# Empowering Business To Go Digital – Grant Opportunity

| Opening date: | 3 February 2020 |
| --- | --- |
| Closing date and time: | 5 pm AEDT on 17 March 2020 |
| Commonwealth policy entity: | Department of Industry, Innovation and Science |
| Administering entity | Department of Industry, Innovation and Science |
| Enquiries: | If you have any questions, contact us at business.gov.au |
| Date guidelines released: | 3 February 2020 |
| Type of grant opportunity: | Open competitive |

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## Empowering Business To Go Digital: processes

**The Empowering Business To Go Digital Grant Opportunity is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the above grant program, which contributes to the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science’s Outcome 1.The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science works with stakeholders to plan and design the grant program according to the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines*.



**The grant opportunity opens**

We publish the grant guidelines on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.



**You complete and submit a grant application**

You complete the application form, addressing all the eligibility and assessment criteria in order for your application to be considered.



**We assess all grant applications against eligibility criteria**

We assess the applications against the eligibility criteria and notify you if you are not eligible. We refer all eligible applications to the Committee.



**The committee undertakes merit assessment and makes recommendations to the Program Delegate**

The Committee will assess eligible applications against the merit criteria including an overall consideration of value with relevant money, and compare it to other eligible applications. The Committee provides advice to the Program Delegate.



**Grant decisions are made**

The decision maker decides which applications are successful.



**We notify you of the outcome**

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.



**We enter into a grant agreement**

We will enter into a grant agreement with successful applicants. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and proportional to the risks involved.



**Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.

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**Evaluation of the Empowering Business To Go Digital grant opportunity**

We evaluate the specific grant activity and Empowering Business To Go Digital as a whole. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

## About the grant program

The Empowering Business To Go Digital program (the program) will run over three years from 2019-20 to 2021-22.

In March 2018, the [Small Business Digital Taskforce report](https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/small-business-digital-taskforce-report-to-government)[[1]](#footnote-2) identified that the systems in place to provide small businesses and their trusted advisers with information and advice about ‘going digital’ is disjointed. Small businesses can be overwhelmed by the amount of information they receive online and often find it difficult to know what information to trust.

The Empowering Business to Go Digital program will support a non-government organisation to build and enhance small business digital capability and to address issues raised in the Small Business Digital Taskforce report.

The objectives of the program are to:

* establish a financially self-sustaining non-government organisation (NGO), or leverage an existing NGO, to increase small business awareness and adoption of digital technology, in line with the recommendations of the Small Business Digital Taskforce Report
* establish a website that will draw together existing digital resources from across government and the private sector, providing a one-stop-shop in empowering a digitised society
* improve information sharing between businesses, government, industry associations and the small business commissioners.

The intended outcomes of the program are:

* increased accessibility of small businesses to digital information
* increased small business awareness and adoption of digital technology
* improved small business digital capability and productivity.

We administer the program according to the [*Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines* (CGRGs)](https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf)[[2]](#footnote-3).

### About the Empowering Business To Go Digital grant opportunity

These guidelines contain information for the program grants.

This document sets out:

* the eligibility and assessment criteria
* how we consider and assess grant applications
* how we notify applicants and enter into grant agreements with grantees
* how we monitor and evaluate grantees’ performance
* responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science (the department/we) is responsible for administering this grant opportunity.

We have defined key terms used in these guidelines in the glossary at section 14.

You should read this document carefully before you fill out an application.

## Grant amount and grant period

The Australian Government has announced a total of $3 million over three years from 2019-20 to 2021-22 for this grant opportunity.

### Grants available

The grant amount will be up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs (grant percentage).

The grant amount will be up to $3 million.

The remaining 50 per cent of eligible project costs we consider your contribution.

You can fund your contribution from any source including State, Territory and local government grants.

Your contribution can be either cash or in-kind. Where you provide in-kind contributions, you must calculate the equivalent dollar value.

### Project period

You must complete your project by 30 June 2022.

We expect the non-government organisation will be self-sustaining after this date.

## Eligibility criteria

We cannot consider your application if you do not satisfy all eligibility criteria.

### Who is eligible?

To be eligible you must:

* have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and
* be an entity, incorporated in Australia.

Joint applications are acceptable, provided you have a lead organisation who is the main driver of the project and is eligible to apply. For further information on joint applications, refer to section 7.2.

### Additional eligibility requirements

We can only accept applications where:

* you can provide evidencefrom your board (or chief executive officer or equivalent if there is no board) that the project is supported, and that you can complete the project and meet the costs of the project not covered by grant funding
* you can provide evidence of any funding contributions from other organisations, if applicable
* and; you must be a non-government organisation; or agree to establish a non-government organisation, prior to entering into a grant agreement. You must have an industry-led governance model and include small business representatives on the board.

We cannot waive the eligibility criteria under any circumstances.

### Who is not eligible?

You are not eligible to apply if you are:

* an individual
* a Commonwealth, State, Territory or local government body (including government business enterprises).

## What the grant money can be used for

### Eligible activities

To be eligible your project must:

* be aimed at establishing a non-government organisation to build and enhance small business digital capability, or leverage an existing non-government organisation
* have at least $3 million in eligible expenditure.

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and include:

* establish a website that will draw together existing digital resources from across government and the private sector, providing a one-stop-shop in empowering a digitised society
* consolidating, simplifying and promoting online information on ‘going digital’ from across government and the private sector
* engaging with small businesses and their trusted advisers via an online platform
* supporting business-to-business online information sharing and best practice
* engaging sponsors and business partners to assist with achieving program objectives and sustaining your organisation beyond the grant period
* coordinating and promoting online awareness campaigns on digital issues of concern to small businesses, including cyber security.

We may also approve other activities.

### Eligible expenditure

You can only spend grant funds on eligible expenditure you have incurred on an agreed project as defined in your grant agreement.

Eligible expenditure items are:

* direct labour costs of employees you directly employ on the core elements of the project. We consider a person an employee when you pay them a regular salary or wage, out of which you make regular tax instalment deductions
* salary on costs - you may increase eligible salary costs by an additional 30 per cent allowance to cover on costs such as employer paid superannuation, payroll tax, workers compensation insurance, and overheads such as office rent and the provision of computers
* leasing of premises
* costs involved in the purchase or upgrade/hire of software (including user licences) and ICT hardware directly relating to the project
* operation and maintenance costs related directly to the project
* contract expenditure for any agreed project activities
* equipment costs for any agreed project activities
* domestic travel limited to the reasonable cost of accommodation and transportation required to conduct agreed project activities in Australia
* overseas travel limited to the reasonable cost of accommodation and transportation required in cases where the overseas travel is material to the conduct of the project in Australia
* staff training that directly supports the achievement of project outcomes
* communication and promotional costs directly related to the project
* the cost of an independent audit of project expenditure up to a maximum of 1 per cent of total eligible project expenditure.

Eligible air transportation is limited to the economy class fare for each sector travelled. Where non-economy class air transport is used only the equivalent of an economy fare for that sector is eligible expenditure. Where non-economy class air transport is used, the grantee will require evidence showing the cost of an economy airfare at the time of travel.

Not all expenditure on your project may be eligible for grant funding. The Program Delegate (who is an AusIndustry manager within the department with responsibility for the program) makes the final decision on what is eligible expenditure and may give additional guidance on eligible expenditure if required.

To be eligible, expenditure must:

* be a direct cost of the project
* be incurred by you for required project audit activities.

You must incur the project expenditure between the project start and end date for it to be eligible unless stated otherwise.

You must not commence your project until you execute a grant agreement with the Commonwealth.

### What you cannot use the grant for

Expenditure items that are not eligible are:

* financing costs, including debt financing and interest
* non-project related staff training and development costs
* costs related to preparing the grant proposal, preparing any project reports (except costs of independent audit reports we require) and preparing any project variation requests.

## The assessment criteria

You must address all assessment criteria in your application. All assessment criteria are of equal weighting.

The application form asks questions that relate to the assessment criteria below. The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide in your application should be relative to the project size, complexity and grant amount requested. You should provide evidence to support your answers. The application form displays size limits for answers.

We will only consider funding applications that score at least 50 per cent against each criterion as these represent best value for money.

### Assessment criterion 1

Alignment with policy intent (50 points)

You should demonstrate this by identifying:

1. how your existing NGO will increase small business awareness and adoption of digital technology in line with the recommendations of the [Small Business Digital Taskforce Report](https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/small-business-digital-taskforce-report-to-government)[[3]](#footnote-4), or how you will establish a financially self-sustaining NGO which will increase small business awareness and adoption of digital technology in line with the recommendations of the [Small Business Digital Taskforce Report](https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/small-business-digital-taskforce-report-to-government)
2. how you will establish a website that will draw together existing digital resources from across government and the private sector, providing a one-stop-shop in empowering a digitised society
3. how you will improve information sharing between businesses, government, industry associations and the small business commissioners.

### Assessment criterion 2

Capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project (50 points)

You should demonstrate this by identifying:

1. your project plan to manage the project, including scope, implementation methodology, timeframes, budget, risks and how you will measure the success of the project
2. your plan to attract ongoing investment and build a sustainable self-funding model
3. your track record in managing similar projects
4. your access to appropriately skilled and experienced personnel, including people with technical skills relevant to this area.

You must attach a project plan and budget to your application. Templates are available at [www.business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au/).

## How to apply

Before applying you should read and understand these guidelines, and the sample grant agreement published on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

To apply, you must:

* complete the online [program application form](http://www.business.gov.au/INSERT%20URL) via business.gov.au
* provide all the information requested
* address all eligibility and assessment criteria
* include all necessary attachments

You will receive confirmation when you submit your application. You should retain a copy of your application for your own records.

You are responsible for making sure your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth). If we consider that you have provided false or misleading information we may not progress your application. If you find an error in your application after submitting it, you should call us immediately on 13 28 46.

If we find an error or information that is missing, we may ask for clarification or additional information from you that will not change the nature of your application. However, we can refuse to accept any additional information from you that would change your submission after the application closing time.

If you need further guidance around the application process, or if you are unable to submit an application online, [contact us](https://www.business.gov.au/contact-us) at business.gov.au or by calling 13 28 46.

### Attachments to the application

Provide the following documents with your application:

* project plan, including scope, implementation methodology, timeframes and risks
* project budget
* evidence of support from your board, CEO or equivalent
* evidence of any funding contributions from other organisations.

You must attach supporting documentation to the application form in line with the instructions provided within the form. You should only attach requested documents. We will not consider information in attachments that we do not request.

### Joint applications

We recognise that some organisations may want to join together as a group to deliver a project. In these circumstances, you must appoint a lead organisation. Only the lead organisation can submit the application form and enter into the grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The application should identify all other members of the proposed group and include a letter of support from each of the project partners. Each letter of support should include:

* details of the project partner
* an overview of how the project partner will work with the lead organisation and any other project partners in the group to successfully complete the project
* an outline of the relevant experience and/or expertise the project partner will bring to the group
* the roles/responsibilities the project partner will undertake, and the resources it will contribute (if any)
* details of a nominated management level contact officer.

You must have a formal arrangement in place with all parties prior to execution of the grant agreement.

### Timing of grant opportunity

You can only submit an application between the published opening and closing dates. We cannot accept late applications.

If you are successful we expect you will be able to commence your project around June 2020.

Table 1: Expected timing for this grant opportunity

| Activity | Timeframe |
| --- | --- |
| Assessment of applications | 4 weeks |
| Approval of outcomes of selection process | 4 weeks |
| Negotiations and award of grant agreements | 1-4 weeks |
| Notification to unsuccessful applicants | 2 weeks |
| Earliest start date of grant activity | March 2020 |
| End date of grant commitment | 30 June 2022 |

## The grant selection process

We first review your application against the eligibility criteria. If eligible, we will then assess it against the assessment criteria. Only eligible applications will proceed to the assessment stage.

We will establish a committee (the committee) which may be comprised of Commonwealth government agency representatives and/or external experts to assess applications. The committee may also seek additional advice from independent technical experts.

The committee will consider your application on its merits, based on:

* how well it meets the criteria
* whether it provides value with relevant money.

When assessing whether the application represents value with relevant money, we will have regard to:

* the overall objectives of the grant opportunity
* the evidence provided to demonstrate how your project contributes to meeting those objectives
* the relative value of the grant sought.

For the committee to recommend an application for funding it must score highly against each merit criterion. The evidence you provide to support your application should be proportional to the size and complexity of your project.

If the selection process identifies unintentional errors in your application, we may contact you to correct or clarify the errors, but you cannot make any material alteration or addition.

### Who will approve grants?

The Program Delegate decides which grants to approve taking into account the recommendations of the committee and the availability of grant funds.

The Program Delegate’s decision is final in all matters, including:

* the grant approval
* the grant funding to be awarded
* any conditions attached to the offer of grant funding.

We cannot review decisions about the merits of your application.

The Program Delegate will not approve funding if there is insufficient program funds available across relevant financial years for the program.

## Notification of application outcomes

We will advise you of the outcome of your application in writing. If you are successful, we advise you of any specific conditions attached to the grant.

If you are unsuccessful, we will give you an opportunity to discuss the outcome with us.

## Successful grant applications

### Grant agreement

You must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth. The grant agreement has general terms and conditions that cannot be changed. A sample grant agreement is available on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

We must execute a grant agreement with you before we can make any payments. Execute means both you and the Commonwealth have signed the agreement. We are not responsible for any expenditure you incur until a grant agreement is executed.

The approval of your grant may have specific conditions determined by the assessment process or other considerations made by the Program Delegate. We will identify these in the offer of grant funding.

If you enter an agreement under the Empowering Business To Go Digital program, you cannot receive other grants for this project from other Commonwealth, State or Territory granting programs.

The Commonwealth may recover grant funds if there is a breach of the grant agreement.

We will use a simple grant agreement.

You will have 30 days from the date of a written offer to execute this grant agreement with the Commonwealth. During this time, we will work with you to finalise details.

The offer may lapse if both parties do not sign the grant agreement within this time. Under certain circumstances, we may extend this period. We base the approval of your grant on the information you provide in your application. We will review any required changes to these details to ensure they do not impact the project as approved by the Program Delegate.

### Project specific legislation, policies and industry standards

You must comply with all relevant laws and regulations in undertaking your project. You must also comply with the specific legislation/policies/industry standards that follow. It is a condition of the grant funding that you meet these requirements. We will include these requirements in your grant agreement.

In particular, you will be required to comply with:

* State/Territory legislation in relation to working with children.

### How we pay the grant

The grant agreement will state the:

* maximum grant amount we will pay
* proportion of eligible expenditure covered by the grant (grant percentage)
* any financial contribution provided by you or a third party.

We will make payments according to an agreed schedule set out in the grant agreement. Payments are subject to satisfactory progress on the project.

### Tax obligations

If you are registered for the Goods and Services Tax (GST), where applicable we will add GST to your grant payment and provide you with a recipient created tax invoice. You are required to notify us if your GST registration status changes during the project period. GST does not apply to grant payments to government related entities[[4]](#footnote-5).

Grants are assessable income for taxation purposes, unless exempted by a taxation law. We recommend you seek independent professional advice on your taxation obligations or seek assistance from the [Australian Taxation Office](https://www.ato.gov.au/). We do not provide advice on tax.

## Announcement of grants

We will publish non-sensitive details of successful projects on GrantConnect. We are required to do this by the *CGRGs* unless otherwise prohibited by law. We may also publish this information on business.gov.au. This information may include:

* name of your organisation
* title of the project
* description of the project and its aims
* amount of grant funding awarded
* Australian Business Number
* business location
* your organisation’s industry sector.

## How we monitor your grant activity

### Keeping us informed

You should let us know if anything is likely to affect your project or organisation.

We need to know of any key changes to your organisation or its business activities, particularly if they affect your ability to complete your project, carry on business and pay debts due.

You must also inform us of any changes to your:

* name
* addresses
* nominated contact details
* bank account details.

If you become aware of a breach of terms and conditions under the grant agreement you must contact us immediately.

You must notify us of events relating to your project and provide an opportunity for the Minister or their representative to attend.

### Reporting

You must submit reports in line with the [grant agreement](file://prod.protected.ind/User/user03/LLau2/insert%20link%20here). We will provide the requirements for these reports as appendices in the grant agreement. We will remind you of your reporting obligations before a report is due. We will expect you to report on:

* progress against agreed project milestones
* project expenditure, including expenditure of grant funds
* contributions of participants directly related to the project.

The amount of detail you provide in your reports should be relative to the project size, complexity and grant amount.

We will monitor the progress of your project by assessing reports you submit and may conduct site visits to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

#### Progress reports

Progress reports must:

* include details of your progress towards completion of agreed project activities
* show the total eligible expenditure incurred to date
* include evidence of expenditure
* be submitted by the report due date (you can submit reports ahead of time if you have completed relevant project activities).

We will only make grant payments when we receive satisfactory progress reports.

You must discuss any project or milestone reporting delays with us as soon as you become aware of them.

#### End of project report

When you complete the project, you must submit an end of project report.

End of project reports must:

* include the agreed evidence as specified in the grant agreement
* identify the total eligible expenditure incurred for the project
* include a declaration that the grant money was spent in accordance with the grant agreement and to report on any underspends of the grant money
* be submitted by the report due date.

#### Ad-hoc reports

We may ask you for ad-hoc reports on your project. This may be to provide an update on progress, or any significant delays or difficulties in completing the project.

### Independent audits

We may ask you to provide an independent audit report. An audit report will verify that you spent the grant in accordance with the grant agreement. The audit report requires you to prepare a statement of grant income and expenditure. The report template is available on business.gov.au and GrantConnect.

### Compliance visits

We may visit you during the project period, or at the completion of your project to review your compliance with the grant agreement. We may also inspect the records you are required to keep under the grant agreement. We will provide you with reasonable notice of any compliance visit.

### Grant agreement variations

We recognise that unexpected events may affect project progress. In these circumstances, you can request a variation to your grant agreement, including:

* changing project milestones
* changing project activities.

The program does not allow for:

* an increase of grant funds.

If you want to propose changes to the grant agreement, you must put them in writing before the grant agreement end date. We can provide you with a variation request template.

If a delay in the project causes milestone achievement and payment dates to move to a different financial year, you will need a variation to the grant agreement. We can only move funds between financial years if there is enough program funding in the relevant year to allow for the revised payment schedule. If we cannot move the funds, you may lose some grant funding.

You should not assume that a variation request will be successful. We will consider your request based on factors such as:

* how it affects the project outcome
* consistency with the program policy objective, grant opportunity guidelines and any relevant policies of the department
* changes to the timing of grant payments
* availability of program funds.

### Evaluation

We will evaluate the grant program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved. We may use information from your application and project reports for this purpose. We may also interview you, or ask you for more information to help us understand how the grant impacted you and to evaluate how effective the program was in achieving its outcomes.

We may contact you up to two years after you finish your project for more information to assist with this evaluation.

### Grant acknowledgement

If you make a public statement about a project funded under the program, including in a brochure or publication, you must acknowledge the grant by using the following:

‘This project received grant funding from the Australian Government.’

## Probity

We will make sure that the grant opportunity process is fair, according to the published guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct and is consistent with the CGRGs.

### Conflicts of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant opportunity or program. There may be a [conflict of interest](http://www.apsc.gov.au/publications-and-media/current-publications/aps-values-and-code-of-conduct-in-practice/conflict-of-interest), or perceived conflict of interest, if our staff, any member of a committee or advisor and/or you or any of your personnel:

* has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer or member of an external panel
* has a relationship with or interest in, an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or
* has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives a grant under the grant program/ grant opportunity.

As part of your application, we will ask you to declare any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or confirm that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, you must inform us in writing immediately.

Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff are handled as set out in the Australian [Public Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7))](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2017C00270/Html/Text#_Toc491767030)[[5]](#footnote-6) of the [*Public Service Act 1999*](https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2017C00270) (Cth)[[6]](#footnote-7). Committee members and other officials including the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

We publish our conflict of interest policy on thedepartment’s [website](http://www.business.gov.au/)[[7]](#footnote-8).

### How we use your information

Unless the information you provide to us is:

* confidential information as per 13.2.1, or
* personal information as per 13.2.3,

we may share the information with other government agencies for a relevant Commonwealth purpose such as:

* to improve the effective administration, monitoring and evaluation of Australian Government programs
* for research
* to announce the awarding of grants.

#### How we handle your confidential information

We will treat the information you give us as sensitive and therefore confidential if it meets all of the following conditions:

* you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
* the information is commercially sensitive
* disclosing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else
* you provide the information with an understanding that it will stay confidential.

#### When we may disclose confidential information

We may disclose confidential information:

* to the committee and our Commonwealth employees and contractors, to help us manage the program effectively
* to the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner
* to the responsible Minister or Assistant Minister
* to a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

We may also disclose confidential information if:

* we are required or authorised by law to disclose it
* you agree to the information being disclosed, or
* someone other than us has made the confidential information public.

#### How we use your personal information

We must treat your personal information according to the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) and the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth). This includes letting you know:

* what personal information we collect
* why we collect your personal information
* to whom we give your personal information.

We may give the personal information we collect from you to our employees and contractors, the committee, and other Commonwealth employees and contractors, so we can:

* manage the program
* research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities.

We, or the Minister, may:

* announce the names of successful applicants to the public
* publish personal information on the department’s websites.

You may read our [Privacy Policy](https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/privacy-policy)[[8]](#footnote-9) on the department’s website for more information on:

* what is personal information
* how we collect, use, disclose and store your personal information
* how you can access and correct your personal information.

#### Freedom of information

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about the program, are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Cth) (FOI Act)*.*

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

If someone requests a document under the FOI Act, we will release it (though we may need to consult with you and/or other parties first) unless it meets one of the exemptions set out in the FOI Act.

### Enquiries and feedback

For further information or clarification, you can contact us on 13 28 46 or by [web chat](https://www.business.gov.au/contact-us) or through our [online enquiry form](http://www.business.gov.au/contact-us/Pages/default.aspx) on business.gov.au.

We may publish answers to your questions on our website as Frequently Asked Questions.

Our [Customer Service Charter](https://www.business.gov.au/about/customer-service-charter) is available at [business.gov.au](http://www.business.gov.au/). We use customer satisfaction surveys to improve our business operations and service.

If you have a complaint, call us on 13 28 46. We will refer your complaint to the appropriate manager.

If you are not satisfied with the way we handle your complaint, you can contact:

Head of Division  
Ausindustry – Support For Business

Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

GPO Box 2013  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

You can also contact the [Commonwealth Ombudsman](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/)[[9]](#footnote-10) with your complaint (call 1300 362 072). There is no fee for making a complaint, and the Ombudsman may conduct an independent investigation.

## Glossary

| **Term** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- |
| Application form | The document issued by the Program Delegate that applicants use to apply for funding under the program. |
| AusIndustry | The division of the same name within the department. |
| Department | The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science. |
| The committee | A body established to consider and assess eligible applications and make recommendations to the Program Delegate/decision maker for funding under the program. |
| Eligible activities | The activities undertaken by a grantee in relation to a project that are eligible for funding support as set out in 5.1. |
| Eligible application | An application or proposal for grant funding under the program that the Program Delegate has determined is eligible for assessment in accordance with these guidelines. |
| Eligible expenditure | The expenditure incurred by a grantee on a project and which is eligible for funding support as set out in 5.2. |
| Grant agreement | A legally binding contract between the Commonwealth and a grantee for the grant funding. |
| Grant funding or grant funds | The funding made available by the Commonwealth to grantees under the program. |
| [GrantConnect](http://www.grants.gov.au/) | The Australian Government’s whole-of-government grants information system, which centralises the publication and reporting of Commonwealth grants in accordance with the CGRGs. |
| Grantee | The recipient of grant funding under a grant agreement. |
| Guidelines | Guidelines that the Minister gives to the department to provide the framework for the administration of the program, as in force from time to time. |
| Minister | The Commonwealth Minister for Industry, Science and Technology. |
| Non-income-tax-exempt | Not exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth) or under Division 1AB of Part III of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* (Cth). |
| Personal information | Has the same meaning as in the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) which is:  Information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable:  whether the information or opinion is true or not; and  whether the information or opinion is recorded in a material form or not. |
| Program Delegate | An AusIndustry manager within the department with responsibility for the program. |
| Program funding or Program funds | The funding made available by the Commonwealth for the program. |
| Project | A project described in an application for grant funding under the program. |
| Trusted advisers | People and organisations who provide advice to small businesses such as accountants, business advisers and industry associations. |

1. <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/small-business-digital-taskforce-report-to-government> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. <https://www.finance.gov.au/sites/default/files/commonwealth-grants-rules-and-guidelines.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. <https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/small-business-digital-taskforce-report-to-government> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. See Australian Taxation Office ruling GSTR 2012/2 available at ato.gov.au [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2017C00270/Html/Text#\_Toc491767030 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/C2017C00270 [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. https://www.industry.gov.au/sites/g/files/net3906/f/July%202018/document/pdf/conflict-of-interest-and-insider-trading-policy.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/privacy-policy [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. http://www.ombudsman.gov.au/ [↑](#footnote-ref-10)