



Australian Government

Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Sample application form

Australia-India Strategic Research Fund: Collaborative Research Projects Round 16

This document shows the questions included in the online application form for this grant opportunity. It will help you prepare your responses and the mandatory attachments you need before you apply online.

Instructions

The online form captures the information required by the department to assess and manage your application for services and funding.

The first page of the application page contains the following instructions.

Completing your application

The application consists of separate pages as shown in the navigation menu on the left hand side of the portal page. You can navigate between pages using the menu or the buttons at the bottom of each page.

A warning message may appear if you have not completed all of the mandatory questions or if there is an issue with information you have entered. If a question is not mandatory it will be clearly marked – Optional.

Saving your responses

You can save your changes at any time by using the Save button.

To prevent you losing your work you should save often. The portal will time out after 30 minutes if you do not save. Typing or moving your mouse does not reset the time out.

You must use the Save and Continue button to validate the information on each page. If you use the menu to navigate between pages, you will be prompted on the final page to go back and validate all of the information you have entered. A green tick indicates a validated page.

You can modify saved responses up until you submit your application.

Participants

You may invite others to assist in completing your application via the application summary page. To do this:

- Select the Participants button
- Enter the details

An email will be sent to your participant inviting them to assist with your application.

Submitting your application

You must complete every page of the application before you can submit.

You must also read and agree to the declaration which advises you of your responsibilities.

Check all your answers before you submit your application. After you submit, it will no longer be editable.

Internet browsers supported by the portal

We recommend that you use the following browsers for optimum functionality:

- On Windows: The latest versions of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge
- On Mac: The latest versions of Safari and Google Chrome

Getting help

If you require further assistance completing this form, [contact us](#) by email or web chat or on 13 28 46.

A. Program selection

Before you start your application, we need to first identify what type of entity is applying.

Some programs we offer allow entities without an ABN to apply. The form is designed to accommodate these entities. However for this grant opportunity, an ABN is mandatory. If you do not have an ABN this grant opportunity will not appear in the program selection at the bottom of the first page and you will not be able to continue.

If you are a trustee applying on behalf of a trust we will need details of both the trust and trustee.

Before you start you should have the following details ready if they are applicable to you.

- Australian Business Number (ABN)

A.1. Program selection

You must select from a drop-down menu the program that you are applying for. If you have been provided with an Invitation code, you will be able to enter it here which will select the program for you.

- Field 1 select - Australia-India Strategic Research Fund: Collaborative Research Projects Round 16
- Field 2 select - Australia-India Strategic Research Fund: Collaborative Research Projects Round 16

When you have selected the program, the following text will appear.

This grant opportunity will run over 4 years from 2025-26 to 2028-29.

The grant opportunity was announced as part of the Australia-India Strategic Research Fund. Up to \$4 million is available for this grant opportunity.

Refer to section 2 of the grant opportunity guidelines for the objectives and outcomes of the program.

Your project must be in a priority area. The priority areas for Round 16 of the Australia-India Strategic Research Fund are:

Indo-Australian Science and Technology Fund (administered by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in India)

- Critical minerals processing technologies and methods
- Quantum computing and communications
- Remanufacturing and product end-of-use recovery including electronic waste recycling.

Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund (administered by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in India)

- Biomanufacturing for industrial and consumer products, including biochemicals, biofuels and novel bio-based materials
- Biotechnology for improved agricultural productivity and climate resilience (including food security or renewable feedstocks)
- RNA vaccines and biotherapeutics (immunotherapy).

The maximum grant amount is \$1,000,000 and the minimum is \$200,000.

You should read the [grant opportunity guidelines](#) and [sample grant agreement](#) before filling out this application. We recommend you keep the guidelines open as you are completing your application so you can refer to them when providing your responses.

You may submit your application at any time up until 5.00pm AEST on 11 April 2025. Please take account of time zone differences when submitting your application.

To prevent you losing your work you should save often. The portal will time out after 30 minutes if you do not save. Typing or moving your mouse does not reset the time out.

Sample

B. Eligibility

We will ask you the following questions to establish your eligibility for the Australia-India Strategic Research Fund: Collaborative Research Projects Round 16 grant opportunity.

Questions marked with an asterisk are mandatory.

Select which type of entity your organisation is.

- an incorporated not for profit organisation
- a publicly funded research organisation (PFRO) as defined in section 14 of the grant opportunity guidelines
- an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust
- an Australian State / Territory Government agency or body
- an entity, incorporated in Australia
- none of the above.

You must select one of the eligible options from a drop down menu to proceed to the next question.

- Do you have a primary Indian partner who has submitted, or is in the process of submitting, a corresponding application to India's Department of Science and Technology (DST) or the Department of Biotechnology (DBT)? *

You must answer yes to proceed to the next section.

C. Applicant address

C.1. Applicant street address

You must provide your street address.

When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.

C.2. Applicant postal address

You must provide your postal address.

When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.

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D. Primary contact

You must provide the details of a primary contact for your application.

The primary contact is the person authorised to act on behalf of the applicant and we send all email correspondence to this person. If you are not the primary contact, we will send an email to this person to invite them to register as a participant in the application. It is important that they register, or our emails will not be received. We recommend you let them know this.

If these details change, inform us as soon as possible so emails can be redirected.

If this application is successful, the primary contact will also need to nominate an authorised signatory to accept an agreement with the Commonwealth. The primary contact will not be able to accept an agreement unless they invite themselves to be the authorised signatory as well.

- Title (optional)
- Given name
- Family name
- Phone number
- Email address
- Relationship to applicant

Authorised signatory

- Title (optional)
- Given name
- Family name
- Phone number
- Email address

E. About your organisation

We collect the following data from all applicants. We use this data to better understand your organisation and to help us develop better policies and programs.

E.1. Latest financial year figures

All values must be whole numbers. For example:

6.5 months should be presented as 7 months

\$2 million should be presented as \$2,000,000.

- Has your organisation existed for a complete financial year?
- If yes, what was the latest complete financial year?
- If no, enter the number of months completed in the financial year to date.

Provide the following figures for the financial year you have entered above.

Values must be that of the entity applying (the 'applicant'), regardless of whether the entity belongs to a consolidated group for tax purposes.

These fields are mandatory and entering \$0 is acceptable if applicable for your organisation.

- Sales revenue (turnover)

Total revenue from the sale of goods and services, as reported in your organisation's Business Activity Statement (BAS).

- Export revenue

Total revenue from export sales, as reported in your organisation's Business Activity Statement (BAS).

- R&D expenditure

Expenditure on research and development, i.e. creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of humankind, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications.

- Taxable income

Taxable income or loss as per your organisation's income tax return form.

- Number of employees including working proprietors and salaried directors (headcount)

Number of individuals who are entitled to paid leave (sick and holiday), or generate income from managing your organisation. This should include working proprietors and salaried directors.

- Number of independent contractors (headcount)

Number of individuals engaged by your organisation under a commercial contract (rather than an employment contract) to provide employee-like services on site.

E.2. ANZSIC code

Provide the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification ([ANZSIC](#)) details for your organisation from a drop-down menu:

- your organisation's main revenue earning ANZSIC division.
- your organisation's main revenue earning ANZSIC class.

E.3. Indigenous organisations

Is your organisation Indigenous owned?

An organisation is considered Indigenous owned where at least 51% of the organisation's members or proprietors are Indigenous.

Is your organisation Indigenous controlled?

An organisation is considered Indigenous controlled where at least 51% of the organisation's board or management committee is Indigenous.

Sample

F. Project information

On this page you must provide detailed information about your proposed project.

If your application is successful, we will publish some grant details on [GrantConnect](#) and other government publications. Published details include:

- *name of the grant recipient*
- *a project title*
- *a brief project description and its intended outcome*
- *amount of grant funding awarded.*

F.1. Project title and description

Provide a project title.

Your response is limited to 75 characters including spaces and does not support formatting. Your application must have an identical project title to the application your Indian primary partner submits to India's DST or DBT.

Provide a brief project description for publication.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Ensure your project description focuses on your project's key activities and outcomes. Outline what it is you are going to do and how it will benefit the strategic partnership between Australia and India.

F.2. Detailed project description and key activities

This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.

Provide a detailed description of your project including the project scope and key activities.

Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

You must also provide a project plan which you should attach later in your application. Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for the requirements of the project plan.

F.3. Project outcomes

This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.

Provide a summary of the expected project outcomes.

Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

F.4. Priority Areas

*Select the relevant Indian Department from drop down list **

Indo-Australian Science and Technology Fund

Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund

*Select the predominant priority area for your project from drop down list **

Indo-Australian Science and Technology Fund

- Critical minerals processing technologies and methods.
- Quantum computing and communications.
- Remanufacturing and product end-of-use recovery including electronic waste recycling.

Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund

- Biomanufacturing for industrial and consumer products, including biochemicals, biofuels and novel bio-based materials.
- Biotechnology for improved agricultural productivity and climate resilience (including food security or renewable feedstocks).
- RNA vaccines and biotherapeutics (immunotherapy).

F.5. Project duration

Your project must be completed in line with the dates provided in the grant opportunity guidelines. Project start date from 1 August 2025.

- Estimated project start date (1 August 2025)
- Estimated project end date
- Estimated project length (36 months)

Your project can be no longer than 36 months.

F.6. Project milestones

You must break down your project into milestones. You should include the key activities occurring at each milestone. The start date of milestone 1 is the expected project start date. The end date of your last milestone activity will be the project end date. You will be required to complete the following fields. You can add up to 12 milestones.

The milestone start and end dates must be within the project start and end dates.

- Milestone title

Your response is limited to 100 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

- Description

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

- Estimated start date
- Estimated end date

F.7. Project location

You must provide the address where your project will be undertaken and the estimated percentage of project value expected to be undertaken at that site. If you have multiple sites you must add the address of each site.

A project location must be a street address. Do not provide a postal address, institution or building name.

- Project site address
- Estimated percentage of project value expected to be undertaken at site

F.8. Key Personnel

List the name, role and organisation of key personnel.

Later in the application you will be required to upload a curriculum vitae (CV) for both Australian and Indian project managers. You can upload CVs for both Australian and Indian key personnel and managers (template provided on business.gov.au). You will need to combine all CVs into one attachment.

F.9. Indian Government Funding

Has your Indian project partner's application been submitted?

If yes, please provide details of the application including reference number.

Please enter the total funding sought by your Indian partner from the Government of India (INR).

Your response is limited to 75 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

F.10. Disclosure of financial penalties

Have any of your board members, management or persons of authority been subject to any pecuniary penalty, whether civil, criminal or administrative, imposed by a Commonwealth, state, or territory court or a Commonwealth, state, or territory entity?

If yes, provide details of the penalty.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

F.11. Foreign affiliations

Does your project receive any funding or non-financial support from a foreign source?

If yes, provide details of the foreign financial support.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project receive financial support or benefits from a foreign source?

If yes, provide details of the arrangement.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project have any current or former association with a foreign talent program?

If yes, provide details of the foreign talent program.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project have any ties to a foreign government, military or state-owned enterprise?

If yes, provide details of the affiliations or associations.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

F.12. National security plan

Does your organisation have a plan or framework in place to manage any potential security risks associated with the project and your organisation more broadly?

This includes protecting your organisation from potential national security risks including cyber security threats and the secure handling of data. We may ask for a copy of your plan or framework at a later stage.

Sample

G. Indian project partner

Provide details about your Indian project partner.

For details about the project partner letter of support and contributions refer to the grant opportunity guidelines.

The lead applicant must complete this form. If you are unsure of the status of your application as a joint application please contact us on 13 28 46 or at business.gov.au.

Enter a new project partner for each partner.

The Indian partner is the primary Indian organisation with whom you are partnered for this application. The primary Indian applicant must also submit an application to the relevant Indian Department.

You must provide:

- Other registration number where applicable
- Business address
- Postal address
- Contact details
- Project partner letter of support attached. Letter to include details of the partner contributions.

H. Project partners

Provide details about all other project partners.

For details about the project partner letter of support and contributions refer to the grant opportunity guidelines.

The lead applicant must complete this form. If you are unsure of the status of your application as a joint application please contact us on 13 28 46 or at business.gov.au.

Enter a new project partner for each partner.

You must provide:

- Australian Business Number (ABN)
- Other registration number where applicable
- Business address
- Postal address
- Contact details
- Project partner letter of support attached. Letter to include details of the partner contributions.

I. Australian project manager

You must provide the details of the Australian project manager.

The project manager is the person who will lead and manage the research effort of the Australian project partner(s), and would normally be employed by the applicant organisation. (This is usually someone other than the primary contact for this grant opportunity, who is responsible for the administrative aspects of the application and any subsequent grant, e.g. in the research office of a university).

- Given name
- Family name
- Position title
- Email address
- Phone number
- Mobile number
- Primary address

Sample

J. Project budget

Provide a summary of your eligible project expenditure over the life of the project.

- Registered for GST - enter the GST exclusive amount
- Not registered for GST - enter the GST inclusive amount

We only provide grant funding based on eligible expenditure. Refer to the guidelines for guidance on eligible expenditure.

The financial years below are derived from the project start and end dates you entered on the previous page. If incorrect, you must ensure all amounts below are zero before going back to the previous page to update your project duration.

J.1. Eligible expenditure

The project budget should only include expenditure in accordance with section 5.2 and Appendix A of the grant opportunity guidelines, for activities undertaken in Australia (with the exception of Australian researchers' travel expenses within India).

Type of expenditure	Head of expenditure	Financial Year	Cost
Project expenditure			\$
	Labour		\$
		2025/26	\$
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
		2028/29	\$
	Labour on-costs and administrative overheads (up to 30% of labour costs)		\$
		2025/26	\$
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
		2028/29	\$
	Contract		\$
		2025/26	\$
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
	Travel and overseas		\$
		2025/26	\$

Type of expenditure	Head of expenditure	Financial Year	Cost
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
		2028/29	\$
	Direct support costs		\$
		2025/26	\$
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
		2028/29	\$
	Other		\$
		2025/26	\$
		2026/27	\$
		2027/28	\$
		2028/29	\$
Total			\$

Provide details of 'Other eligible expenditure.'

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

J.2. Source of funding

In this section you must provide details of how you will fund the project.

The total of all sources of funding should be equal to your total project expenditure in the section above. Sources of funding include:

- *grant amount sought*
- *your contribution*
- *other contributions as allowed in the grant opportunity guidelines*

J.3. Grant amount sought

Enter the grant amount sought. We will add GST to this where applicable.

The minimum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$200,000.

The maximum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$1,000,000.

J.4. Contributions

You will need to provide the following information for all other sources of funding

- Name of contributor
- Type of contribution

Contributors are divided into the following types

- *Your contribution*
- *Other non-government contribution*
- Value of contribution
- Due date of contribution
- Description

You may need to provide details around whether your contribution is sourced from bank loans, equity or cash flow etc.

Sample

K. Assessment criteria

We will assess your application based on the weighting given to each criterion and against the indicators listed beneath each criterion. We will only consider funding applications that score at least 50 per cent against each criterion, as these represent best value for money.

The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide should be commensurate with the project size, complexity and grant amount requested. You should define, quantify and provide evidence to support your answers.

K.1. Assessment criterion 1 (40 points)

Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

How your project will advance research in priority areas

You should demonstrate this by identifying the:

- specific problem or issue your project will address, why it needs to be addressed, how your project will address it, including the rationale for your approach and any existing research you will build on. Where relevant identify the current competitive landscape in your chosen area of research, including a comparative analysis of similar or alternate technology
- a. expected outcomes of your research, their relevance to any end users, including potential for commercialisation where relevant, and how they will advance the knowledge base of your chosen area of research.

K.2. Assessment criterion 2 (30 points)

Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Your capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project

You should demonstrate this by:

- a. identifying your access to personnel with the right skills and experience, including management and technical staff, and to any infrastructure, capital equipment, technology and intellectual property required for the project
- b. providing as an attachment a project plan for managing and monitoring the project, including arrangements for governance, security and intellectual property rights and the identification of risks and mitigation strategies, as well as promoting research integrity and security
- c. justifying the funding amount requested and your ability to fund project costs not covered by the grant. Outline the total investment the grant will leverage and explain how this benefits your project, including grant funding from the Indian (and any other foreign) government.

K.3. Assessment criterion 3 (30 points)

Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Benefits for both Australia and India

You should demonstrate this by identifying:

- a. the social, environmental and/or economic short-term and long-term benefits to be gained from your project:

- for Australia
 - for India
- b. how your project will develop robust and sustainable collaborations between Australia and India in your chosen area of research
- c. the extent to which your project will positively impact gender equality and the participation of women in scientific research and technology projects.

Sample

L. Bank account details

L.1. Bank account details

If your application is successful we will need to set up a payment process to pay your grant. We need your bank account details to do this. If your application is not successful we will not process these details.

We can only pay grant funding to the applicant organisation, who if successful will be party to a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. You must provide bank account details for this organisation.

L.2. Account details

All payments are in AU\$ and must be made into an account with an Australian financial institution.

Account name

BSB

Account number

L.3. Payment contact

We will send the payment remittance advice to this person. All other notifications are sent to the primary contact whose details you provide on the last page of this application.

Given name

Family name

Email address

Phone number

M. Application finalisation

You must answer the following questions and add any supporting documentation required.

M.1. Conflict of interest

Do you have any perceived or existing conflicts of interest to declare?

Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for further information on your conflict of interest responsibilities.

If yes, describe the perceived or existing conflicts of interest.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

If yes, describe how you anticipate managing this conflict.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

M.2. Additional information

The total of all attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.

You must attach the following supporting documentation. You should only attach documents that we have requested.

Individual files must be smaller than 2.0MB, and be one of the following types: docx, rtf, pdf, xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.

Filenames should only include letters or numbers and should be fewer than 40 characters.

- Letter of support from the lead organisation

A letter from your organisation demonstrating and clearly articulating the organisation's financial support (cash and/or in-kind) for the project, and a commitment to engage in the research collaboration (template provided on business.gov.au).

- Curriculum vitae

A curriculum vitae (CV) for both Australian and Indian project managers and other key personnel (template provided on business.gov.au). You will need to combine all CVs (up to 2 pages each) into one attachment.

- Project plan

A project plan including arrangements for governance, security and intellectual property rights and the identification of risks and mitigation strategies (up to 5 A4 pages).

- Trust deed (where applicable)

Where you have indicated your entity type is a trustee applying on behalf of a trust you must attach trust documents showing the relationship of the incorporated trustee to the trust. If your trust deed is too large or you cannot upload your document please contact us via AISRF@industry.gov.au.

M.3. Program feedback

Your responses help us improve the design and delivery of programs. They will not affect the assessment or outcome of this application.

How did you hear about the grant opportunity?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

Did you read the grant opportunity guidelines?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

How useful were the guidelines in completing your application?

We welcome any additional feedback on the guidelines.

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

How satisfied were you with the process of applying for this grant?

You must select from a drop-down menu.

We welcome any additional feedback on the application process

Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.

Sample

N. Declaration

In order to submit your application you will be required to agree to the following declaration.

N.1. Privacy and confidentiality provisions

I acknowledge that this is an Australian Government program and that the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (the department) will use the information I provide in accordance with the following:

- [Australian Government Data and Digital Strategy](#)
- [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles](#)
- grant opportunity guidelines
- applicable Australian laws.

Accordingly, I understand that the department may share my personal information provided in this application within this department and other government agencies:

- a. for purposes directly related to administering the program, including governance, research and the distribution of funds to successful applicants
- b. to facilitate research, assessment, monitoring and analysis of other programs and activities unless otherwise prohibited by law.

I understand that where I am successful in obtaining a grant, the financial information that I provide for the purposes of payment will be accessible to departmental staff to enable payments to be made through the department's accounts payable software system.

I understand that information that is deemed 'confidential' in accordance with the grant opportunity guidelines may also be shared for a relevant Commonwealth purpose.

The department will publish information on individual grants in the public domain, including on the department's website, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

N.2. Applicant declaration

I declare that I have read and understood the grant opportunity guidelines, including the grant agreement, privacy, confidentiality and disclosure provisions.

I declare that the proposed project outlined in this application and any associated expenditure has been endorsed by the applicant's board/ management committee or person with authority to commit the applicant to this project.

I declare that the applicant will comply with, and require that its subcontractors and independent contractors comply with, all applicable laws.

I declare that the applicant and any project partners are not listed on the [National Redress Scheme](#) list of institutions, where sexual abuse has occurred, that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme.

I declare that the applicant is not named by the [Workplace Gender Equality Agency](#) as an organisation that has not complied with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*.

I confirm that the applicant, project partners and associated activities are in compliance with current [Australian Government sanctions](#).

I declare that the information contained in this application together with any statement provided is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate, complete and not misleading and that I understand that giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

I acknowledge that I may be requested to provide further clarification or documentation to verify the information supplied in this form and that the department may, during the application process, consult with other government agencies, including state and territory government agencies, about the applicant's claims and may also engage external technical or financial advisors to advise on information provided in the application.

I agree to participate in the periodic evaluation of the services undertaken by the department.

I approve the information in this application being communicated to the department in electronic form.

I acknowledge that if the department is satisfied that any statement made in an application is incorrect, incomplete, false or misleading the department may, at its absolute discretion, take appropriate action. I note such action may include excluding an application from further consideration; withdrawing an offer of funding; using the information contained in the application for a fraud investigation that would be consistent with the Australian Government's Investigations Standards and Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework and/or for a grant under management, terminating a grant agreement between the Commonwealth and the grantee including recovering funds already paid.

I declare that I am authorised to submit this form on behalf of the applicant and acknowledge that this is the equivalent of signing this application.

By checking this box I agree to all of the above declarations and confirm all of the above statements to be true.