



## Member Alert

### Modern Manufacturing Strategy: Commercialisation Fund now open

Today the new \$30 million Commercialisation Fund opened for applications.

The Commercialisation Fund will support project collaborations between industry and research partners by providing matched grants to Australian manufacturers to assist with commercialising new products and processes. It is intended to invest in later stage commercialisation, not early-stage research-based programs. However, project applicants are strongly encouraged to include collaboration with research partners and other Australian manufacturers.

The fund, which is managed and administered by the [Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre \(AMGC\)](#), in collaboration with the five other Industry Growth Centres, will run over an 18-month period. The first round of funding, which opens today, will provide \$20 million while a subsequent round will deliver the remaining \$10 million. Grants will be between \$100,000 and \$1 million and must be matched by industry.

Projects will be supported within the Government's six National Manufacturing Priorities, including food and medical products, and the smaller-sized grants will complement the Modern Manufacturing Initiative, a key initiative under the Australian Government's \$1.5 billion Modern Manufacturing Strategy. More information on the Modern Manufacturing Initiative available [here](#), and in CMA's 26 February [member alert](#).

#### Eligibility criteria

Projects must include collaboration with a research partner and a minimum of one industry partner. The merit scoring criteria is the guide that will be used by the Triage Committee to assess your application. This merit criteria is available to view [here](#).

#### How to apply

Please click [here](#) to complete your online application through the [Good Grants portal](#). Applicants are encouraged to review the Frequently Asked Questions, review the sample project application, check eligible expenses, and become familiar with the merit criteria, all available on the [AMGC webpage](#).

For more information and to apply for a grant go to <https://www.amgc.org.au/projects/>

## Background

The Government has acknowledged that Australian manufacturers face a challenging business environment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and by working with industry, aims to create a competitive business environment, build scale, and boost supply chain resilience. Announcement of a \$1.5 billion investment in a [Modern Manufacturing Strategy](#) has been made, with funding for eligible manufacturers for key manufacturing initiatives.

The Modern Manufacturing Strategy is a key feature of the Government's JobMaker plan to harness Australian manufacturing capability and drive Australia's economic recovery and future resilience. The vision for the Strategy is for Australia to be recognised as a high-quality and sustainable manufacturing nation that helps to deliver a strong, modern and resilient economy for all Australians. The Food & Beverage and Medical Products sectors are among the identified areas in which Australia's capabilities can be lifted.

The Strategy provides that the Government have committed to the following actions to provide the right economic conditions for the manufacturing sector:

- Taking action to reduce energy costs;
- Removing unnecessary regulation and reducing business compliance costs;
- Delivering lowering taxes for businesses to encourage investment and growth; and
- Taking action in priority sectors that require new skills and in which there are shortages.

In addition, the Strategy aims to build national resilience by:

- Encouraging market diversification by working to increase the reach of our Free Trade Agreements; and
- Making trading simpler and cheaper by building an internationally competitive Simplified Trade System.