

Australian Research Council Linkage Projects Funding Scheme

The University of Queensland – Committed to supporting excellence and innovation in research

Partnering with Organisations

to produce research outcomes that make a difference

About the ARC Linkage Projects Scheme

The scheme supports collaborative research and development projects between higher education organisations and Partner Organisations which generate new knowledge and involve risk or innovation. It does not support projects that are essentially consultancy arrangements or where there is little or no public benefit.

A Partner Organisation must provide a cash and in-kind contribution for the project that at least matches the value of the grant being requested from the ARC.

Who Can be a Partner Organisation?

To view the ARC Linkage Projects Funding Rules on who can be a Partner Organisation go to www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/lp/lp_fundingrules.htm.

In general

- A Partner Organisation can be an industry, government or private non-profit organisation.
- Commonwealth Government funded research institutions are not eligible.
- There can be one or more Partner Organisations.

The Funding

- \$20,000 - \$500,000 per annum
- 1 – 5 years



What will be funded

- Personnel, including Research Associates, technicians, laboratory attendants
- Australian Postgraduate Awards Industry (APAI) for postgraduate research students studying towards a Masters or PhD award
- Australian Postdoctoral Fellowships Industry (APDI) for researchers with fewer than three years' postdoctoral experience
- Linkage Industry Fellowships – support for costs associated with short-term transfers for Chief Investigators or some Partner Investigators between eligible higher education institutions and Industry
- Equipment
- Maintenance
- Travel

Partnership contribution

Contributions may be shared among several partner organisations as long as the minimum requirements are met.

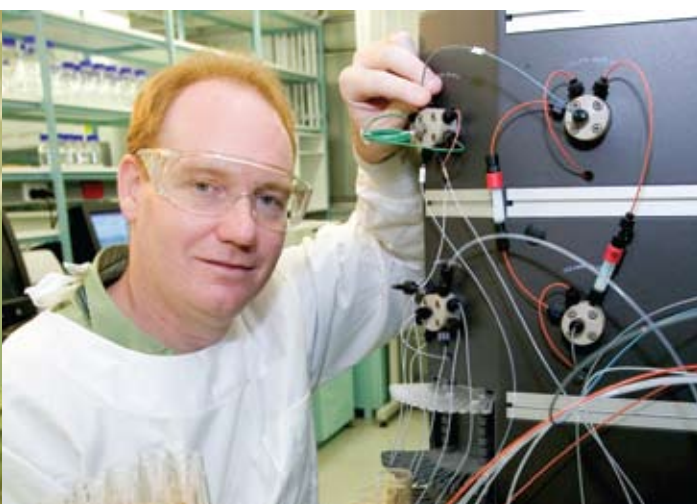
Cash

- For projects over \$50,000 - at least 20% of the grant funding requested from the ARC
- For projects over \$500,000 - at least 50% of the grant funding requested from the ARC

In Kind

In-kind contributions of Partner Organisation include:

- Staff time of Partner Investigator
- Access to facilities, equipment and databases
- Analytical and other services
- Equipment
- Materials and consumables
- Patents and licences
- Contribution of software
- Travel



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The Application

- The application is submitted by UQ
- The application is prepared by the UQ academics involved in collaboration with the Partner Organisation.
- A statement from the Partner Organisation that demonstrates to the ARC that the Partner Organisation will commit to and actively engage in the research will be required. This must be on Partner Organisation letterhead and signed by the CEO or a person of appropriate authority to commit the Partner Organisation.
- The CEO of the Partner Organisation or a person of suitable authority will need to sign the application, certifying that the Partner Organisation will provide the cash and in-kind support if the application is successful.
- All Partner Investigators will need to provide a curriculum vitae.

Factors Affecting Success of the Application

The application process is competitive and merit based. Success factors include:

- Strength of research project
- Available funds of ARC
- Cash and in-kind contribution of Partner Organisation
- Approximately 50% of applications are successful

Benefits to Partner Organisation

- Commonwealth funding to support research
- access to leading research expertise and knowledge
- inexpensive method of funding full time post graduate researcher on a project
- demonstration of company involvement in formal, independent, peer-reviewed research
- access to UQ's state-of-the art laboratories, equipment and facilities
- possible eligibility for Australian Government R&D tax concessions (see www.ausindustry.gov.au)
- Partner Organisation staff development opportunity
- method of funding R&D beyond testing

Time Frame

The ARC Linkage Projects scheme has two funding rounds per year – April/May and October/November. Results are usually provided within six months of the application being submitted, with funding to begin in January (April/May applications) or July (October/November applications) of the following year.

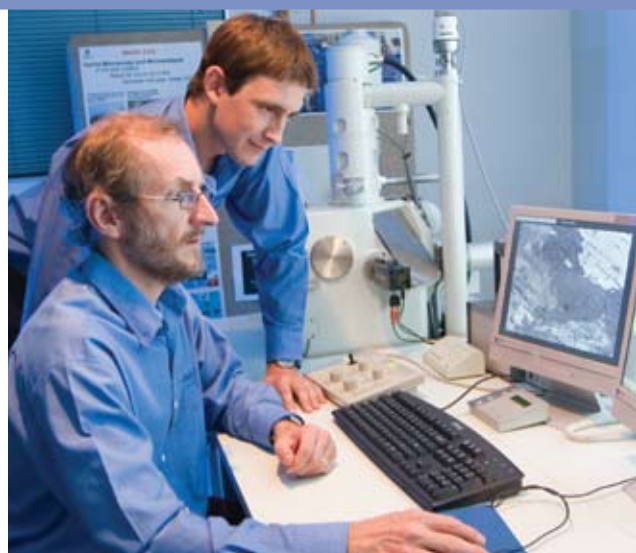
Post application

Funding is awarded to UQ, which administers the funding according to the Grant.

Before funding is provided by the ARC, the University must enter into a Collaborative Agreement with all of the Partner Organisation/s and other collaborating higher education organisations if any.

Standard provisions in the Collaborative Agreement address:

- Background Intellectual Property – may be licenced to collaborators for the purposes of the project.
- New Intellectual Property generated during the course of the project – the normal position is that new IP is owned by UQ with the Partner Organisation granted a right to use the new IP for internal and non-commercial purposes only. Students own copyright in their thesis although if necessary, the thesis may be examined and stored under confidentiality provisions.
- Publication – Partner Organisations may be given a right to review material before publication and delay publication until appropriate intellectual property protection is obtained, however publication can not be prevented indefinitely.
- Partner contributions, reporting requirements and research plan that must coincide with the ARC Funding Agreement and Application.
- UQ's head agreement with the ARC for Linkage Projects forms the framework for the agreement with the Partner Organisation. The terms of the head agreement are not subsequently negotiable. Prospect Partner Organisations can find the pro forma agreement on the ARC website.



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Funding Rules

Web: www.arc.gov.au/ngcp/lp/lp_fundingrules.htm.