

ORD UPDATE (RESEARCH UPDATE) 07-2007

ARC LINKAGE INFRASTRUCTURE, EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES (LIEF) - CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOIs) FOR FUNDING IN 2008

The Australian Research Council's (ARC) Linkage–Infrastructure Equipment & Facilities (LIEF) scheme is part of the National Competitive Grants Programme (NCGP) and has the following four objectives:

- Encourage eligible organisations to develop collaborative arrangements in the higher education sector and with organisations outside the sector, in order to develop research infrastructure;
- Support large-scale cooperative initiatives, thereby allowing expensive infrastructure, equipment and facilities to be shared;
- Enhance support for areas of research strength; and
- Ensure that researchers in fields of recognised research potential have access to the support necessary to carry out high-quality research.

The minimum grant under LIEF is \$100,000 (net of GST), with a total of approximately \$27 million funded in 2007. Funding is normally for one year only. However, applications for multiple years of funding may be considered in the case of subscriptions or other payments in respect of major international facilities where up to 5 years of funding may be provided.

Generally, applications should involve two or more eligible higher education institutions and individual researchers may not be named as Chief Investigator on more than two LIEF applications in a year.

Internal Process

Following agreement between Curtin, UWA, Murdoch and Edith Cowan Universities, the following 2007 timetable has been established for proposals involving Curtin (including proposals that involve universities from outside of Western Australia):

Friday 23 March	Electronic copy of Expression of Interest (copy attached) to be emailed to the Stuart Clarke, Research and Development Officer (S.Clarke@curtin.edu.au)
1st week of April	Meeting of the PVCs/D-PVC(R)s of the four universities (or their nominees) to discuss the Expressions of Interest and to provide feedback to applicants.
Friday 27 April	Four (4) backed copies of the full draft application to be submitted to the Director, Research and Development. The draft proposal must consist of the completed application form and supporting text plus attachments, including the additional documentation required for the Research Matching Fund support (see below).
Week commencing 30 April	Further meeting of the PVCs/D-PVC(R)s of the four universities (or their nominees) to provide feedback to applicants.
Tuesday 15 May	Original plus two identical single-sided signed copies of the final application, clipped with NAL-clips, to be lodged with the Director, Research and Development.
Friday 18 May	Closing date in Canberra.

Applicants who do not meet the internal deadline at each stage in the process may be required to defer their applications until next year. Late applications will only proceed at the discretion of the Pro Vic e-Chancellor, Research and Development.

The LIEF scheme will fund up to a maximum of 75% of the direct cost of purchasing the equipment or creating the facility (net of GST). The remaining 25% should be obtained from the collaborating institutions, and from other sources where possible. Within Curtin sources of funds might include faculties, departments, schools and centres and the Office of Research and Development.

Application Material

The ARC guidelines, instructions to applicants and application form are available electronically from:

http://www.arc.gov.au/ncgp/lief/lief_default.htm.

Applications under LIEF consist of two parts:

1. The application form is to be completed in the ARC's Grant Application Management System (GAMS). Researchers will need a GAMS ID and password. If you do not already have these they are available upon request from Mrs Anne Wong in the Research Grants Office (Anne.Wong@curtin.edu.au).
2. Additional text, which includes supporting documentation and applicants' curricula vitae, are to be provided to the ARC as a paper copy behind the associated application form.

The pages of the application, including the additional text and supporting documentation, must be numbered consecutively starting from page one of the additional text. Inquiries should be directed to Tony Tate, Director, Research and Development 9266 4366 email: T.Tate@curtin.edu.au.

Internal Closing Date EOI's: Friday 23 March 2007

Regards

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Curtin University of Technology

2008 ARC LINKAGE-INFRASTRUCTURE (Equipment and Facilities)

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
(due Friday, 23 March 2007)

1. Project/Equipment Title

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2. Chief Investigator(s)

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3. Host/Lead Institution

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4. Collaborating Institutions or Organisations

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5. Project Summary briefly describing the equipment/facility and proposed research

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