



Australian Government
Australian Research Council

Discovery Projects for funding commencing in 2010

Common Eligibility Issues

The ARC conducts a range of eligibility checks based on requirements described in the *Discovery Projects' Funding Rules*. These eligibility checks may occur at any time during the assessment process. Most ARC schemes have formal processes for requesting Eligibility Exemption/Advice, and where there is any doubt we encourage you to undertake one or all of the following:

- submit an Eligibility Exemption/Advice Request Form; and
- contact the scheme Assistant Director for advice.
- **The proposal contained information that was incomplete, inaccurate, false or misleading.**

This includes, but is not restricted to: missing reports in Part D2, missing Centre letters and failure to complete all mandatory sections of the Application Form. The Instructions to Applicants provides a Proposal Checklist which outlines the five essential components to each proposal. Details of submission requirements are also provided in Section 11 of the Funding Rules.
- **The proposal failed to meet one or more format or other submission requirements.**

This includes, but is not restricted to, use of incorrect font size and exceeding the page limit. Section 11.2 of the Funding Rules outlines the formatting requirements for submission of proposals.
- **The maximum number of proposals and projects permitted (in 2010) was exceeded by a nominated participant on the proposal.**

Limits apply to all participants on a proposal. The specific limits on the number of proposals and funded projects allowed are provided in subsection 6.6.2 of the Funding Rules. You should ensure that all CIs, PIs and Fellows from other institutions who will be involved in the proposal provide details of all projects that they are currently involved in, or for which they will be submitting a Proposal.
- **The proposal has a Partner Investigator/Chief Investigator/Fellowship Candidate who does not meet the eligibility criteria specified for that role in Section 8 of the Funding Rules**

Eligibility criteria for all investigators and fellows are outlined in Section 8 of the Funding Rules. Investigators should ensure that the organisation which they list in Part B8.2 is appropriate for the role for which they have been nominated.

- **The proposal sought funding for an area of investigation which is not permitted under Sections 6.5 and 9.4 of the Funding Rules. The ARC determined that the proposed project would fall within the area of 'Medical and Dental Research'.**

The definition of Medical and Dental Research is provided in 'Definitions' and in Section 9.4 of the Funding Rules. In cases where it may not be clear whether a Proposal would fall into the area of Medical and Dental Research an Eligibility Exemption/Advice Request may be submitted to the ARC in accordance with the requirements of Sections 9.4. and 10.1 of the Funding Rules.

- **The proposal does not include the requisite letter, pursuant to subsections 8.6.6 or 9.3.2 of the Funding Rules, from a Centre Director.**

A letter from a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre Director must be included with a proposal where a Fellow, if successful, will have her/his research costs for the proposed project funded by the Centre.

A letter from a Commonwealth-funded Research Centre Director must be included with the proposal if an Investigator on the proposal will continue to be associated with a Commonwealth Government-funded Research Centre during the funding period. The letter should clearly describe the relationship between the proposed research and the research undertaken by the Centre and, for CIs, should explicitly state that the proposed research does not duplicate work that is already funded or could reasonably be expected to be funded by the Centre.