



**Queensland
Government**

Regional University Industry Collaboration Program

Innovate to Grow: Queensland

Applications are open for a free 8-week R&D training program for small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) working on innovation technologies or solutions. The program is funded by the Queensland Government and delivered by CSIRO.

Build your R&D idea

SMEs play a key role in growing Australia's innovation capability, but having the right support is critical to success.

Our free self-paced 8-week program will build your skills and networks so you can learn how to advance your idea with R&D.

Apply today

Applications close: 23 March 2025

Program starts: 10 April 2025

csiro.au/l2Gqld



Key program outcomes

Personalised support to refine your idea: We'll step you through the process of turning your idea into a viable research project.

Confidential feedback: All submissions through the program portal will receive prompt expert feedback.

Mentor: You will be paired with an R&D coach from CSIRO or a university to answer your questions and help connect you with a relevant specialist.

Build your network: You will build key contacts in your sector, including researchers and other SMEs.

Key program outputs include how to:

- Create a strong research question for your idea
- Assess the value of your innovation
- Work out your collaboration options
- Compose a high impact R&D business case
- Prepare a funding application.

Commitment and course outline

Preparing for the program (3–4 hours)

Pre-workshop videos, onboarding, materials and questionnaires.

Week 1

Workshop (4 hours)

Guest speakers from CSIRO, sector experts and SMEs who will provide tips and information on topics such as trends and opportunities, innovation experience and funding. You will also meet your fellow participants and mentor.

Weeks 2–8

Self-paced innovation program (2–3 hours per week)

Participants explore opportunities to grow their business through innovation and research.

Fortnightly virtual webinars for participant networking and guest speakers.

Who can attend

Participants based and operating in Queensland Australia who are working on innovation technologies or solutions. This can be in any sub-sector including:

- Agriculture and food
- Digital technologies and AI
- Environmental sciences
- Health and biomedical sciences
- Indigenous science
- Manufacturing
- Mining and METS
- Renewables and low emissions technologies
- Space and defence
- Transport

Selection criteria (essential):

- A business based and operating in Queensland Australia that is registered with an ABN and ACN/ICN
- A business classified as small to medium (<200 employees)
- An R&D idea to work on throughout the program related to one of the subsectors mentioned

Please note: Sole traders, partnerships and Australian subsidiary companies of foreign entities are not eligible. Researchers working at universities can apply as a mentor but not a participant.

Other considerations:

- Any other information provided to support your application
- Have a clear need to develop your knowledge and skills in R&D

'Innovate to Grow is a great introduction program at the early stages of your business and/or idea. The staged process for deliverables and assistance from mentors has been great, helping us progress from initial concept to developing potential research collaborations. Overall, I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of the program.'

– James Lister, LP One

CSIRO Innovate to Grow is delivered using [Practera's](#) online ed-tech platform and facilitation services.

For further information

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csiro.au/l2Gqld