



## Local Capability Fund Frequently Asked Questions 2023-24

# Pilbara Regional Round

### Who can apply?

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- » Have been operating for at least 12 months in the Pilbara region at the time of submitting an application for funding;
- » Be registered for GST for at least 12 months prior to application submission date;
- » Have an Australian Business Number (ABN);
- » Be a for-profit organisation or business (or a not-for-profit Aboriginal Corporation);
- » Have its principal place of business (operating facility) in the Pilbara and continue to be based in the region for at least the next 12 months following application submission date; and
- » Employ less than 200 people.

### How much funding is available?

The level of funding support available under this round is 50% of eligible costs (excluding GST) of up to a maximum of \$20,000 per successful applicant.

### When is the closing date for applications?

3pm (AWST) on 12 December 2023.

Applications will be assessed following the closure of the round. It is expected that applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application within 8 weeks of the round closing.

### How will the applications be assessed?

Applications are assessed by a panel comprising officers from within the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (the Department). External officers may form part of the evaluation panel if their expertise is required.

### Can a not-for-profit organisation apply?

No, not-for-profits and charities are ineligible to apply. Aboriginal Corporations who are not-for-profits are exempt however, and may still apply for funding.

### Can new businesses or start-ups apply?

The business must be operating for at least 12 months in the Pilbara prior to the date of submitting the application.

### I have been operating a plumbing business for 12 years but have just started a winery nine months ago. I am using the same ABN and am seeking funding to support the winery. Is this business eligible?

An application for the winery would not be eligible as we are seeking applications for businesses that have been operating for more than 12 months. The winery is considered a new operation, despite its ABN having been registered more than three years ago.

### The business has recently purchased new equipment. Can the business apply for funding for this?

No, retrospective activities or past purchases made prior to submitting your application will not be funded.

### I have submitted an application, can the business fund the requested activity



## now, prior to being notified as to the outcome of my application?

Yes, however the business will wear the risk of funding the entire activity if the application is ultimately deemed unsuccessful. It would be prudent to wait until you are notified of the outcome of your application prior to incurring activity expenditure.

## The business is headquartered in another Australian state or territory, but it has contractors that work in the Pilbara, is the business eligible for funding?

The business must have a permanent operating facility based in Western Australia and these facilities must continue to operate out of Western Australia for the next 12 months following application submission.

## This year the business acquired another business and has since restructured. Does the business meet the minimum trading time requirements for eligibility?

The business would need to demonstrate that the acquired business operated in Western Australia for at least 12 months prior to application submission and provide evidence of this e.g. ASIC registrations.

## The business was successful in obtaining funding for an LCF round this year, can I apply for other LCF rounds?

Yes, you can apply for other LCF rounds for different proposed activities. A business is limited to receiving no more than \$200,000 in funding under the LCF in the last five years. Any funding received as part of the \$10 million COVID-19 LCF rounds run in 2020-21 does not count towards this limit.

## Can I apply more than once?

No. Only one application per business per round will be accepted. In the event a business submits two applications under the same ABN, only the first application received will be assessed.

## Can I apply for funding to purchase a motor vehicle?

Motor vehicles are ineligible, unless it can be demonstrated that it is a specialised vehicle.

## How can I show that a motor vehicle is specialised?

Specialised motor vehicles are vehicles which perform specific and specialised functions and are used exclusively for business purposes (e.g. bobcats, forklifts, cherry pickers, back hoe, bucket trucks etc.) Utility vehicles, 4x4s and vans are not considered specialised vehicles.

## Can I apply to purchase second-hand equipment?

Yes, however the second-hand equipment or machinery must be acquired through a dealer. Private sales of second-hand equipment are not eligible for funding.

## How do I receive payment for the approved activity?

The LCF is a reimbursement scheme. The business must pay for the activity first, then request payment for that activity via the SmartyGrants portal before 3pm (AWST) on 30 June 2024. A lump sum payment will be made as a single reimbursement of approved activity expenditure.

## Can I receive payment of the grant in advance?

No. As this is a reimbursement scheme, payment of the grant will only occur once the business has paid for the activity.



## How long does the business have to complete the activity?

The activity must be completed and all claims submitted to the Department by 3pm (AWST) on 30 June 2024.

## Can I submit a funding request for any in-house research or training done in the business?

In-house training or research is ineligible. All activities must be carried out by third parties that are perceived by the Department to be at arm's length from the business.

## Who can I contact if I have any other questions?

If you have questions about the LCF, please contact: [lcf@jtsi.wa.gov.au](mailto:lcf@jtsi.wa.gov.au)