

Round One, Infrastructure Build Out Program

Form Preview

NSW Infrastructure Build Out Program

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The NSW Government, through the Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer (OCSE), Investment NSW, Department of Enterprise, Investment and Trade, invites Universities, Publicly Funded Research Organisations, Research Facilities (that are not supported by National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy funding), Private firms and consortia to apply for funding under Build Out.

The NSW Government recognises strong research and development (R&D) capability is a critical driver for innovation in the State's economy. Research and innovation infrastructure, including high-tech facilities, equipment and staff, underpins the state's ability to turn R&D into new industries, technologies and services.

Build Out will support critical R&D and innovation infrastructure proposals that align to the industry, technology and innovation needs of the state, such as one of the technology themes identified in the NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap or support or enable one of the priority industries, technologies or focus precincts listed in the NSW Industry Development Framework.

Build Out will invest up to \$31 million in 2022-23 in research and innovation infrastructure for shared facilities, equipment and technical expertise and initiatives, which will be considered in two funding streams. In the Quantum Funding Stream, approximately \$10 million of the *Build Out* funding will be used to support shared facilities, equipment and technical expertise and initiatives that would underpin quantum computing and devices, as part of the NSW Government's Quantum Action Plan. The General Funding Stream (\$21 million) will support shared facilities, equipment and technical expertise and initiatives in other industries.

The **Objective** of *Build Out* is to increase research and innovation scale and excellence, industry access to cutting-edge equipment, workforce pipeline, collaboration, or economic outcomes through open-access research and innovation infrastructure in the themes, priority industries, technologies or focus precincts listed in Table 1.

Shared facilities, equipment, resources, expertise and supporting investment and activities should contribute to the below Outcomes:

- **Outcome 1** - Increase the availability and use of open-access research and innovation infrastructure (e.g., facilities, equipment, resources and expertise).
- **Outcome 2** - Increase collaborative R&D and innovation within the NSW innovation community (academia, industry, government, non-government organisations and students).
- **Outcome 3** -a) Increase R&D output, translation and other commercial outcomes and/ or b) contribute to a robust talent pipeline of technical skills and career pathways.

Build Out is a sub program of the Innovation Research Acceleration Program (IRAP) in the Future Economy Fund. The IRAP delivers a series of infrastructure support grants to enable the delivery of, and equitable access to, necessary research and innovation infrastructure.

For further information about *Build Out*, including eligibility and assessment criteria, please refer to the *Infrastructure Build Out Program Guidelines*.

Grants provided for projects would be:

- a minimum of \$500,000

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- a maximum of \$10,000,000
- paid over a maximum of 24 months or until 30 June 2025 Specified expenditure of NSW funds must align with conditions outlined in Section 3.2.

Build Out is a two-stage process:

- Expression of Interest (EOI)
- Detailed Application – invite only

Please provide concise and succinct responses.

This EOI application form must be:

- completed in full and within the word limit
- authorised by the project lead or representative of the lead organisation, and
- submitted electronically through SmartyGrants.

Where an application is not lodged through the SmartyGrants form, DEIT reserves the right to deem the application as non-conforming and can consider it at its absolute discretion.

Program Guidelines

[Future Economy Fund - IRAP Infrastructure Build Out Program](#)

Closing date

The closing date for EOIs is 10:00 AEST Thursday, 9 February 2023.

Next steps

Looking for assistance in applying?

At DEIT, we are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We encourage people with disability to apply. If you are a person with disability and require more information on adjustments and assistance to apply, please contact us at grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au. Assistance in completing this application can be found at [Communities and Justice](#), [People with Disability Australia](#) or [Legal Aid](#).

If you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander check out [Aboriginal Affairs](#) or your country's [Aboriginal Corporation](#) to get assistance in the preparations of applications and grant program processes.

Impacts from COVID-19

DEIT is committed to responsible management of COVID-19. The project team must comply with any current government regulations as outlined by [NSW Health](#).

A. Applicant Identification

* indicates a required field

Project and Applicant details

A1. Project Title *

A3. Project Lead Contact Details

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Applicant *

Individual Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

Project Lead Position *

Primary Address *

Address

Postal Address *

Address

Project Lead Phone Number *

Must be an Australian phone number.

Project Lead Email *

Must be an email address.

Applicant ABN *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	
Entity name	
ABN status	
Entity type	
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	
DGR Endorsed	
ATO Charity Type	More information
ACNC Registration	
Tax Concessions	

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Main business location

Must be an ABN.

Applicant Primary Website (if available)

Must be a URL.

A4. Project Partner/s (If applying as a consortium)

Does this project have a partnering individual or organisation?

Yes No

If so how many project partners are there?

1 2 3 4 5

A5. Project Partner/s Details

Partner

Individual Organisation

Organisation Name

Title First Name Last Name

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Partner ABN

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

Information from the Australian Business Register

ABN

Entity name

ABN status

Entity type

Goods & Services Tax (GST)

DGR Endorsed

ATO Charity Type

[More information](#)

ACNC Registration

Tax Concessions

Main business location

Must be an ABN.

Partner Position

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Partner Primary Address

Address

Partner Postal Address

Address

Partner Primary Phone Number

Must be an Australian phone number.

Partner Primary Email

Must be an email address.

B. Grant funding, NSW Infrastructure Build Out Program

* indicates a required field

B1. How much funding is requested (\$500,000 - \$10,000,000)?

Must be a number.

B2. Are you applying for funding under the *

- the Quantum Funding Stream
 the General Funding Stream

B3. Has your proposal already received NSW Government funding for the same outputs and/or outcomes? *

- Yes No

If yes, please provide some details of the funding recieved.

B4. What are you seeking funding for? Choose all that apply: *

- new equipment and technology to assist R&D, innovation and commercialisation in multiple user organisations
 major equipment upgrades or replacement, or equipment to increase the 'industry offering' of the facility
 laboratory facilities improvement to facilitate industry access

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- employment of, or training for, highly skilled technical experts where it can be shown that this enhances end-user access or other outcomes from the use of equipment
- business development managers or industry application scientists employed by a university, research infrastructure facility or consortium to assist SMEs and companies to navigate the research and commercialisation pathways and access infrastructure
- specialised technologies and systems to facilitate researcher and industry access
- industry-focused collaborative programs driving access to infrastructure and commercialisation, which can be joint across facilities.

C. Potential benefits to NSW

* indicates a required field

Presence in NSW

C1. Is your organisation: *

- headquartered in NSW or
- are you planning a major research/innovation presence in NSW? (Applicants must be based in NSW before entering into a Deed of Agreement with DEIT)

Financial impact

C2. Will the grant monies be used on activities undertaken within NSW, and on staff, students, or equipment to be located in NSW? *

- Yes
- No

(Note: Applications that propose spending grant funding on partners, activities or items outside of NSW will not be eligible (other than the purchase of equipment to bring to NSW or where a small portion of funding is required to support back office operational expenses in other jurisdictions to support the NSW-based

Aligning with industry, technology, and innovation needs

C3. Does your proposal align to the industry, technology and innovation needs of the state such as one of the technology themes identified in the NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap, or one of the priority industries, technologies or focus precincts listed in the NSW Industry Development Framework? (Select all themes that apply)

NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap

- Software
- Artificial intelligence
- Data analytics
- Quantum computing and devices
- Blockchain
- Robotics
- Communications, Sensing, Internet of Things
- Semiconductors
- Biochemical technologies
- Cell technologies
- Genetic and molecular technologies
- Nanotechnology
- Smart materials

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- Circular economy
- Nuclear science
- Renewable energy generation
- Energy storage
- Power to X

Priority industries

- Agriculture and agrifood
- Resources
- Defense and aerospace
- Clean energy and waste
- Medical and life sciences
- Digital systems and software
- International education
- Visitor economy

Core enabling technologies

- Digital technology
- Advanced manufacturing
- Biotechnology

Focus precincts

- Aerotropolis
- Westmead
- Tech Central
- Renewable Energy Zones
- Hydrogen Hubs
- Special Activation Precincts
- Regional Job Precincts

D. Project details

Project impact

D1. Provide a brief overview of the proposed infrastructure. Clearly describe how Build Out funding will be used and if, or how, the project could be delivered without Build Out support.

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

D2. Please explain why NSW needs the proposed infrastructure and how the state will benefit from the investment. Is the proposed infrastructure duplicative of existing facilities?

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

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D3. How does your proposal align to one or more of the Infrastructure Build Out Program R&D and innovation infrastructure themes, as listed in Table 1 of the Build Out Guidelines?

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

D4. How does your proposal meet Outcome 1 - Increase the availability and use of open-access research and innovation infrastructure (e.g., facilities, equipment, resources, and expertise) for researchers, startups, and industry?

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

D5. How does your proposal meet Outcome 2: Increase collaborative R&D and innovation within the NSW innovation community (academia, industry, government, non-government organisations and students)?

Word count:
Must be no more than 400 words.

D6. How does your proposal meet Outcome 3: a) Increase R&D output, translation, and other commercial outcomes and/or b) contribute to a robust talent pipeline of technical skills and career pathways?

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

D7. What is your proposed operating model to ensure open access for researchers, startups and industry?

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

Deliverability

D8. Please describe any partners or collaborators to the project.

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

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D9. Please describe your capability and capacity to deliver a public infrastructure project, including experience and expertise of you and your partners.

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

Application Declaration

Prior to application submission, the Applicant (Project Lead) should read the below declaration and complete if in agreement to these program requirements.

By agreeing to the below, I declare that:

- I have read and understood the funding guidelines with respect to assistance under this program
- All details in this application are true and complete
- all named participants in the application have agreed that this application is an accurate representation.

I Agree

Yes

No

Project Lead Full Name

Project Lead Position Held

Date of Declaration

Must be a date.