

# Clean Economy Workforce Capacity Building Fund (CEWCBF) - Frequently Asked Questions

## What is the Clean Economy Workforce Capacity Building Fund?

The Fund seeks to create partnerships between the Victorian TAFE and training sector and industry, to build workforce capacity and to develop and deliver training that supports the Victorian Government's commitment to achieve net zero emission by 2050.

The Fund is designed to:

- Improve the efficiency, flexibility and responsiveness of the training and TAFE system in meeting clean economy industry skill needs and business training requirements.
- Encourage partnerships between industry bodies, businesses, TAFEs and training organisations to improve workforce productivity through clean economy focused training programs.
- Build industry productivity and contribute to broader environmental, social and economic gains in Victorian Government priority clean economy areas in the workforce.
- Provide opportunities to transfer and scale deliverables to support the design, adoption and implementation of clean economy workforce skills across the wider training and TAFE system.
- Provide investment support to areas of focus and opportunity in clean economy workforce sectors delivering on the Victorian Government's commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050.

## What is the clean economy?

The Fund defines the clean economy as:

- The sectors of the Victorian economy that directly contribute to climate change adaptation and mitigation and include, but not limited to:
  - renewable energy (such as solar, wind, hydroelectricity, bioenergy and green hydrogen), energy efficiency and demand management, energy transmission and storage technologies;
  - the use of circular economy practices (particularly in material usage and material efficiency including waste management);
  - other zero emission economic activity (e.g. transport and agriculture); and
  - other climate change adaptation and mitigation activity (e.g. carbon capture and storage, hydrogen).
- Key sectors of the Victorian economy impacted by climate change and the transition towards a clean economy such as construction, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, food and fibre, tourism.
- Key sectors of the Victorian economy that will be drivers of the transition towards a clean economy and in addressing climate change (e.g. design and innovation).

## Who is eligible to apply for CEWCBF?

Applications are considered from a range of organisations including TAFE and Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), universities, industry, employers, unions, peak bodies and industry associations.

There are two potential roles an organisation may have in a CEWCBF project – lead or partner. Conditions may apply. For full details refer to the CEWCBF [website](#).

## Can an RTO applicant partner with another Education Sector organisation?

Yes, if the Lead organisation has a Skills First contract.

For full details refer to the CEWCBF [website](#).

## What does the funding look like?

The Fund is administered through the payment of a grant. Funding of up to \$1million is available across three categories, for collaboration between industry and training providers to deliver innovation in clean economy training and workforce development.

## How do I apply for funding under CEWCBF?

Before being given approval to proceed in developing a CEWCBF application, you need to prepare an Expression of Interest (EOI) to provide evidence there is a need for the proposal.

The Department encourages early submission of EOIs to allow those invited to proceed to a full application, to have ample time to complete their applications.

Lodge your EOI as soon as possible at this [link](#).

Refer to the [fund guidelines](#) on the CEWCBF [website](#) for full details on how to apply.

## When do EOIs close?

EOIs are open from **25 October 2021** and close at **Midnight, 19 November 2021**. The Department encourages early submission of EOIs to allow those invited to proceed to a full application, to have ample time to complete the application form.

## When do full applications close?

If your EOI has been approved to proceed to a full application, your application must be submitted via the Department's portal by **Midnight, 3 December 2021**.

## Will there be future rounds of the Fund?

This is a limited grant program. Funds will be allocated in this one round.

## What kind of budget do I need to provide?

A budget is required to be attached to your online application, as well as a rationale explaining how this demonstrates value for money.

The budget template is provided when you receive your link to the CEWCBF online application. Each line item of expenditure and income is considered by the assessors, so please ensure it is clear what is included and why.

## Do project applicants have to provide a funding contribution?

Applicants don't have to provide a funding contribution. The Department aims to maximise the benefits of the Fund and in-kind and financial contributions can be made and should be reflected in the budget accompanying the application.

## What doesn't the program fund?

Project activities are broad, however the following will not be considered for funding:

- ongoing funding
- existing initiatives
- ongoing training delivery
- business as usual activity
- travel and accommodation
- capital works
- research

## Can projects test non-accredited training?

Yes

## Is there a cap amount (\$) for each project?

Funding of up to \$1 million is available for each project.

## Is there a time limit on when projects are to be completed?

Funded projects are expected to be completed within 18 months of a grant being awarded. All projects must be completed by 31 December, 2023.

## Can I submit multiple applications for a range of projects?

No, you are not able to submit multiple applications, as the program has limited funding and the Department is seeking to support a range of diverse applicants delivering clean economy focused skills development and training.

## How are the assessment criteria weighted?

Applications for grant funding will be assessed against the eligibility and assessment criteria.

1. Clean Economy Workforce Skills Impact and Innovation - 45%
2. Governance - 10%
3. Partnerships – 10%
4. Capability and Capacity – 25%
5. Sustainability, transferability, and sharing of best practice – 10%

## How will grants be assessed?

The Fund has a dedicated panel to assess submissions. The panel is made up of DET representatives and includes a dedicated Chair. Submissions will be assessed against the program's eligibility and assessment criteria.

## When will funding be made available to successful applicants?

Successful applicants are likely to be notified in February – March 2022. Funding will be made available to successful applicants from March to June 2022 if they meet the contracting and project establishment requirements.

## What kind of reporting is required if my application for funding is successful?

Regular milestone reports relating to the application activities and budget line items will need to be completed throughout the project.

Successful applicants will also be required to attend an annual meeting and final outcomes meeting.

A financial acquittal is required with a final milestone report. For projects under \$1million this must be signed by the Chief Financial Officer, and for projects equal to \$1million it must be signed by an independent Financial Auditor.

## Where do I go for more information?

All questions relating to CEWCBF should be directed to the CEWCBF Team at [clean.economy.workforce.fund@education.vic.gov.au](mailto:clean.economy.workforce.fund@education.vic.gov.au) or visit the website at [Clean Economy Workforce Capacity Building Fund](#)