Australian Government

Australian Research Council

Changes to the Funding Rules for *Linkage Projects* for funding commencing in 2016 (LP16)

Note: this list contains the major changes to rules and is not to be taken as exhaustive. Please consult the LP16 rules *(Funding Rules for schemes under the Linkage Programme (2015 edition)*) or contact your research office for further clarification.

Linkage Programme changes

- Addition of definitions for 'Bench fees,' 'Emeritus Appointment,' and 'ORCID identifier' (A3).
- The term 'Research Environment' has been replaced with 'Project Research Environment' (A3 and throughout document).
- 'Strategic Research Priorities' references have been replaced with 'Science and Research Priorities' (A3 and throughout document).
- Clarification of Partner Organisation conditions (A9.2.2). For each Partner Organisation, three conditions must be met. There must be:
    - evidence of new or on-going collaboration between the Partner Organisation either directly with the Administering Organisation, and /or with an Other Eligible Organisation on the Proposal;
    - no duplication of Commonwealth funding for the research and/or activities funded for the Project; and
    - a contribution of cash and/or in-kind or other material resources from each Partner Organisation, having regard to the total cost of the Project and specific scheme requirements.
- Simplification of eligibility criteria for participants (A10.2.1). A researcher nominated on a Proposal as a CI must meet at least one of the following criteria at the scheme-specific Commencement Date and for the duration of the Project:
    - be an employee for at least 0.2 FTE (20 per cent of Full Time Equivalent) at an Eligible Organisation; or
    - be a holder of an Emeritus Appointment (as defined at section A3) at an Eligible Organisation.

  This change was proposed in the Funding Rules consultation process and was supported by the feedback.
- Clarification of sections regarding Requests Not to Assess (A13.3.1), Appeals (A14.1.2), Intellectual Property (A16.4.2) and ARC Project IDs (A16.5.1).

- Requirement for all proposals to comply with the *Australia Council for the Arts Indigenous Cultural Protocols for Producing Indigenous Music; Writing; Visual Arts; Media Arts; and Performing Arts (2007)* (A16.1.1).
- Addition of references to the new ARC Research Integrity and Research Misconduct Policy (A16.3.1 and A16.6).
- Addition of clause regarding ORCID identifier (A16.5.3).
- Addition of Torrens University Australia as an Eligible Organisation (A17.1).

Linkage Projects scheme changes

- The objectives of the *Linkage Projects* scheme have been updated (D4).
- The selection criteria have been updated to reflect the Government's Boosting the Commercial Returns from Research agenda (D5).
- On-costs amounts to be requested in respect to salaries have been raised from 28% to 30% (D7.1.a.i). This change was proposed in the Funding Rules consultation process and was supported by the feedback.
- Teaching relief for CIs raised to a total value for the project of $50,000 per year (D7.1.b).
- 'Exempt Community Organisation' has been removed from the list of Exempt Partner Organisations types, as the relevant organisations fit under either the Exempt Charity or Exempt Non-Profit Organisation types (D8.2.6).