

Micro-credentialing Pilots Program

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a micro-credential?

For the purposes of Micro-credentialing Pilots funding round, a micro-credential is defined as a non-accredited skills outcome – i.e. not vocational education and training or VET. Applications that propose nationally recognised training, including existing units of competency or VET skill sets, will not be eligible for funding.

Can my application request funding for capital and IT costs?

No. Capital and IT development costs will not be funded through this program. However, licence costs relating to accessing existing learning platforms may be considered.

Who is eligible to apply through this Fund?

Industry Skills Advisors (approved by the Department), unions, industry peak bodies, regional industry bodies, employers (on behalf of an industry) and Queensland's public VET providers (TAFE Queensland and CQUniversity) are the only organisations eligible to apply for the Micro-credentialing Pilots funding round.

What is an industry peak body?

For the purposes of the Micro-credentialing Pilots funding round, a **peak body** is defined as: an advocacy group; industry group; body with allied economic, regional or industry interests; or organisation representing a cluster of businesses in the same industry.

I am a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), can I apply?

No, unless the RTO is the training arm of an eligible organisation. Industry Skills Advisors (approved by the Department), unions, industry peak bodies, regional industry bodies, employers (on behalf of industry) and TAFE Queensland and CQUniversity (representing an organisation or a group of businesses) are the only organisations eligible to apply through this funding round.

What is a co-contribution?

A co-contribution is a mandatory requirement through this application process and relates to the level of funding from industry, employers or students towards the cost of the project.

Co-contributions can be either financial or in-kind and there is no maximum percentage required. The level of co-contribution will be evaluated during the assessment process as part of the cost/value for money criteria.

I own a small business. How can I have my employees trained under the program?

You can collaborate with an eligible organisation such as your industry peak body or a regional industry body to support an application for funding, or seek to link with an approved Micro-credentialing Pilot project when the list of successful projects is published by the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training.

What workers are eligible to be assisted?

The Micro-credentialing Pilots Program is seeking to upskill Queensland existing workers, new entrants or job seekers in industries and enterprises.

To be eligible, a project must target participants that are aged 15 years or over, no longer at school, are Queensland permanent residents, as well as meeting the criteria listed in the [Policy](#).

Where do I find a training provider delivering micro-credentials?

A list of successful projects will be published on the [Micro-credentialing Pilots Program page](#) on the [Department of Employment, Small Business and Training's website](#).

It is recommended that you contact the training provider to discuss your requirements prior to submitting the application.

Can I apply for non-accredited training?

Yes, skill outcomes to be targeted will not be national recognised training (i.e. vocational education and training or VET) as these outcomes can be supported under existing VET Investment programs.

Projects containing nationally recognised training, or seeking to replace existing VET pathways, will not be considered.

Can I apply for qualifications and/or skill sets listed on the Priority Skills List?

No, projects containing nationally recognised training (VET) will not be considered.

Can someone help me complete my application?

The Department will be able to assist you with understanding the program but will not be able to help you write or review your application. The Department's officers in Program Design can be contacted at Programdesign@desbt.qld.gov.au.

When is the last day an application can be submitted?

Applications can be emailed to Programdesign@desbt.qld.gov.au and will be accepted by DESBT up to 5pm (AEST) on Friday 8 May 2020 (extended from 24 April).

How much funding can I apply for?

The Micro-credentialing Pilot funding round provides funding up to a maximum of \$250,000 per project, with the amount dependent on the nature of the project and training, assistance to be provided, and the number of participants targeted by the project.

How will applications be assessed?

A panel will assess the applications against the selection criteria detailed in the [Policy](#) document, which include: Capacity to manage; Servicing industry and employer needs; Recognition of Micro-credential; Strategies to assist participants; Outcomes; and Cost/Value for money.

The funding round is expected to be highly competitive, and the assessment panel will seek to recommend the projects that best meet the objectives of the Micro-credentialing Pilots Program, and also to achieve a balance of projects at a regional and industry level.

When will I know the outcome of my application?

Notification of the outcome of your application is expected by June 2020.

How will I know if my application is approved?

If your application is approved for funding, you will be offered a Micro-credentialing Pilot Program Services Agreement to sign and return to the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training before commencing your project.

If my application is unsuccessful, can I apply again?

No. Your organisation can request feedback but this is a one off funding opportunity and the department is unable to fund all applicants.

Can I apply for feedback?

Yes, organisations submitting an application may seek feedback from the Department in relation to the provision of funding under the Micro-credentialing Pilots Program. A request for feedback must be lodged in writing to:

Executive Director, Design
Investment Division
Department of Employment, Small Business and Training
PO Box 15483
City East Queensland 4002

Feedback will be provided in writing by the Department within 21 business days from receipt of the request.

Associated links:

[Micro-credentialing Pilots Application Form](#)

[Micro-credentialing Pilot Program Policy 2019-22](#)

[Queensland Skills Gateway](#)

[Priority Skills List](#)