The Australian Research Council’s (ARC) Discovery Projects scheme provides grant funding to support research projects undertaken by individual researchers or research teams.

The Discovery Projects scheme is an integral part of the ARC’s Discovery Program, which reflects the Australian Government’s commitment to excellence in research. The intended outcome of the Discovery Program is to contribute to the growth of Australia’s research and innovation capacity. Increasing Australia’s research and innovation capacity generates new knowledge and results in the development of new technologies, products and ideas, the creation of jobs, economic growth and an enhanced quality of life in Australia.

The objectives of the Discovery Projects scheme are to:

- support excellent pure basic, strategic basic and applied research, and research training, across all disciplines excluding clinical and other medical research, that addresses a significant problem or gap in knowledge and represents value for money;
- expand research capacity in Australia by supporting excellent researchers and teams;
- foster national and international research collaboration;
- create new knowledge with economic, commercial, environmental, social and/or cultural benefits for Australia; and
- enhance the scale and focus of research in Australian Government priority areas.

The Discovery Projects scheme provides project funding of between $30,000 and $500,000 per year for up to 5 years.

Discovery Projects for funding commencing in 2025 will be run in a two-stage application process, commencing with an Expression of Interest (EOI). Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a full application.

For further information on the Discovery Projects scheme, including information on eligibility, refer to the relevant Grant Guidelines and Grant Agreements which are available on GrantConnect.