



Sponsorship Grants for Student Science Engagement and International Competitions

Grants to support student participation in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) engagement activities, events and competitions that take place in Australia or overseas.

What does it offer?

Sponsorship Grants for Student Science Engagement and International Competitions is an element of the [Inspiring Australia – Science Engagement Programme](#).

It provides grants to eligible organisations to sponsor eligible young Australians to participate in conferences, competitions and other STEM-related events.

Ongoing funding is available as follows

- \$1 million per year for student participation in STEM engagement activities and events that take place in Australia or overseas.
- \$600,000 per year for student participation in international STEM competitions taking place outside Australia.

The minimum grant amount available is \$1,000.

The maximum grant amount per student is

- \$1,500 for STEM events or activities occurring within Australia and
- \$5,000 for international STEM events or activities.

The maximum grant amount per application is \$20,000.

How does it work?

The Science Engagement element supports Australian students under the age of 18 to attend or participate in significant STEM related activities or events in Australia and overseas. This could include support for a senior student to pitch an innovation to an entrepreneur or to participate at an Australian-based STEM competition.

The International Competitions element supports talented Australian students under the age of 18 to participate in high profile STEM competitions outside Australia.

An eligible sponsor organisation must apply on behalf of a student or a group of students and must have an eligible project that involves

- the participation of a student or a group of students under the age of 18 at an eligible event
- a minimum of \$1000 in eligible expenditure.

You can submit applications at any time at business.gov.au/sgseic. We will assess applications in the order we receive them. We will close applications when the funding for that year runs out.

Who can apply?

To apply you must have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and be one of the following

- a primary or secondary school that is registered with a state or territory authority
- an incorporated not for profit organisation
- an entity incorporated in Australia

State/territory and local government agencies and bodies are not eligible to apply for funding but may sign an agreement on behalf of a school that is not a legal entity and cannot enter into an agreement with the commonwealth.

To be eligible the sponsor organisation must also

- be applying on behalf of a student or group of students under the age of 18 (at the time of application), to attend a specific STEM event or activity that meets the requirements of the programme guidelines
- have confirmation from their managing board, school principal or chief executive officer (or equivalent) that:
 - the student/s attendance at the STEM event or activity is supported
 - the applicant has the capacity to meet any costs of student's participation at the STEM event or activity not covered by grant funding
 - the student/s attendance at the event or activity is reasonably expected to proceed if the grant is provided.

Where the student/s attendance at the event is not yet confirmed you may still submit an application. However funding approval may be subject to sufficient evidence being provided prior to execution of a grant agreement.

Who is not eligible to apply?

A sponsor organisation is not eligible to apply if

- the nominated student/s is already receiving support to attend the event either under this programme or from another source of Australian Government funding.
- the event is part of the sponsor organisation's 'business as usual' activities.

What events are eligible?

An eligible event must

- be related to the pursuit of a field of STEM and one that promotes student engagement in STEM-related disciplines, or participation in STEM-based competitions both in Australia and overseas
- take place within one year of the application being submitted. We may allow exceptions to this requirement if satisfied that a longer lead-time is needed (for example, for the student to register for an early bird rate at a major conference).

Given the wide range of events that may be eligible it is not possible to provide a complete list of eligible events. Examples of events that are eligible include

- INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair
- I-SWEEEP International Science Fair
- Google Science Fair
- World Science Festival
- International and domestic Makers Fairs
- Australian National Space Camp
- International Youth Science Forums
- STEM-based Camps.

How will my application be assessed?

We will assess applications against the eligibility criteria in the order in which we receive them. We may ask for additional evidence to determine your eligibility.

What will I need to do if successful?

You must enter into a grant agreement with the Australian Government. If your organisation is a school that is not a legal entity, the grant agreement must be signed by your legal entity.

The grant agreement will state the maximum amount you will be paid.

You must submit a report within two months of the event that details the activities undertaken by the students and the eligible expenditure of the grant funding. We will provide you with a report template.

How do I apply?

You should read the [Programme Guidelines](#) before you apply.

To apply you must

- complete the online application form
- address all eligibility criteria
- submit your application.

Where can I find more information?

Visit business.gov.au/sgseic or call 13 28 46.