# Workforce Training Innovation Fund (WTIF)

Frequently Asked Questions

Where can I access a copy of the information session recording and slide deck?

You can access a copy of both the recording and slide deck at this link: [Workforce Training Innovation Fund](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx)

What is the workforce training innovation fund?

WTIF provides grant funding for industry and training provider partnerships to develop and deliver innovative strategies for improving training outcomes and the relevance of training to industry.

WTIF is designed to:

* Improve the flexibility and responsiveness of the VET sector
* Encourage greater industry and employer partnerships
* Contribute to broader economic productivity gains
* Shareinnovative training models and resources
* Sustainable post funding

What is innovation?

Innovation in WTIF is defined as change that adds value, transforming the lives of Victorians and drives economic growth, through:

* introducing new or diverse concepts, models, services and products
* disrupting, challenging, and advancing existing practices for our future workforces
* enriching the learner experience.

Who is eligible to apply for WTIF?

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 WTIF project – lead or partner. Conditions may apply.

For full details refer to the WTIF website [here](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx)

Can an RTO application partner with another Education Sector

Yes, if the Lead has a Skills First contract.

For full details refer to the WTIF website [here](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx)

What does the funding look like?

The Fund is administered through the payment of a grant.

Funding of up to $5million across four categories is available for collaboration between industry and training providers to deliver innovation in training, workforce development and applied research.

Note: In previous years seed funding of up to $50,000 was available to test project ideas. Seed funding is no longer available under WTIF.

How do I apply for funding under WTIF?

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

EOIs are emailed to wtif@education.vic.gov.au

Refer to [the guidelines](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx) for full details on how to apply.

When does Round 1 for 2021-22 close?

If your EOI has been approved to proceed to application the application must be submitted via the Department’s portal by midnight, 1 October 2021.

Will funds be held over for the February round?

This is dependent on the number of applications in Round One and the even spread across industry sectors and government priorities.

Where can I find the Government Priority List?

Priority Industries & Sectors can be found [here](https://djpr.vic.gov.au/priority-industries-sectors)

Is the fund restricted to Government Priority industries?

No. Applications are considered on a case-by-case basis with preference given to projects that support Victoria’s economic recovery.

How are the assessment criteria weighted?

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

1. Innovation– 35%
2. Governance - 10%
3. Evaluation – 20%
4. Capability and Capacity – 25%
5. Sustainability and Sharing Best Practice– 10%

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 WTIF 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.

What the program does not fund

As an innovation fund, project activities are broad, however the following will not be considered for funding:

* Duplication of initiatives previously funded
* Capital works
* Ongoing training delivery and assessment
* Travel and accommodation
* Business as usual activities

Can projects test non-accredited training?

Yes

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

Funding of up to $5 million is available for each project.

How will an identical or similar application submitted by a lead across the range of grants be assessed?

Each DET fund has a dedicated panel to assess submissions. The panels are made up of DET representatives and include a dedicated Chair linked to a specific fund. Submissions that are closest aligned and address the guidelines of a *specific fund* will be assessed by that *specific panel*.

Are there case studies available of previously funded successful projects?

A range of Case Studies are available [here](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx)

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

Regular milestone reports pertaining 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 signed by the Chief Financial Officer (for projects under $1m) or from an independent Financial Auditor (for projects over $1m) is required with a final milestone report.

Can I submit multiple applications for a range of projects?

Yes you are able to submit multiple applications noting that you will need to go through the EOI process for each application.

Where do I go for more information?

All questions relating to WTIF should be directed to the WTIF Programs Team at wtif@education.vic.gov.au or visit the website at [Workforce Training Innovation Fund](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/providers/funding/Pages/wtif.aspx)