with the Industry Financial Assistance Principles (detailed in the RCSF Guidelines <https://innovationandskills.sa.gov.au/funds/research-commercialisation-and-startup-fund>);
- development of research themes and suitability of research leaders;
- expected outcomes of the funding support from the RCSF, including how the funding will be used to increase the competitiveness of a CRC Program application;
- alignment with South Australia's vision to grow the economy and deliver key services to families and businesses; and
- potential for the CRC to foster and build critical mass and key R&D capabilities in South Australia.

Assessment and selection process

The assessment and selection process will be managed by the Department for Innovation and Skills.

Proposals will be assessed competitively on their relative merit against the selection criteria set out above and in accordance with the RCSF guidelines.

A final decision to support a proposal will be made by the Minister.

Each party involved in the selection process must declare any conflict of interest that exists or is likely to arise in relation to any aspect of the application being submitted.

Submission process

Proposals must be submitted online and address the following:

- a focussed description of the CRC i.e. key objectives, research themes, partner organisations etc
- a description of expected outcomes resulting from Government funding support and key performance indicators
- a description of governance arrangements of the CRC
- summary of funding commitments to be provided by the Administering Organisation, research partners and any other stakeholders/industry support for the CRC

- summary of research, skills development and translational activity that will occur in South Australia.

Please attach a copy of your CRC Bid Prospectus when you apply online.

Applications must be lodged with Department for Innovation and Skills by 12 midday (ACST), 7 June 2019

Upon submission you will receive a receipt of your application along with a copy of your submission.

With a time limit of 15 minutes, each CRC bid team will be given the opportunity to present their proposal to an assessment panel. Based on this and the application, the panel will provide their advice on which, if any, proposals the South Australian Government should support.

No more than four members of the bid team can present to the panel. An appropriate representative from the CRC's South Australian Government participating agency must attend the proposal presentation.

These interviews are likely to occur in the week beginning 17 June 2019

Contact

For questions about this Call for Proposals and the application process, please contact:

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