

## Near-Miss Support for Collaborative External Schemes Overview and Guidelines for Applicants

### Overview

In parallel to the strategic planning and engagement activities to be undertaken by Research Centres and Institutes, the introduction of a “near-miss” scheme is designed to maintain applied research momentum, building stronger, enduring, productive partnerships and reinforcing our ongoing commitment to collaborative research. The intent is to signal unambiguously to our industry partners that we are serious about engagement in research with them.

The priority focus for this strategic funding is to support near-miss applications to specified external schemes, where the partner has retained an appetite to invest in the proposed program of work (or rational sub-set of that).

This initiative should not be confused with the previous University Linkage seed funding schemes intended to generate new industry collaborative applications. The focus is on partnerships that have already made a cash commitment (through application to a third-party funding opportunity) in order to achieve a collaborative outcome (detailed with the original application) but have been unsuccessful in securing the grant.

Initial resourcing for the scheme will be through reallocation of 10% of the collective Research Centres and Institutes budget. In 2019, this equates to roughly \$500k. The overall effectiveness of the Scheme will be reviewed by the SDVC after 12-18 months.

### Scheme Guidelines

#### Eligibility

- Near-miss application types initially prioritised for this support are:
  - ARC Linkage Projects
  - NHMRC Partnership Projects
  - CRC-Projects
  - Advance Queensland Innovation Partnerships (or equivalent)
- The original application must have been submitted through Griffith University as the administering organisation (or in case of CRC-P, where Griffith University is the principle research organisation).
- The “near-miss” status of applications would typically be evident in feedback from the assessment process. The application should include a brief statement outlining why the team consider the proposal to be a “near-miss”, including reference to assessor comments, outcome feedback and/or scores/bandings.
- To maintain momentum, applications to the Scheme are due within two months of the announcement of the result of the external application.
- Industry cash and in-kind commitments must remain in play for this scheme, as below.

#### Funding Level and Duration

- The industry/end-user cash commitment under the scheme will be a key determinant in the level of scheme support. University funding must be at least matched by the industry funding, to be

administered by the University under simple template agreements. A minimum 1:1 cash return on the scheme investment is required, with a view to longer term partnerships being advanced.

- Applications would typically present research to occur over a period of up to 12 months, with the research expected to commence with three months of the award.
- A minimum threshold for scheme investment may be applied, informed by the scope of work proposed under the Scheme relative to the original proposed body of work and the articulated longer-term partnership plans.

### **Activities Supported through Scheme**

- The Scheme is intended to support progression of the research already identified through the original funding application, specifically to maintain momentum with the industry/end-user partner. Alternate research or research with alternate partners will not be supported through this Scheme.
- The original funding proposal and assessments/feedback (where available) will be included as Appendices to the Scheme application. The Scheme application must specify where, if the entire project is not to proceed under the Scheme, what part(s) of the work are being supported and plans to maintain a longer-term partnership.

### **Final Reports**

- A final report will be required within two months of completion of the Scheme support period, providing detail of the use of funds, outcomes achieved and detail of the planned external funding application stemming from the investment. The report should include relevant input from the industry partner.
- After acceptance by the Office for Research, a copy of the final report will also be provided to the industry partner.

### **Application Process**

The application does not use a template. It must consist of:

- A maximum of two A4 pages providing detail ***under each of the following headings:***
  - Near-miss status justification
  - Summary of the research to be conducted
  - Research participants
  - Proposed duration (up to 12 months)
  - Key milestones/measurable objectives (identifying at least three with timeline)
  - Brief description of plans to maintain a longer term partnership
  - Indication of which external funding opportunity will next be targeted through this partnership
  - Budget detail and brief justification
- A letter of support from the Partner(s) confirming their cash and in-kind commitment
- A copy of the original application and any assessments received

A separate Research Grant Application Coversheet is not required.

### **Due Dates, Assessment and Outcomes**

Applications to the Scheme are due within two months of the announcement of the result of the external application and should be submitted in the format described in the 'Application Process' (above) to the Office for Research, [internalgrants@griffith.edu.au](mailto:internalgrants@griffith.edu.au)

Allocation of near-miss funding will be at the discretion of the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the relevant Dean Research.

Applicants can expect to receive notification of the outcome of the applications within 4 weeks.

## Scheme Contact

Enquires can be directed to Daina Garklavs, Deputy Director - Research Services

- Email: [internalgrants@griffith.edu.au](mailto:internalgrants@griffith.edu.au)
- Phone: 3735 7380