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# The Expression of Interest in summary

The Tasmanian Government is focusing on leveraging Tasmania's key industry strengths and high potential areas. The Tasmanian Government will support organisations to deliver accelerator program(s) that will further drive Tasmania's strengths and help position the State as a leading startup hub in the Asia-Pacific region.

The Tasmanian Government will consider requests for funding support and has identified potentially suitable space (which has high-speed internet connection etc) for delivery to help defray costs. We are specifically looking for accelerator programs that will run each year for at least three years and are focused on appropriate Tech Startup Sectors for Tasmania. We have prepared a document for background information, which provides some background and support for areas of potential, particularly AgriTech, MarineTech, IoT and Renewables. All applications must demonstrate strong startup and accelerator experience.

To build on the momentum of Enterprize Tasmania Ltd's Innovation Hubs, the Tasmanian Government may provide some support to the successful accelerator program(s) to deliver mentor-based accelerator programs to help Tasmania develop a regional unfair advantage in areas such as; AgriTech, Smart Cities, IoT, MarineTech and Renewable Energy. We are seeking programs to be delivered for at least three years, with the first program commencing in late 2019. Each year we would like to see up to three programs in Launceston, lasting approximately 12 -16 weeks each, with at least one program a year focussing on AgriTech. Applicants will be asked to outline their proposed program(s) and the recommended duration(s).

Each program would include a cohort of startups chosen from across the globe. Startups will be recruited from a significant search process and will be selected through a rigorous, competitive process looking for those with the highest potential to disrupt markets and have the potential to grow into significant businesses.

**Applications will be open for submissions until 5:00pm AEDT Friday, 15 March 2019.**

Applications will be assessed on the basis of competitive merit against the established assessment criteria contained within these guidelines.

Applicants must be based, agree to transition to, or have a notable presence in Tasmania and be committed to delivering the program from Launceston, Tasmania.

Full details in relation to eligibility and assessment criteria are set out in the 'Guidelines' section of this document.

Applications that have met the eligibility criteria will be competitively assessed in relation to the Assessment Criteria listed below.

Applications must be submitted via the SmartyGrants online application form and can be accessed by visiting the Office of the Coordinator-General website at: [www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator\\_program](http://www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator_program)

## Important dates

Applications open	Thursday, 31 January 2019
Applications close	5:00pm AEDT Friday, 15 March 2019
Shortlisted applicants advised	by 29 March 2019
Shortlisted Applicants Presentation Interview	11 April 2019
Applicants notified of outcome	by 17 May 2019

## Contact details

Office of the Coordinator-General staff are available to discuss applications.

For further information contact:

Telephone: +61 3 6166 3219

Email: [cg@cg.com.au](mailto:cg@cg.com.au)

Website: [www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator\\_program](http://www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator_program)

# Guidelines

## Applicant eligibility criteria

To be eligible for support, organisations must:

- be based or intending to transition to, or have a notable presence, in Tasmania.
- demonstrate the capacity to fund the balance of project expenditure, or obtain project funding from another source.
- have the financial, project delivery, experience and management capacity to deliver the program(s).
- not be under external administration or have had applications for orders to appoint liquidators or provisional liquidators, or to be wound up or dissolved, or any other action relating to insolvency.

## Applicant ineligibility

Organisations that do not meet the applicant eligibility criteria above will be ineligible. In addition, persons or bodies that have outstanding obligations, or have not complied with relevant conditions of a previous grant program administered by the Tasmanian Government may also be deemed ineligible.

## Expression of interest process

Applications will be invited via expression of interest (EOI). To be eligible for assessment, applicants should lodge a completed application during the EOI period, including all requisite supporting information via the SmartyGrants online application form that can be accessed via the Office of the Coordinator-General website at [www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator\\_program](http://www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator_program)

## Assessment criteria

Applications that have met the eligibility criteria will be competitively assessed in relation to the set of assessment criteria as set out below. Applications must demonstrate:

1. previous experience of the organisation to deliver accelerator programs and/or key personnel who have previously been involved with an established accelerator program and overall startup sector experience
2. that support requested, if any, is necessary, or likely to enhance the delivery of the program
3. how the proposal represents value for money including any additional benefits that will, or are likely to, flow (eg to the region, to Enterprize Tasmania Ltd, to the startups etc)
4. what the organisation's network advantages are (i.e. investor network, corporate partners and mentors)
5. the length of commitment to the program delivery
6. how the program will be sustained. If Government support is sought, then particularly how the program may continue beyond that Government support
7. a clear capacity within the organisation to deliver the program from Launceston, Tasmania

The online application specifies the weightings for each section for the overall assessment.

## Supporting documentation

**All applications must be accompanied by a pitch deck for each program proposed.** Applicants will receive instructions within the online SmartyGrants application form on how to attach documents.

Applicants also have the option to upload a limited amount of additional documentation that may help to support the application.

It is recommended that all supporting documents be prepared and saved on your own storage device prior to commencing the online application process.

## Assessment process

Applications will be assessed on the basis of competitive merit against the established assessment criteria.

We may receive more applications than can be supported.

# Application process

## *Step 1: Determine eligibility*

Please read the guidelines carefully to determine eligibility for Tasmanian Government support.

If you require clarification in relation to any aspect of the guidelines or eligibility please email [cg@cg.tas.gov.au](mailto:cg@cg.tas.gov.au) or call +61 3 6166 3219.

## *Step 2: Submit application*

Applications can be submitted online by visiting the Office of the Coordinator-General website at: [www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator\\_program](http://www.cg.tas.gov.au/home/publication/accelerator_program). Applicants should ensure that all supporting documentation is attached to the online application form in accordance with instructions.

Applications should be submitted via the SmartyGrants application form and received by **5:00pm AEDT on Friday 15 March 2019**.

Late applications may not be accepted. To discuss the possibility of a late application or submission outside the online SmartyGrants form please call +61 3 6166 3219 or email [cg@cg.tas.gov.au](mailto:cg@cg.tas.gov.au).

## *Step 3: Assessment*

Applications will be competitively assessed against the assessment criteria contained within these guidelines.

Applicants should note that the Tasmanian Government may seek additional information from appropriate agencies or persons as necessary or helpful to support an accurate assessment of the application.

Failure to complete all relevant sections of the application form may render the applicant ineligible for assessment.

## *Step 4: Notification*

Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the assessment process as soon as practical.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to a presentation interview conducted by the assessment panel on 11 April 2019.

## Terms and conditions

Any successful applicants may be required to enter into a grant deed with the Tasmanian Government on terms and conditions acceptable to the Tasmanian Government. Such a grant deed must be signed in accordance with the applicant's legal signing authority and returned to the department.

The terms and conditions set out below provide an indication of the requirements that could be set out within the grant deed.

For further information please email [cg@cg.tas.gov.au](mailto:cg@cg.tas.gov.au) or call (03) 6166 3219.

Any legal costs incurred in the preparation of the grant deed will be borne by the applicant.

### General Grant Conditions

General grant conditions may include, but may not be limited to, the following requirements:

- Use the support provided only for the approved purpose.
- Commencement of the first accelerator program from Launceston is to occur in 2019.
- Undertake the program with the degree of professional skill, care and diligence that is expected of a professional body undertaking such a program.
- Maintain appropriate records showing the use and, where applicable, expenditure of any support provided.
- Repay the support in full or part thereof if recipients fail to meet their obligations under the grant deed.
- In the event that support is provided and duplicate support is also provided through the Government or another source, to the extent of duplication, the support will need to be repaid or not accepted unless suitable complementary use of the support is agreed in consultation with the Office of the Coordinator-General on behalf of the Tasmanian Government.

### Payment of grant

Program grants may attract a liability on the recipient to pay Goods and Services Tax (GST). If the applicant is registered for GST, the Tasmanian Government will increase grant payments to compensate for GST. Accordingly, in such cases, the amount of the grant request should be exclusive of GST.

If the applicant is not registered for GST, the program costs should be inclusive of any GST payable by the applicant.

Grant funding may have other taxation implications. Applicants are encouraged to seek independent taxation and financial advice from a suitably qualified professional prior to submitting an application.

### Monitoring and evaluation

Successful applicants will be required to complete progress reports and a final report in relation to the program as agreed with the Tasmanian Government.

### Audit

The Tasmanian Government may request an audit to ensure that support has been used for the purpose for which it was granted. In addition, the Auditor-General of Tasmania or nominee may request access to all financial statements and records about the use and expenditure of the grant.



## Publicity of grant assistance

The Tasmanian Government has a responsibility to ensure public funds are distributed appropriately. Accordingly, it may publicise the level of financial assistance (including the terms and conditions of the financial assistance), the identity of the recipient, the purpose of the financial assistance, and any other details considered appropriate.

## Right to Information (RTI)

While efforts will be made to maintain confidentiality where expressed by proponents, applicants should be aware that information provided to the Tasmanian Government, as well as details of any financial assistance received, may be subject to disclosure under the Right to Information Act 2009.

## Personal Information Protection (PIP)

Personal information will be collected for the purpose of undertaking the government's activities. If an application is submitted, personal information will be used for the primary purpose for which it is collected and may be disclosed to contractors and agents of the department or affiliated bodies, and other organisations authorised to collect it.

Personal information may be disclosed to other public sector bodies where necessary for the efficient storage and use of the information.

Personal information will be managed in accordance with the Personal Information Protection Act 2004 and may be accessed by the individual to whom it relates on request to the Tasmanian Government. A fee may be charged for this service.

## Enquiries

For further information please email [cg@cg.tas.gov.au](mailto:cg@cg.tas.gov.au) or call +61 3 6166 3219.

## Disclaimer

While care has been taken in the preparation and assembly of the guidelines and application form, no warranty, express or implied, is given by the Tasmanian Government as to the accuracy or completeness of the information it contains.

No responsibility is accepted by the Tasmanian Government for any loss or damage which may arise from anything contained in or omitted from, or which may arise from the use of this document, and any person relying on this document and the information it contains, does so at their own risk absolutely.

The Tasmanian Government does not accept liability or responsibility for costs incurred by the applicant, or anyone claiming through the applicant, which are in any way related to the application process or the provision of the grant process.

The Tasmanian Government may choose at any time, to cease this process or not to proceed with any aspect of it.



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