

Factsheet

Industry 4.0 Testlabs for Australia

A pilot program that supports establishment of six Industry 4.0 Testlabs across Australia that will provide innovation support for small and medium enterprises in priority industry growth sectors.

What does it offer?

The grant opportunity is delivered as a pilot program and will provide \$6 million to support the establishment of six initial Australian 4.0 testlabs that can underpin the expansion of a broader national network. The grant opportunity builds on the recommendations of the [Industry 4.0 Testlabs in Australia](#)¹ report, released by the Prime Minister's Industry 4.0 Taskforce, which advocates for a network of testlabs across Australia.

The following universities are invited to apply by the Minister for this pilot grant opportunity:

- The University of Queensland
- University of Technology Sydney
- University of South Australia
- University of Western Australia
- Swinburne University of Technology
- University of Tasmania.

These universities were strategically selected for the pilot grant opportunity to leverage off their existing collaborative partnerships with industry, including the in-kind support from Siemens Australia through the provision of product lifecycle management software and/or equipment.

The grant amount will be up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs. The maximum grant amount is up to \$1,000,000.

How does it work?

Industry 4.0 testlabs established through this grant opportunity will support small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in several of the Australian Government's priority growth sectors. These may include:

- Advanced manufacturing
- Cyber security
- Food and agribusiness
- Medical technologies and pharmaceuticals
- Mining equipment, technology and services
- Oil, gas and energy resources.

The testlabs must focus on building capability in SMEs to embrace the latest technologies and digital innovation, including:

- the internet of things
- big data and analytics
- cybersecurity
- robotics
- sensors and automation
- innovative production methods.

¹ <https://www.industry.gov.au/sites/g/files/net3906/f/July%202018/document/pdf/industry-4.0-testlabs-report.pdf>

Who can apply?

To be eligible you must:

- be invited to apply
- be one of the universities listed in section 4.2 of the Industry 4.0 Testlabs for Australia grant opportunity guidelines and section 4.1 the Industry 4.0 Testlabs for Australia (University of Tasmania) grant opportunity guidelines.
- have an Australian Business Number (ABN)
- be an entity incorporated in Australia and a trading corporation, where your trading activities
 - form a sufficiently significant proportion of the corporation's overall activities as to merit it being described as a trading corporation; or
 - are a substantial and not merely peripheral activity of the corporation.

What projects and activities are eligible?

To be eligible your project must:

- establish a new Industry 4.0 testlab facility or upgrade an existing testlab to Industry 4.0 capability
- provide free and open access to SMEs (to hardware and software) in the priority growth sectors
- focus on upskilling SMEs in Industry 4.0 technology
- include eligible activities and eligible expenditure.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- purchase, installation and commissioning of Industry 4.0 technology, software, hardware or equipment (other than that provided by Siemens Australia)
- upgrade or modification of existing laboratory to incorporate Industry 4.0 technology.

Projects must be completed by 31 December 2019.

Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for further information on eligibility requirements.

How will my application be assessed?

If eligible we will assess your application against the merit criteria using the indicated weighting:

- How your project aligns with the program objectives, in particular how it will benefit Small and Medium Enterprises (50 points)
- Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project (25 points)
- Impact of the grant (25 points).

What will I need to do if successful?

You must enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. A sample [grant agreement](#) is available on business.gov.au and [GrantConnect](#)².

The grant agreement will require you to report on your completed activities.

We will make a single upfront payment on execution of the grant agreement. You will be required to report how you spent the grant funds at the completion of the project.

How do I apply?

You should read the [Grant Opportunity Guidelines](#) before you apply.

To apply, you must complete and submit your application through the online portal.

Where can I find more information?

Visit business.gov.au or call 13 28 46.

² <https://www.grants.gov.au/>