



## Linkage Infrastructure Equipment and Facilities

The Australian Research Council's (ARC) Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) scheme provides funding to eligible organisations for research infrastructure, equipment and facilities.

The LIEF scheme is an integral part of the ARC's Linkage Program which promotes national and international collaboration and research partnerships between key stakeholders in research and innovation, including higher education providers, government, business, industry and end users. Through these partnerships, the ARC encourages the transfer of skills, knowledge and ideas as a basis for securing commercial and other benefits of research.

Under the LIEF scheme, researchers participate in cooperative initiatives so that expensive research infrastructure, equipment and facilities can be shared between higher education organisations and industry.

The LIEF scheme fosters collaboration through its support of the cooperative use of international or national research facilities.

Applicants may seek funding for:

- infrastructure, equipment and facility purchases, construction and installation
- salaries directly associated with creating and installing infrastructure, equipment or facilities
- leasing of infrastructure, equipment or facilities
- consortium membership costs, in the case of Australia's participation in the use of significant international-scale or national research facilities
- specialised computing facilities and software compilations, catalogues, clearing houses or bibliographies.

The objectives of the LIEF scheme are to:

- support excellent basic and applied research and research training through the acquisition of research equipment and infrastructure and access to national and international research facilities
- encourage Eligible Organisations to develop collaborative arrangements with other Eligible Organisations and/or Partner Organisations for the acquisition and use of research equipment and infrastructure or access to national and international facilities.

The intended outcomes of the LIEF scheme are:

- an enhanced scale and focus of research in areas of existing and/or emerging research strength
- research infrastructure for the broader research community.

The LIEF scheme provides project funding of a minimum of \$150,000 per year to a maximum of 75% of the total direct cost of the eligible budget items. The grant duration is one year; or one to 5 years if the application is for leasing infrastructure, equipment or facilities, the construction of research infrastructure, or subscription or coordinated access to international facilities and major national facilities.

For further information on the LIEF scheme, including information on eligibility, refer to the relevant Grant Guidelines and Grant Agreements which are available on [GrantConnect](#).