



Australian Government

Department of Education and Training

Industry Skills Fund

Information session
August 2015

Industry Skills Fund

Policy Objective

Address workforce capability issues impacting on the ability of Australian businesses to respond to new and changing opportunities and improve their productivity and competitiveness in a global market.

Industry Skills Fund

Overview

- \$664 million over 5 years
- 250,000 targeted training places and support services
- Co funding based on sliding scale
- Commenced in January 2015



Industry Skills Fund

Priorities

- Small and medium enterprises, including micro businesses
- Industry sectors identified by government as having a competitive advantage (businesses that fall outside these sectors can also apply)
- Business with growth opportunities:
 - diversifying
 - adopting new or emerging technologies
 - entering export markets
 - responding to domestic opportunities, or
 - repositioning because of market driven structural adjustment

Industry Skills Fund

Funded Activities

- **Skills Advice**
Help identifying skills opportunities and maximising training outcomes (at no charge)
- **Training**
Co-investment for businesses looking to improve the skills of their workforce for an identified growth opportunity.
 - Nationally recognised training, including full qualifications and skills sets
 - Language, literacy and numeracy training
 - High quality, innovative or tailored training that may not be part of a training package
 - Training required to access foreign markets
- **Support Services**
 - mentoring
 - coaching

Industry Skills Fund

Eligibility

Eligible applicants:

- Individual solvent Australian enterprises which:
 - are non-tax exempt and incorporated under the Corporations Act
 - have an ABN
 - are GST registered
 - have a demonstrated trading history for at least three consecutive years
 - workplace Gender Equality Agency compliant
- Consortia:
 - Can be led by a business involved in the project or a separate entity
 - Lead member must be a solvent Australian incorporated entity
 - At least three beneficiaries

Not eligible:

- state and territory government bodies

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Skills Advisers

- A free service offered under the Industry Skills Fund
- Experienced Skills Advisers work with businesses to understand growth opportunities and identify the skills needed to increase competitiveness
- Following Skills Advice businesses receive a Skills Advice Report that covers:
 - Business profile
 - New growth opportunities
 - Current and future workforce requirements
 - Training recommendations

Industry Skills Fund

Immediate Priority Industries



**FOOD AND
AGRIBUSINESS**



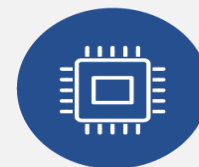
**MINING EQUIPMENT,
TECHNOLOGY AND
SERVICES**



**MEDICAL
TECHNOLOGIES AND
PHARMACEUTICALS**



OIL AND GAS



**ADVANCED
MANUFACTURING**

Businesses outside these sectors can also apply

Industry Skills Fund

Merit Criteria

The Fund has five Merit Criteria:

- Growth Opportunity
- Productivity
- Linkages
- Value for Money
- Capacity to Manage

All eligible applications and funding proposals must address all the Industry Skills Fund (Growth Stream) Merit Criteria, unless a business has accessed Skills Advice.

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Co-contribution Model

Co-contributions as a % of total project expenditure are based on business workforce size:

- Micro businesses (0-4 FTE employees) – 25%
- Small businesses (5-19) – 34%
- Medium businesses (20-199) - 50%
- Large businesses (200+) 75%

Co-contributions cannot be in-kind

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Process

- Completion of Enquiry form:
 - Business calls 13 28 46 - Call centre assesses preliminary eligibility and completes enquiry form on company's behalf; OR
 - Business completes enquiry form through the website – [Online Enquiry form](#)
- My team calls the business to clarify growth opportunity and potential for skills advice support
- Triage:
 - Skills Advice; or
 - Application form - Enquiry is converted to application; or
 - Ineligible for funding

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Summary - key questions

- Does the business have a growth opportunity? Is it:
 - diversifying
 - adopting new or emerging technologies
 - entering export markets
 - responding to domestic opportunities, or
 - repositioning because of market driven structural adjustment
- Will targeted training assist the business to take advantage of this growth opportunity?

Industry Skills Fund

Youth Stream pilots – Commenced March 2015

Training for Employment Scholarships

- Assist employers in areas with high youth unemployment to provide job-specific training to new employees.
- Small to medium businesses hiring an unemployed person aged 18-24 will be eligible to receive funding to pay for up to 26 weeks of training.

Youth Employment Pathways

- Community organisations will be able to apply for funding to deliver support services and training to young Australians aged 15-18 who are not in school.
- 3,000 places will be offered initially in regional areas where school completion rates are currently low.

Industry Skills Fund – Youth Stream

Training for Employment Scholarships

- Businesses with less than 200 staff, which hire an unemployed young person, may be eligible for funding of up to \$7500 (incl GST) to help train their new employee.
- The training must provide the employee with the skills and qualifications required to do their job, this can include accredited training, non-accredited training and foundation skills.
- The pilot programme is open to businesses in 11 regions.
- In Victoria:
 - Melbourne –West
 - Mornington Peninsula
- Businesses can apply until 29 February 2016, or until the funding is expended.

Industry Skills Fund – Youth Stream

Youth Employment Pathways (YEP)

- YEP supports up to 3,000 young disengaged Australians, aged 15 to 18 years, in regional areas make transitions to education, training or work.
- Community service organisations may be eligible for up to \$2,000 (incl GST) per person assisted to purchase or provide services to meet their needs such as intensive case management, job search, mentoring and other services relevant to young people.
- Community service organisations can apply for funding until 29 February 2016, or until the funding is expended.
- The pilot programme is open to community service organisations in 21 regions.

How to Apply

Apply

- Training for Employment Scholarships
 - Businesses can apply within three months of hiring their new employee, by completing the online application form on www.business.gov.au/youth and providing a quote for the proposed job specific training.
- Youth Employment Pathways
 - Community service organisations can apply at any time by completing the online application form on www.business.gov.au/youth.
- All applications must be received within the 12 month pilot period until 29 February 2016 inclusive.

Further information

- For more information, visit www.business.gov.au/youth or call 13 28 46.

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Directing of questions

Victorian based queries to IndustrySkills-Vic@education.gov.au