

2026 Innovation Seed Funding Grant – Frequently Asked Questions

Application Questions

Can staff from Centre Consortium members apply for the grants or be part of the project teams on applications?

No. Centre Consortium staff and organisations cannot a) lead an application, b) be formal project partners, or c) receive funding through the grant. Consortium organisation staff may contribute in an advisory capacity only. This support must be provided in-kind. Applicants must declare any involvement of Consortium staff in an advisory capacity in the applicant declaration section.

What type of organisation can lead an application and what does this mean?

Applications must be led by a health service or service provider that delivers care or support to people with intellectual disability. This means the lead organisation should be the organisation where implementation or practice change will happen in a real-world setting. Examples may include: hospitals or health services, primary care or allied health services, disability service providers, community health organisations, or Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations.

Why can't other organisations lead an application?

The 2026 Innovation Seed Funding Grants are focused on implementation and practical change in real service settings. Applications therefore need to be led by a health service or service provider that can support implementation in practice, with strong partnership from organisations with research, implementation or evaluation expertise.

Is there a minimum number of partner organisations required?

No. However, applications must include at least one partner with expertise in research, implementation or evaluation. Applications should clearly explain the role and contribution of each partner. This is a design of the grants to promote partnerships, shared learning, and stronger translation outcomes.

Do applications need to include an Easy Read version?

Yes. Applications that do not include an Easy Read version using the template provided will be considered ineligible.

Is there a page limit for the Easy Read application?

No. However, applicants should ensure the Easy Read version uses the template provided and remains clear, accessible and easy to understand.

Does the Easy Read version need to contain exactly the same information as the main application?

No. The Easy Read version should communicate the key parts of the project noted in the Easy Read template in a way that is accessible and meaningful for people with intellectual disability. It does not need to replicate all detail from the standard application.

Why is the Centre asking for Easy Read and not a different format (i.e., Easy English)?

Easy Read is a widely used and recognised in Australia and increasingly across the world. Easy Read is used by organisations such as the United Nations, Inclusion International, and Inclusion Australia. The Commonwealth Government's Style Manual also promotes the use of Easy Read to ensure more people have access to the information they need.

Easy Read applications enable us to work with a more diverse review panel, allowing more people to meaningfully participate in decision-making.

What does the Centre mean by “meaningful co-design”?

The Centre is looking for projects where people with intellectual disability and/or families are involved throughout the project, not only consulted at one point in time. The Centre wants to see evidence of sharing power and decision-making. Applications should clearly explain:

- Who will be involved
- What their role will be
- How they will participate
- What supports will be provided

What should Letters of Support include?

Letters of Support should clearly describe the role of the partner organisation, their contribution to the project, and their commitment to participation in the project. Generic support letters that do not describe a meaningful role may be considered insufficient.

Assessment Process Questions

Will reviewers consider both the standard application and Easy Read application?

Yes, both versions of the application are part of the assessment process.

Will unsuccessful applicants receive feedback?

Due to the expected volume of applicants, individual feedback will not be provided.

Submission Questions

Can I change my application after it has been submitted?

No, you may not change your application after it has been submitted via email. Please ensure that you have completed all the required documentation and are satisfied with the application prior to submission.

What happens if my application exceeds the word limits?

Applications that exceed the stated word limits may be considered ineligible.

What happens if my application is incomplete?

Incomplete applications, including missing attachments or missing Easy Read submissions, will not proceed to review.

Other

Will there be support from the Centre to deliver the projects?

No, the Centre will not provide resourcing to support delivery of the projects. Projects should demonstrate that the project team has the appropriate capability and capacity to deliver the proposed work.

Why do staff working on the project need a Working with Children Check?

As noted in the Seed Grant Terms at the end of the Application Form, the Commonwealth Grant that the Centre has entered into imposes obligations on anyone who undertakes Centre activities. Please refer to the Supplementary Terms of the Commonwealth Agreement for more information.

**Please direct all questions to nceidhgrants@unsw.edu.au
Questions received through other channels will not be answered.**