



Frequently Asked Questions

Regional Jobs and Investment Packages

Applications

1. When can I submit an application?

Applications will open in each region once the Local Investment Plan is published. Register your interest on business.gov.au to receive updates on program information.

2. Can I submit more than one application?

Yes. If you have more than one project you may submit additional applications. You must ensure you can fund your share of each project.

3. Can I submit applications under multiple streams?

Yes. However each stream has different eligibility requirements. While you may be eligible for one or even two streams, you are unlikely to be able to apply under all three as a sole or lead applicant.

One project cannot be submitted under more than one stream. You must choose the stream you are applying for in your application, with each stream requiring a separate application.

4. Can I submit applications in more than one region?

Yes. To be eligible your project must be located within an eligible RJIP region or you must demonstrate that your project will directly benefit an RJIP region and align with that region's Local Investment Plan.

One project cannot span more than one region as different Local Investment Plans will apply and your project must align with the Local Investment Plan. If you are an eligible entity, your organisation may apply for funding in different regions with different projects that align with the relevant Local Investment Plans.

Each project will require a separate application.

5. How do I confirm whether my project is located within a region?

Maps of each of the ten pilot regions can be found on business.gov.au on the region's page. The maps show the local council areas within each region. Your project location, or the direct benefit of your project must be within those council areas.

6. Can I apply if my project will take place outside of an eligible region?

Yes. You can apply for funding however to be competitive, you will need to demonstrate that your project will have a direct benefit on the relevant RJIP region.

This could be in terms of how the project will create jobs, increase economic activity or deliver skills and training to individuals located in the region.

Funding

7. What is co-funding?

Co-funding is the term given to your cash contribution to the project. Your contribution demonstrates your commitment to the project.

In this program grant funding is up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs (also called the grant percentage). If you have no other source of funding this would mean your contribution, or co-funding requirement, would also be 50 per cent of the eligible project costs.

You may also provide an in-kind contribution to your project. This would be considered in the assessment process but does not count towards your co-funding.

8. What is an exceptional circumstances co-funding exemption?

For applicants applying under the **Local infrastructure stream** and **Skills and training stream** you may be eligible for an exemption to the co-funding requirement of 50 per cent. You can apply for this if you can demonstrate you are experiencing exceptional circumstances such as drought or disaster. Other examples are in the [program guidelines](#). You must present a very strong case and exemptions will only be granted in rare circumstances.

Your request for an exemption will be considered by the Ministerial Panel. If your request is not granted your application will be ineligible.

9. What happens to my application if I am not granted a co-funding exemption?

If you are not granted a co-funding exemption your application is deemed ineligible and is not considered for funding.

10. Can I receive additional funding from other government sources?

For applicants applying under the **Local infrastructure stream** and **Skills and training stream** no more than 50 per cent of your total eligible project costs can be funded from Commonwealth government grants unless you are granted an exceptional circumstances co-funding exemption.

For applicants applying under the **Business innovation stream** no more than 50 per cent of your total eligible project costs can be funded from Commonwealth, state or local government grants. There is no co-funding exemption for this stream.

11. Can I source funding from other non-government sources?

Yes. Your 50 per cent contribution can come from other sources. You will be required to indicate your source of funding in your application.

12. Why am I being asked to submit an accountant declaration?

In order to assure the success of your project, we require certainty that you are able to provide your share of the total project cost not met by the grant.

The mandatory accountant declaration is a simple way of demonstrating that you can meet your share of project costs. The declaration can be completed by your regular accountant who understands your financial position.

If your RJIP project is part of a larger project (that includes ineligible expenditure), you will need to indicate you can fund the larger project.

Without this assurance your application will not be considered eligible and will not proceed to merit assessment.

Projects

13. I have already started a project that aligns with this program. Is it eligible?

No. The program does not fund any projects that have already started. You should also not start your project before you have an executed grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

If you need to start planning for your project prior to the execution of a grant agreement then any expenditure you incur on these activities would be considered ineligible.

14. I operate a private hotel and wish to construct a new guesthouse in the region. Are new building expenses eligible under the program?

Yes – new building construction costs are eligible under both the Infrastructure and Business Innovation streams. Costs associated with extension of existing premises or modifications including fit out of existing buildings are also eligible. However, we will not fund the purchase of land nor the purchase of existing buildings or infrastructure.

Grant agreement

15. What information about my project will be made public?

All successful applicants will have certain details of their project published. Your organisation name, project title and project description as submitted in your application form and the amount of funding you receive will be made public.

16. I have read the sample grant agreement on business.gov.au and want to changes some clauses, is that possible?

The main clauses within the grant agreement are not negotiable. There are schedules which will be completed, specific to your project which a customer service manager will discuss with you. If you are not comfortable complying

with the fixed clauses of the grant agreement then you should reconsider applying for an RJIP grant.

17. Need more information?

For more information, visit business.gov.au, call 13 28 46 or speak to your local AusIndustry [Regional Manager](#).