



Frequently Asked Questions

Moon to Mars Supply Chain Capability Improvement Grants

1. How do I apply for funding?

The grant opportunity application can only be submitted through the online portal. Go to business.gov.au for information on how to apply.

2. Program timing?

Applications opened from 9.00am 27 August 2020. You may apply at any time up to 30 June 2023. Applications are assessed by a committee at least three times per year.

Applications received by 11.59pm AEDT on Thursday 15 October 2020 will comprise the first assessment intake. A decision on this intake is expected to be announced by February 2021.

Applications received by 11.59pm AEDT on Thursday 17 December 2020 will comprise the second intake. A decision on this intake is expected to be announced by April 2021.

Applications received by 11.59pm AEDT on Tuesday 4 May 2021 will comprise the third intake. A decision on this intake is expected to be announced by August 2021.

Future intake dates will be advised.

The maximum project period is 2.5 years. Projects must be completed by 30 April 2025.

3. What funding is available?

\$25.7 million is available for grants. This funding is split as follows:

- 2020-21 - \$1.7m
- 2021-22 - \$3m
- 2022-23 - \$7m
- 2023-24 - \$7m
- 2024-25 - \$7m.

4. Can I conduct research with the grant?

If the main aim of your project is to undertake research without a clear commercialisation pathway then it is ineligible.

5. I am a research organisation with a project that has a clear commercialisation pathway, can I apply?

If you meet the eligibility requirements described at Section 4.1 of the guidelines, including the requirement to be a trading corporation, you can apply. Alternatively, you can partner with a trading corporation (your commercial partner with buyer support into a supply chain opportunity), which can apply under a joint application.

6. My project includes some product development. Can I use the grant to pay for these costs?

If the main aim of your project is to further develop your product without a clear commercialisation pathway then it is not eligible. Non-recurring engineering to qualify your product to reach the standard required for your supply chain opportunity would be considered in line with the program guidelines.

7. What evidence will be competitive to demonstrate the supply chain opportunity?

Applications that can evidence the strength of the commercial opportunity will be well-regarded. For instance, buyer support in the form of a letter of intent, clear path to a contract/increased sales. If it is unclear how the grant would facilitate sales into a domestic or international space supply chain, it is unlikely to be competitive.

8. What is an acceptable cash contribution to match the grant?

Your contribution to the project must be cash, not in-kind. Eligible contributions are:

- cash to be spent by the applicant or a project partner on eligible expenditure for the purpose of undertaking an eligible project activity; and
- labour costs of employees directly employed by the applicant or a project partner on eligible project activities. Eligible labour costs must be within the limits specified in Appendix A of the Moon to Mars Supply Chain Capability Improvement Opportunity Guidelines.

We consider in-kind to be non-monetary inputs such as facilities, equipment and services provided by the grantee or a project partner from its own resources.

Examples of in-kind are:

- equipment, technology, software or hardware;
- service fees or of discounted service fees;
- discounted rent/loan of facilities and equipment;
- access to intellectual property.

If there is no exchange of money (either by cash or bank transaction) by the applicant or a project partner, then it is considered to be in-kind.

9. Will post project reporting be mandatory for all projects?

Yes. Post project reporting will be included on all projects so the Commonwealth to track project progress beyond the end of the project.

10. What are the character limits for my application?

The online form includes character limits for each question. If you are drafting content in Microsoft Word please be aware that Word does not consider a return to be a character but the application form does. This may result in a slight difference in word counts across Word and the online form.

11. Can I include a letter of support from NASA as part of my application?

NASA has confirmed that it is their policy not to influence foreign governments' internal selection processes. Any NASA, JPL or similar

letters received as part of an application will not be considered during the grant assessment process. However, you may include information detailing existing collaborations in your application.

12. Are the clauses in the Sample Grant Agreement negotiable?

The Sample Grant Agreement is available to view at business.gov.au. The clauses in the agreement are not negotiable and no new clauses can be added. You are strongly encouraged to review the Sample Grant Agreement to confirm you can accept the funding conditions before you apply.

13. If unsuccessful in an intake, can I re-apply for subsequent intakes?

You can submit a new application for the same (or similar) project. You should include new or more information to strengthen your application. It is recommended that you apply for a subsequent intake that allows you to incorporate feedback from an unsuccessful application into your new application.

14. Need more information?

For more information, visit business.gov.au or call 13 28 46.

We may update this document from time to time to add further information, where required.