Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer

Innovation Research Acceleration Program

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NSW GOVERNMENT

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the Land on which we meet today, and pay our respect to Elders past and present. We extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

Welcome and housekeeping

- Welcome.
- This Webinar will be recorded and placed on the OCSE website.
- For the duration of the presentation and to assist with connection stability, please turn off your camera and mute your microphone.
- There will be an opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

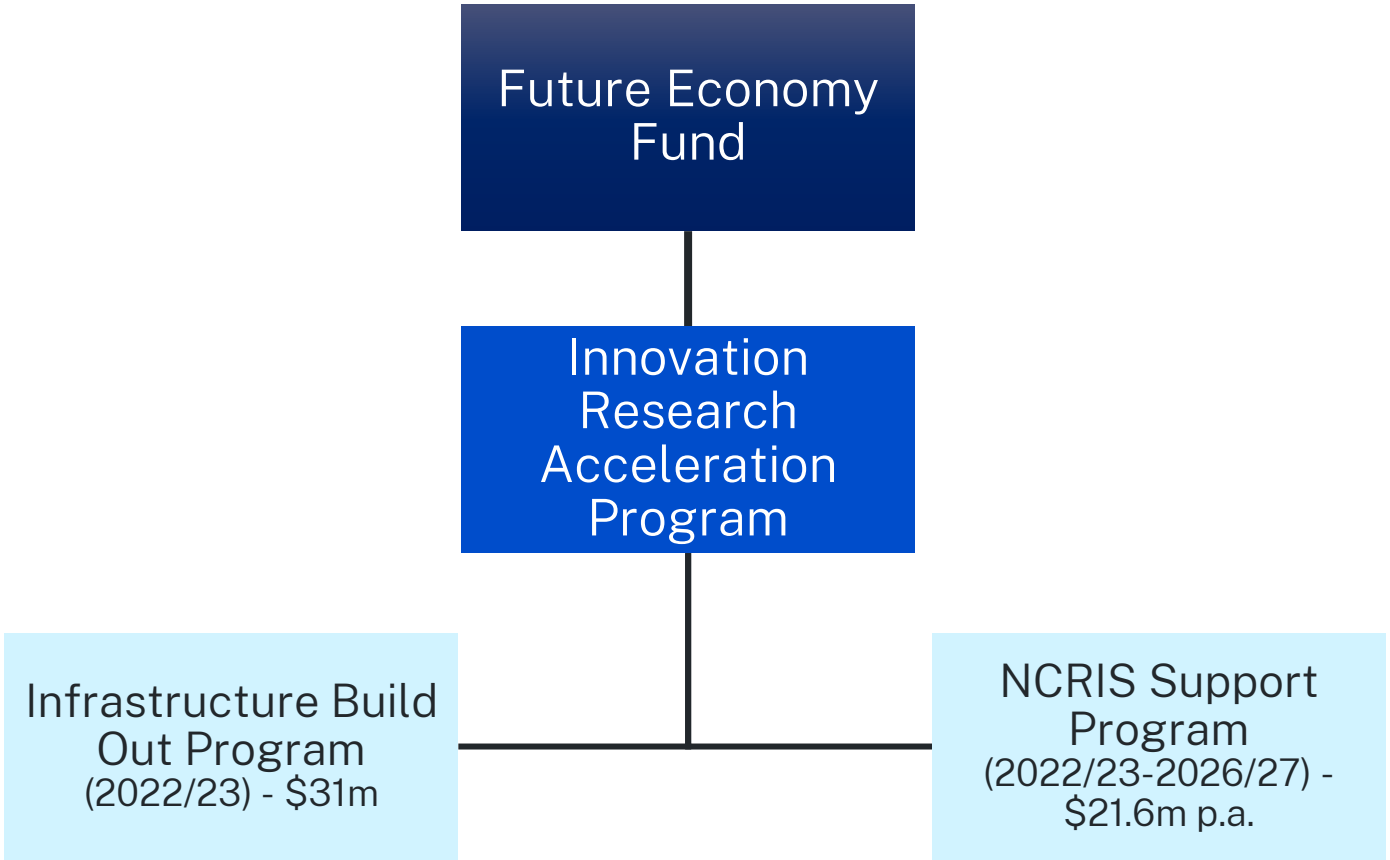
Innovation Research Acceleration Program

- The IRAP is a $117 million investment over four years to increase both the scale and excellence of research and innovation in NSW by supporting openly accessible research and innovation infrastructure in NSW.

- IRAP is a subprogram of the **Future Economy Fund**, an unprecedented investment by the NSW Government to drive productivity in emerging high-value industries by supporting R&D and commercialisation, through to business growth, upskilling and export opportunities.

- The IRAP includes two infrastructure support grants aligned with the **20-Year R&D Roadmap** and the **NSW Industry Development Framework** to enable the delivery of, and equitable access to, necessary research and innovation infrastructure.

Innovation Research Acceleration Program



Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer

Infrastructure Build Out Program (Build Out)

- $31m total funding available in one round (2022/23): **$10m Quantum Funding Stream** and **$21m General Funding Stream**.
- Competitive, merit-based assessment against the assessment criteria.
- $500,000 to $10m.
- New, shared research and innovation infrastructure (including pilot or scale-up facilities) or builds on and supports existing infrastructure.
- Must be open access to both public and private technology developers and researchers and support collaborative R&D and innovation.

Build Out

- Applications are open to universities, public and private research organisations and facilities as well private companies providing facilities and programs which could be open access.
- **Applicants are encouraged to collaborate on proposals with university and/or industry partners where appropriate.**
- Organisations that are currently or have previously been funded by NCRIS are not eligible for Build Out.
- Two-stage process: Expression of Interest (closes **10am 15 February 2023**) and Detailed Applications (invite only)

Build Out

Outcomes

1. Increase the availability and use of open-access research and innovation infrastructure (e.g., facilities, equipment, resources and expertise).

2. Increase collaborative R&D and innovation within the NSW innovation community (academia, industry, government, non-government organisations and students).

3. a) Increase R&D output, translation and other commercial outcomes, and/or b) contribute to a robust talent pipeline of technical skills and career pathways.

Build Out

Must align to at least one theme in the 20-Year R&D Roadmap and at least one priority industry, core enabling technology or focus precinct in the NSW Industry Development Framework.

20-Year R&D Roadmap	The NSW Industry Development Framework
• Software • Artificial intelligence • Data analytics • Quantum computing and devices • Blockchain • Robotics • Communications, Sensing, Internet of Things • Semiconductors • Biochemical technologies • Cell technologies • Genetic and molecular technologies • Nanotechnology • Smart materials • Circular economy • Nuclear science • Renewable energy generation • Energy storage • Power to X	**Priority industries** • Agriculture and agrifood • Resources • Defence and aerospace • Clean energy and waste • Medical and life sciences • Digital systems and software • International education • Visitor economy **Core enabling technologies** • Digital technology • Advanced manufacturing • Biotechnology **Focus precincts** • Aerotropolis • Westmead • Tech Central • Renewable Energy Zones • Hydrogen Hubs • Special Activation Precincts • Regional Job Precincts

Build Out

Eligible projects include:

- new equipment and technology to assist R&D, innovation and commercialisation in multiple user organisations
- major equipment upgrades or replacement, or equipment to increase the ‘industry offering’ of the facility
- laboratory facilities improvement to facilitate industry access
- employment of, or training for, highly skilled technical experts where it can be shown that this enhances end-user access or other outcomes from the use of equipment
- business development managers or industry application scientists employed by a university, research infrastructure facility or consortium to assist SMEs and companies to navigate the research and commercialisation pathways and access infrastructure
- specialised technologies and systems to facilitate researcher and industry access
- industry-focused collaborative programs driving access to infrastructure and commercialisation, which can be joint across facilities

Build Out

Assessment criteria

Project impact	Deliverability
Why NSW needs the proposed research and innovation infrastructure and how the state will benefit from the investment	Capacity and capability (track-record, expertise and industry knowledge) of the applicant and any partners to deliver the proposal
How it aligns to the industry, technology and innovation needs as identified in the NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap and one of the priority industries, technologies or focus precincts listed in the NSW Industry Development Framework	Whether the total funding sought and provided through the grant, partners, participants, and other funding sources is sufficient to undertake the initiative
How it will contribute to the three Build Out Outcomes	How the proposal would be implemented, the requirements for successful implementation and identified risks and their mitigants and/or controls.
Ensures open-access to the research and innovation infrastructure for researchers, startups, and industry	The suitability of the project plan, technical plans and/or cost estimates supporting the project
The long-term impacts of this investment for NSW and why this proposal will support the NSW economy into the future	Vision for this research and innovation infrastructure investment beyond the funding timeframe
	Co-investment and strengths of the proposal in terms of bid partners and proposed participants

Infrastructure Assessment Panel

Panellists representing government, industry, research, investment

May request further information

May identify opportunities for applicants to collaborate if there are synergies or duplication

May recommend that an applicant receive a smaller amount of funding than originally requested

Provides recommendations to the Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology

NCRIS Support

- Continuation of the NSW Government's support for NCRIS facilities since 2006
- Provides $86.4 million over four years to deliver research infrastructure that leverages support through the Commonwealth Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy Program (NCRIS).
- $21.6 million is available for Round 1 in 2022/23
- Open to facilities funded or identified under the NCRIS Program
- Competitive, merit-based assessment against the assessment criteria

- Grants ranging between $500,000 to $10m.
- Closes **10am (AEDT) 15 February 2023**
- Alignment to Commonwealth Government's 2021 National Research Infrastructure Roadmap, the NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap and the NSW Industry Development Framework.
- Single stage process – full application

NCRIS Support

Must align to at least one research and innovation Commonwealth Government's 2021 National Research Infrastructure Roadmap, the NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap and the NSW Industry Development Framework.

20-Year R&D Roadmap	NSW Industry Development Framework	2021 National Research Infrastructure Roadmap
• Software • Artificial intelligence • Data analytics • Quantum computing and devices • Blockchain • Robotics • Communications, Sensing, Internet of Things • Semiconductors • Biochemical technologies • Cell technologies • Genetic and molecular technologies • Nanotechnology • Smart materials • Circular economy • Nuclear science • Renewable energy generation • Energy storage • Power to X	**Priority industries** • Agriculture and agrifood • Resources • Defence and aerospace • Clean energy and waste • Medical and life sciences • Digital systems and software • International education • Visitor economy **Core enabling technologies** • Digital technology • Advanced manufacturing • Biotechnology **Focus precincts** • Aerotropolis • Westmead • Tech Central • Renewable Energy Zones • Hydrogen Hubs • Special Activation Precincts • Regional Job Precincts	• Resources technology and critical minerals processing • Food and beverage • Medical products • Recycling and clean energy • Defence • Space • Environment and climate • Frontier technologies and modern manufacturing • Continental-scale observations • Large-scale integrated datasets • Physical collections and biobanking • Software analysis tools and platforms

NCRIS Support

Eligible projects include:

- major equipment upgrades or replacement, or equipment to increase the ‘industry offering’ of the facility
- laboratory facilities improvement to facilitate industry access
- developing new infrastructure facilities
- highly skilled technical experts where it can be shown that this enhances end-user access or outcomes from the equipment
- business development managers or industry application scientists employed by a university, research infrastructure facility or consortium to assist SMEs and companies to navigate the research pathways and access infrastructure
- specialised technologies and systems to facilitate researcher and industry access
- industry-focused collaborative programs driving access to infrastructure and commercialisation, which can be joint across facilities

NCRIS Support

Outcomes

1. Increase the availability and use of open-access research and innovation infrastructure (e.g., facilities, equipment, resources and expertise).
2. Increase collaborative R&D and innovation within the NSW innovation community (academia, industry, government, non-government organisations and students).
3. Increase R&D output, translation and other commercial outcomes, and/or b) contribute to a robust talent pipeline of technical skills and career pathways.

NCRIS Suport

Assessment criteria

Project impact	Deliverability
Why NSW needs the proposed research and innovation infrastructure and how the state will benefit from the investment	Expertise or industry knowledge that makes the organisation/s uniquely qualified to deliver this public infrastructure investment and/or program
How it will contribute to the three NCRIS Support Program outcomes	Track record of current facilities, projects or similar work/collaborations or for industry delivered proposals
Ensures open-access to the research and innovation infrastructure for researchers, start-ups, and industry	How the proposal would be implemented, the requirements for successful implementation and identified risks and their mitigants and/or controls
	The suitability of the project plan, technical plans and/or cost estimates supporting the project
	Co-investment and strengths of the proposal in terms of bid partners and proposed participants
	That the total funding sought and provided through the grant, partners, participants, and other funding sources is sufficient to undertake the initiative

Infrastructure Assessment Panel

- Panellists representing government, industry, research, investment
- May request further information
- May engage with applicants through the Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer, where appropriate, to explore opportunities to collaborate between applicants
- May recommend that an applicant receive a smaller amount of funding than originally requested
- Provides recommendations to the Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology

Timelines

Build Out

- **14 December 2022:** EOIs open
- **15 February 2023:** EOI close
- **March – April 2023:** EOI assessment
- **May 2023:** Detailed Applications requested
- **June – July 2023:** Detailed Application assessment
- **July 2023:** Applicants are informed of the outcome

NCRIS Support

- **14 December 2022:** Applications open
- **15 February 2023:** Applications close
- **March – April 2023:** Application assessment
- **May 2023:** Applicants are informed of the outcome

Other Funding Programs

- The **Quantum Computing Commercialisation Fund** provides up to $7 million and is a single round, competitive technology development and commercialisation program focused on quantum computing.

  Open. Applications close 10am 2 February 2023

- The **Biosciences Fund**, a four-year, $40 million fund providing up to $10 million each year to companies to progress innovation technologies, devices and systems towards commercialisation within NSW in areas including biotechnology and life sciences, biomanufacturing, synthetic biology and agri-food.

  Open. Applications close 5pm Monday 20 March 2023

- The **Physical Sciences Fund** provides up to $10 million to companies to progress innovation technologies, devices and systems towards commercialisation within NSW across the branches of the physical sciences and engineering, including physics, chemistry, astronomy and the earth sciences.

  2023 round opening February 2023

Questions

Contact Us

https://www.investment.nsw.gov.au/contact-us/

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