

# ADVANCED MANUFACTURING ECOSYSTEM FUND

FAQS

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## 1. Are non-Australian owned businesses eligible for co-funded grants?

The project leader/applicant must have an ACN which denotes that is a company registered in Australia. As such, wholly owned Australian companies will score higher against the Fund's evaluation criteria.

## 2. I do not have a research partner; can I still apply?

Companies without a research partner are encouraged to apply, however companies collaborating with a Research Institution may score higher against the Fund's evaluation criteria. If assistance is required to locate a suitable research institution, then please contact AMGC: <https://www.amgc.org.au/contact/>

## 3. Are grants open to all Australian manufacturers?

Yes, providing they have an ACN and the project takes place in the Northern Territory.

## 4. What are the Northern Territory manufacturing priority areas for co-funding eligibility

- › Carbon Reduction and Low Emissions
- › Construction
- › Critical Minerals Processing
- › Defence & Security
- › Digital
- › Energy
- › Fabrication
- › Food & Agriculture
- › Maritime
- › Medical Equipment, Pharma
- › Petrochemicals
- › Recycling / Material Recovery
- › Resources technology
- › Space

## 5. What is meant by co-funding?

Co-funding, or matched funding, is where industry must match the co-funded grant from AMGC dollar-for-dollar, with AMGC funding to make up no more than 50 per-cent of total project cash value. . Your contribution must be cash. You cannot use funding from other Commonwealth State, Territory or local government funding programs to fund the balance of your project expenditure not covered by the grant.

## 6. What is the minimum/maximum value of the grants?

The size of funding for each individual AMGC co-funded grant will be between \$25,000 and \$500,000 matched by industry. Projects grant applications in excess of \$500,000 may be given consideration based on the merits of the benefits of the project to the Northern Territory economy.

## **7. What time period will I have to complete my project?**

The fund will seek projects with a 12–18-month completion timeline.

## **8. What information will I need to submit an application?**

An example application can be sourced at <https://www.amgc.org.au/amef/>

When completing an application, please answer (in detail) the questions on the application template on the AMGC portal.

Simple YES/NO answers will not be looked upon favourably.

## **9. Is there a limit to the number of grants I can apply for?**

There is no limit to the number of applications however, AMGC will not approve a second project until the first project is completed.

## **10. Is there a maximum business size (employees) for eligibility?**

Co-funded grants are intended to support small-to-medium enterprises with less than 200 full-time employees. However, all projects are judged on merit and larger organisations are eligible to apply.

## **11. How long will the grant assessment take?**

It is anticipated that the entire process from application to awarding of funding will take three months.

The initial Triage process will take one-month whereupon you will be advised that the project application has been declined (with reasons) or that it is proceeding to the Stage 2 of the approval process.

The second stage review process is expected to take two-months, providing the applicant delivers any requested additional information promptly.

If the project is approved by the AMGC Board, a project agreement will be issued. Funds will be available within two weeks of the signing of the project agreement.

## **12. Is the application process confidential?**

Yes, AMGC is bound by the confidentiality provisions of the Commonwealth Government which can be found at the [Business.gov.au](https://www.business.gov.au) website and includes references to the Privacy Act 1988 and Right to Information Act 2009.

## **13. Can publicly listed entities apply?**

Yes, privately held and public companies are eligible.

## **14. I operate outside one of the eligible industries, should I still apply?**

At this point in time only projects satisfying one of the eligible industries are eligible for the Grants.

## **15. Is there any recommendation for businesses outside the eligible industries in relation to grants?**

We encourage you to register as a member with AMGC to stay up to date with the latest grant information.

You can sign up as an AMGC member here: <https://www.amgc.org.au/membership/>

## **16. Am I able to see the application template before starting?**

A sample of a project application can be downloaded at <https://www.amgc.org.au/amef/>

## **17. Is there an example of a successful application?**

Yes, the sample project application provided in the above (FAQ 16) was a successful application.

## **18. What are the assessment criteria?**

The assessment scoring criteria is the guide that will be used by the Review Committee to assess your application. This merit criteria is available to view at <https://www.amgc.org.au/amef/>

## **19. Who do I contact in case of technical problems or questions?**

Please contact [applications@amgc.org.au](mailto:applications@amgc.org.au) or the AMGC Territory Director at <https://www.amgc.org.au/contact/>

## **20. How do I apply for a Fund grant?**

To access the grant portal, register, and commence your application, please go to <https://www.amgc.org.au/amef/>

## **21. What is the role of AMGC?**

AMGC and its representatives can provide general assistance regarding the fund, however AMGC staff are not responsible for developing the business's project application.

## **22. Will activities already underway be considered eligible for assistance?**

No. Only activities undertaken after the signing of the project agreement will be eligible for funding.

## **23. Do I need to have the matched funding contributions available up front?**

Yes. You will also need to provide evidence in the form of financial statements to support your application if it proceeds to Stage 2 of the process.

## **24. Is my business eligible for funding if it is not registered for GST?**

No.

## **25. What expenses are eligible for funding?**

Certain business expenses are eligible to be included in your funding application. A list of all eligible expenses is available at <https://www.amgc.org.au/amef/>

**26. Can I apply if I only have an ABN?**

No, AMGC encourages companies to have an ACN to prove Australian business registration.

**27. Can a company structure such as a trust apply?**

Yes, a trust is eligible if it has an ACN.

**28. What is meant by collaboration partners? For example, is being a supplier enough to count as project collaborator?**

Any organisation can be a project collaborator. For example, it can be a supplier, a potential customer, a research institution, etc.

**29. Is there a minimum number of project collaborators?**

AMGC encourages collaboration and a minimum of two project collaborators, including a university or research institution. One of those collaborators must reside in the Northern Territory.

**30. What will AMGC require from successful grant applicants for media and communication purposes?**

AMGC will ask the successful applicant to support the development of a case study and participate in any potential media opportunities. It may be asked to be a project reference site.

**31. Do I and the project partners need to be AMGC members to apply for a grant?**

Yes, providing they have an ABN. AMGC membership is open to all industry partners. Applicants do not have to be a financial AMGC member, however they are required to have a guest profile which is free.

You can sign up as an AMGC member here: <https://www.amgc.org.au/membership/>

**32. Will a project that is mainly developing software be eligible?**

Yes.

**33. What is the payment system for the grants, i.e., are the funds paid in advance or arrears?**

Grants will be paid by milestones in advance.

