



Australian Government  
Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications

## EMERGING AVIATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

### ROUND ONE

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



## **EMERGING AVIATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM (EATP) – ROUND ONE**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

**Question: The end date for the program is 30 June 2023. What if my project proposal will take more than 12 months to complete?**

**Answer:** The program is funded for two years and the current end date is June 2023. We have in principle agreement to extend the timeframes for the program but cannot yet confirm a revised end date. We can confirm we anticipate Round One projects will be able to span the full duration of the program which is two years. Therefore, when preparing your application, you can work from the assumption that you will have up to two years to complete your project, with the exception as noted in the guidelines, that some research proposals may be expected to finish earlier to feed into Round Two.

**Question: What is the last day to apply for round one of EATP?**

**Answer:** Applications for Round One will close at 11:30 pm AEDT on 31 March 2022. We will not accept late applications. If you miss the cut off for Round One, there will be another opportunity to apply for funding under the Round Two grant opportunity. The Round Two grant guidelines will be released once the Round One selection process has been finalised (likely late 2022).

**Question: Can one organisation submit multiple applications?**

**Answer:** Yes, one organisation may submit multiple applications for different project proposals in one focus area or for multiple projects in different focus areas. Applicants must address all selection criteria relevant for each separate project proposal.

**Question: What documents are to be provided along with the application?**

**Answer:** Applicants are required to submit a number of supporting documents – see section 7.1 of the Program Guidelines. These are:

- a project management plan (including budget, risk management plan, timeline/key milestones, stakeholder management plan);
- business case for your project;
- concept of operations and safety case (if applicable);
- evaluation plan;
- evidence of support from project partners (if applicable);
- trust deed (if applicable); and
- any other documentation required to evidence the relevant assessment criteria.

The level of detail and complexity expected in these documents will be proportional to the size and complexity of the project and the amount of funding being sought. These supporting documents are an important element of the assessment process, as evidence of merit against the relevant selection criteria. Failure to submit required supporting documentation may render your application ineligible.

**Question: When and in how many portions will successful applicants receive the agreed grant amount?**

**Answer:** Payment milestones will be outlined in individual grant agreements with payment timing and frequency dependent on the nature of the project. For example, some projects may require a portion of the funding to be paid upfront and at different points during implementation and other projects might be paid upon completion. Payments will be made following achievement of agreed milestones and receipt of a valid tax invoice.

**Question: What is the selection process?**

**Answer:** Applications will first be assessed against the eligibility criteria outlined in the Program Guidelines. Next, the EATP Program team will undertake a preliminary assessment and ranking of each eligible application based on merits against the selection criteria, merits against other proposals and value for relevant money, and where necessary, technical experts from across the Commonwealth will provide advice on the technical aspects of proposals. The Selection Committee will then assess eligible applications against the selection criteria outlined in the Program Guidelines (relevant for each project proposal) and will consider the value for relevant money and the comparative merits of the proposal relative to all other applications. The Selection Committee will make recommendations to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development (who has responsibility for final decision making) and may contact you to discuss or if necessary, refine, your proposal prior to doing so.

**Question: Can an organisation apply to receive funding just for research and development?**

**Answer:** Yes, some of the focus areas include scope for research projects only without a corresponding trial. We may ask that research findings are shared with interested parties to enable findings from research to inform future trials. Processes for information sharing will be outlined in individual grant agreements.

**Question: If an applicant received funding under Round One, can they apply under Round Two?**

**Answer:** Yes, applicants who receive funding under Round One may apply for further funding under Round Two for an upgrade/extension, a completely new project, or to enable research findings from first round funded research projects to be tested and applied. However, receiving funding under Round One does not guarantee an applicant funding under Round Two. Round Two will be conducted on an open-competitive basis.

**Question: When will Round Two be open for applications?**

**Answer:** The timing of Round Two will be dependent on the nature and number of projects received under Round One. We anticipate releasing Round two in the second half of 2022. Guidelines will be released on GrantConnect ([www.grants.gov.au](http://www.grants.gov.au)) and will be available on the Department's website ([www.infrastructure.gov.au/eatp](http://www.infrastructure.gov.au/eatp) ).

**Question: Would a project for research/development/application of emerging technology for fixed wing aircraft be eligible for consideration under the program guidelines?**

**Answer:** Yes. The reference to "other emerging aviation technology" encompasses new and innovative technology applied to the aviation space, including both propulsion systems and airframe elements. The development of high efficiency, low emission long range alternatives for fixed wing aircraft would be within scope.

**Question: Would a proposal involving a vehicle or application already in existence and use elsewhere (eg overseas) be eligible for consideration?**

**Answer:** Yes, providing the vehicle or application is not already in use in the Australian context and there are clear potential benefits for the Australian emerging aviation sector and Australian businesses and communities.

**Question: Will project proponents be expected to share intellectual property?**

**Answer:** We will not ask an organisation to share its intellectual property where doing so would cause a commercial disadvantage. However, where the grant funding provided for a project proposal is a major component of the cost of developing the intellectual property in question, there will be an expectation of some sharing with industry or other interested parties. The extent of sharing would be negotiated as part of individual grant agreements and would be dependent on the nature of the projects. A key objective of the program is to accelerate the Australian sector and we are seeking proponents with an interest in furthering the Australian sector as a whole, in addition to individual business interests.

**Question: Would an upgrade or extension of an existing project supported by a state or territory government be eligible for consideration under the program?**

**Answer:** Yes, provided the lead organisation for the project is an eligible entity. The Program Guidelines allow for project proponent partnerships with other tiers of government and co-funding, while not mandatory, is favourable.

**Question: If a project fails to achieve its desired outcome, will this affect payment of the agreed grant funding?**

**Answer:** Grant agreements will set out agreed milestones and a schedule of payments. Failure to achieve agreed milestones will trigger a review of progress and if necessary, a variation to the agreement with a revised payments schedule. We appreciate that in some instances projects will not succeed as planned through no fault of the grantee and in such circumstances, we would not seek to recover costs.

**Question: Is there a maximum amount for each grant?**

**Answer:** There is no minimum or maximum amount fixed for any project. Applicants have flexibility to request the amount they require in order to complete the proposed project. The Commonwealth reserves the right to negotiate the grant amount with successful applicants.

**Question: How will you ensure benefits are realised here in Australia?**

**Answer:** A key objective of the program is to accelerate the Australian industry. We are looking for proponents who are willing to work with us to do this and in addition to any trials being conducted in Australia, we ask that applicants demonstrate how their proposal will benefit the Australian industry and communities with any plans for expansion after conclusion of the project, to include Australia.

**Question: Why does the program focus only on regional areas?**

**Answer:** The focus areas were identified as areas that demonstrate potential for application of emerging aviation technology. Many of our regional and remote areas face connectivity challenges and are at a disadvantage when it comes to safe and efficient movement of people and goods. The program is seeking to address some of these challenges and open up freight and transport markets. Furthermore, Australia has a vast expanse of open space which makes testing and trialling emerging aviation technology safer/lower risk and more attractive to investors and regulatory bodies alike.

**Question: How will the partnerships approach work?**

**Answer:** We are seeking proposals that demonstrate support from other parties, such as state and territory agencies and local governments and communities, or a plan to gain support and work with other parties. The Department's role in this approach will include creating connections with other Commonwealth agencies and regulatory bodies, testing policy and regulatory settings and where appropriate conducting procurements to support the delivery of projects. Partnerships will be outlined in an informal agreement (such as a Memorandum of Understanding) to signify the commitment of all parties in working together to ensure success of the project.

**Question: If my application is successful are regulatory approvals guaranteed?**

**Answer:** Being awarded a grant does not guarantee regulatory approval. Applicants must consider the regulatory requirements prior to submitting an application and have a thorough understanding of what is required and a willingness to seek relevant approvals. The Department will assist where possible to help streamline the process.