



Innovate to Grow program: Advanced manufacturing

Applications are open for a free 10-week program for small to medium enterprises (SMEs) working in advanced manufacturing to explore their research and development (R&D) opportunities.

Build your R&D idea

Small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) are at the heart of Australia's advanced manufacturing, from biomedical manufacturing to low-emissions energy materials.

There are endless opportunities for ideas that will build Australia's manufacturing capability, but how confident are you turning these into reality?

If you are an SME interested in refining your innovation idea in manufacturing, but need help understanding how to turn this into a R&D opportunity, this program could help.

Register today

Applications close: 22 August 2022

Program starts: 6 September 2022

csiro.au/InnovatetoGrow

Key program outcomes

Personalised support to refine your idea: We'll step you through the process of turning your idea into a viable research project.

Confidential feedback: All submissions through the program portal will receive prompt expert feedback.

Mentor: You will be paired with a manufacturing researcher to help connect you with the relevant specialists.

Build your network: You will build key contacts in your sector, including researchers at CSIRO and universities, domain experts, funding professionals and other SMEs.

Key things covered include:

- Identifying your innovation opportunities.
- Refining your value proposition.
- Understanding the R&D viability.
- Helping you build your business case.
- Providing guidance on how to prepare a strong funding application.

Commitment and course outline

Pre-workshop | Preparing for the program (~2 hours)
Pre-workshop videos, materials and questionnaires.

Week 1 | Workshop (4.5 hours)
Guest speakers from CSIRO, sector experts and SMEs who will provide tips and information on topics such as trends and opportunities, innovation experience and funding. You will also meet your fellow participants and mentor.

Weeks 2–10 | Self-paced innovation program
(2–3 hours per week)
Participants explore opportunities to grow their business through innovation and research. Fortnightly virtual participant networking events and additional webinars (1 hour each).

A final questionnaire is required at completion.

"The perfect solution in the current times... nobody knows their product/markets and how to improve them like SMEs, they just don't have the resources to develop them. This course taps that knowledge rich base and links with the resources."

– Hamish Shaw, GM, Former participant

Who can attend

Participants working in the following areas of advanced manufacturing including:

- Digital solutions (IoT, AI, simulation and modelling)
- Additive manufacturing (3D printing processes and materials)
- Advanced materials (nano-materials, functional materials, polymers and composites)
- Smart robotics and automation
- Quantum technology
- Mechatronics design and engineering (devices and systems)
- Biomedical manufacturing (biotechnology, medical devices, diagnostics)

Selection criteria (essential):

- An Australian registered and operating business with an ABN and ACN/ICN.
- Business classified as small to medium (<200 employees).
- A business currently, or in the early stages of, exploring R&D opportunities for their business.

Other considerations:

- Any other information provided to support your application.
- Have a clear need to develop your R&D knowledge.

We will also consider applications of businesses, regardless of sector, who have an idea to introduce an advanced manufacturing capability into their existing business operations e.g. Agriculture businesses looking to explore AI digital advanced manufacturing solutions for their business.

Please note: We often receive many more applications than the 25 places available. CSIRO awards places to businesses based on the strength of the application, and a clear interest and capacity to pursue R&D. We also include participants from a variety of industry sub-sectors and regions.

CSIRO Innovate to Grow is delivered using [Practera's](#) online ed-tech platform and facilitation services.

For further information

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