



**Australian Government**

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

## **EMERGING AVIATION TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM**

### **ROUND TWO**

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



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

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

#### **Question: How is EATP Round two different to EATP Round One?**

**Answer:** The EATP Program Objectives and desired Outcomes are unchanged for the Round Two grant opportunity. The focus areas for Round Two have been fine-tuned to give greater emphasis to:

- the development and use of propulsion applications in emerging aviation technology that utilise renewable, sustainable energy sources, in support of the Government's zero carbon emissions target; and
- R&D projects that seek to address the regulatory barriers and processes and facilitate the implementation of emerging aviation technology.

A maximum limit of \$2 million has been set for Round Two projects, and Round Two applicants are required to financially contribute towards project costs.

#### **Question: How long will I have to complete my project?**

**Answer:** The EATP program Round Two Guidelines anticipate a grant period of around 20 months, with an end date of 30 June 2025. Round Two projects are likely to commence in October/November 2023 and must be completed by 30 June 2025.

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

**Answer:** Applications for Round Two will close at 11:30 pm (AEST) on 27 July 2023. Any application received after this time will not be accepted. Transmission time should be factored in when submitting an application to ensure it is received before the closing time.

#### **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 for each separate project proposal.

#### **Question: Who can apply for an EATP Round 2 Grant?**

**Answer:** Section 4 of the EATP Round Two Guidelines sets out who is eligible to apply. You are not eligible to apply if you do not have an Australian Business Number (ABN) or are not registered for the purposes of GST as at the closing date/time, or are not one of the entity types listed in Section 4.1 of the Guidelines.

Please note, your ABN and GST registration must be 'confirmed' and not simply 'applied for' by the closing date/time. If you are applying for a new ABN or for GST registration, you should allow time for your registration to be processed and activated prior to the EATP application closing date/time.

#### **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 by the closing date/time will impact adversely on the assessment of your application.

**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 EATP program team will provide a report to the Assessment Committee (as outlined in Section 8 of the Guidelines). The Assessment Committee will consider the preliminary assessment and report and undertake its own independent assessment of eligible applications against the selection criteria outlined in the Program Guidelines and will consider the value for relevant money and the comparative merits of each proposal relative to all other applications.

The Assessment Committee will make recommendations to the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (who has responsibility for final decision making) and may contact high scoring applicants to discuss or if necessary, refine or re-scope, a proposal prior to doing so.

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

**Answer:** The Round Two grant opportunity includes a focus area (addressing regulatory barriers) that provides scope for research or development to assist with regulatory processes that enable implementation of emerging aviation technology in any of the other four Program focus areas. Proposals targeting this focus area may be for research/development only or may include a corresponding trial. In addition, focus area 1 (Growing Manufacturing in Emerging Aviation

Technology) can include proposals for development of technology that will support the deployment and operation of emerging aviation technology.

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

**Answer:** Yes, applicants who received 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: Would a project for research/development/application of emerging technology for fixed wing aircraft be eligible for consideration under the program guidelines?**

**Answer:** Yes. “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 application to fixed wing aircraft would be within scope.

**Question: Would a proposal involving a vehicle or application already in existence and use elsewhere (e.g. 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. Applications should demonstrate how EATP funding would enable activities that would not otherwise be possible without funding.

**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.

**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:** The Round Two EATP Program Guidelines specify a maximum amount of \$2 million for any project funded under Round Two. 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 emerging aviation technology industry. Applicants are asked to demonstrate how their proposal will benefit the Australian industry and communities.

**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 Australia's 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 encourage 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 facilitating connections with other Commonwealth agencies and regulatory bodies.

**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.