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REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) GRANTS 2020-21 Round Three (3) – Goldfields-Esperance Region

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants Program?

The Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants program invests in locally driven projects that contribute to economic growth and development in regional Western Australia.

2. What can RED Grants funding be used for?

The RED Grants program provides funding to support locally driven projects that will contribute to economic growth in regional communities. The guidelines outline what funds can be used towards. Further clarification can be sought from the Regional Development Commission contact, Courtney Bergersen on 9080 5006.

3. How can I apply?

Download the guidelines information and begin your application through Smartygrants on the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission website www.gedc.wa.gov.au.

Applicants **must** contact the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission for more information on project eligibility and advice relating to your application, prior to completing the online application form – Tel: 9080 5006 or email grants@gedc.wa.gov.au.

4. What is the closing date?

Applications for the RED grants open Tuesday 12 May 2020 and they must be submitted and received through the SmartyGrants system by 5PM on Tuesday 7 July 2020.

5. How much funding can I apply for?

Applicants can request funding of up to \$250,000 per project under the RED Grants program.

6. Does my organisation need to be registered for GST and Incorporated?

If the applicant is not registered for GST or is not an incorporated body, the GEDC requires the organisation to have an auspice arrangement with an organisation that is registered and incorporated.

7. Does my organisation have to be regionally based to apply?

The RED Grants are targeted at providing financial assistance to regionally based organisations.

Organisations outside the region may apply, but will need to demonstrate significant, sustainable regional benefits and a commitment to local decision-making, planning and delivery.



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8. Can my organisation apply for full project funding?

Preference will be given to projects that can demonstrate that the applicant has leveraged funding from other sources, including their own cash contribution. The applicant must demonstrate a minimum of thirty percent (30%) cash contribution to the project.

9. How are applications assessed and how soon after applying will I know if I am successful or not?

The GEDC undertakes a rigorous assessment of all applications against weighted criteria. Applicants should allow up to six months for the RED Grants approval process to be undertaken and announcements on successful projects to be made. These timeframes should be considered by applicants in developing your project planning and commencement timeframes.

The assessment criteria and decision-making process used by the GEDC to assess and consider applications are provided in the RED Grants guidelines. Assessors are required to declare any potential conflicts of interest they may have in relation to individual projects.

10. How many applications will be awarded with a RED Grant per region?

There is no limit on the number of applications funded per round however, there are limited funds available in each region. Successful projects in this round must be approved and funded ready to commence by September 2020.

11. Can I submit an application for funding in more than one region?

Where funding is sought for projects across multiple regions, applicants will be required to submit separate applications to each Regional Development Commission (RDC). These applications will be assessed independently by each RDC.

Applicants must seek advice on their project proposal from each relevant RDC within which funding is sought. Each region has differing regional priorities and assessment panels. The GEDC can facilitate an inter-agency meeting with other RDCs if required, to discuss cross regional projects.

12. If I am unsuccessful this round, can I still apply when the next round opens?

Upon notification of being unsuccessful, applicants can contact the Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission to discuss the outcome of the assessment and how the application/project might be amended for consideration in any future rounds.

13. When is the next round?

Future rounds for the RED Grants have not yet been announced. Prospective applicants are encouraged to email the GEDC on grants@gedc.wa.gov.au to be added to the mailing list.



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Assessment Criteria Guidance

Criteria	Weighting	Projects that demonstrate:	Guidance Notes
Meets at least one economic growth and development objectives	40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sustainable jobsIncreasing productivityExpanding or diversifying industryDeveloping skills or capabilitiesAttracting new investment in the regionMaximising recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic Impacts	<p>Round Three (3) includes an additional objective: Maximising recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic impacts. This is to assist projects that builds the resilience of the Goldfields-Esperance economy and/or diversifies a regional economy to maximise recovery efforts during this unique environment.</p> <p>Your project should demonstrate how it creates new jobs or supports job creation and economic activity in the region. If you meet more than one, include an assessment against each in your response.</p> <p>You should present a clear case of how your project meets each of the relevant objectives.</p> <p>You may wish to use the SMART methodology or a similar tool to outline how you meet each of the relevant program objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Specific (be specific e.g. how exactly will your project meet the program objectives i.e. create new jobs, develop new skills? Provide examples of how your project is not 'business as usual')Measurable (be meaningful – how does your project achieve this objective e.g. how will you measure new skills or an investment in the region i.e. number of people trained, number of people employed, perception surveys etc)Achievable (Set out how your project will achieve the objectives)Relevant (demonstrate how your project is realistic and resourced for the funding requested to meet the objectives).Time bound (what are your timeframes for delivering the project?) <p>Jobs created should be specified as full time equivalent (FTE) i.e. This project will employ two people in two new part time positions, creating 1 new FTE.</p> <p>The GEDC can assist with economic modelling to support your project. Any request for economic modelling assistance from the GEDC must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the closing date for this grants round (25 June 2020).</p>
Meets at least one Goldfields-Esperance Regional priority / priorities and outlines community need	20%	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Leadership and InnovationBusiness and Industry DevelopmentWorkforce DevelopmentPromote the RegionSocial InfrastructureEconomic Infrastructure	<p>The GEDC Board has endorsed six regional focus areas as part of its Strategic Plan. Projects that align with these regional focus areas will be considered preferably. More information on the GEDC's regional focus areas can be found at: http://www.gedc.wa.gov.au/our-focus/regional-focus-areas.</p> <p>The GEDC supports Aboriginal Economic Development in the region across all focus areas and encourages applications that focus on supporting the growth and development of Aboriginal businesses and projects that increase Aboriginal economic participation.</p> <p>You should demonstrate how your project aligns with the GEDC's priority areas including any relevant collaboration you may have been involved in, with the GEDC during 2019-20, or if you have previously participated in any GEDC or DPIRD led or funded programs (e.g. Aboriginal Business Leadership Program).</p>
Financial Commitment Collaboration and Partnerships	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Leverage fundingOwn contributionPartnerships and demonstrated collaborationCo-investment and attracting new investmentLocal Content outcomes	<p>Projects that have co-contributions from the applicant and/or other organisations will be considered preferably.</p> <p>Projects that can demonstrate strong partnerships and collaborative working with other organisations, including the establishment of new partnerships or ways of working between the public, private and not-for-profit sectors, may be considered favourably.</p> <p>REDs is a regional grants program, and leveraging a high level of local content is important. Applicants are encouraged to consider local organisations, suppliers and contractors in the delivery of their projects. The GEDC has a locally based Local Content Adviser that may assist with local content strategies in your application. Please call the GEDC on 9080 5000 to contact the Local Content Adviser.</p> <p>Business applicants are encouraged to secure a minimum own or leveraged contribution of at least 30% of the REDs project funding request.</p> <p>Projects that can leverage regional investment, population retention and attraction will be considered favourably.</p>
Governance and organisational capability	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Sustainability and ability to meet ongoing maintenanceGood governance structureProject Management experience and personnel experienceRisk identification and mitigation	<p>The REDs program will support organisations and businesses that can demonstrate good governance practices and management and that have potential to be sustainable into the future.</p> <p>The applicant must demonstrate relevant management structures and project personnel with suitable experience to manage the delivery of the project.</p> <p>The applicant must demonstrate a good understanding of the risks and mitigation measures they will put in place for their project and their organisation.</p>



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Outcomes and Benefits

Outcomes refer to the intended economic impact that is expected as a result of delivering the Project with the Grant funding – the expected outcomes listed should be realistic as successful applicants will be expected to report against these.

RED Grants Objective	Expected Outcome	Timeframe	How will this be measured?	Target
Sustainable Jobs	<i>Example: Number of new Jobs created/ retained (Full Time equivalent) created (type of job ie. direct/indirect, during construction phase only)</i>	<i>Example: after 2 years, or during project phase only (ie. Construction jobs).</i>	<i>Example: Number of new FTE employed</i>	<i>Example: 3 FTE</i>
Maximising recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic impacts	<i>Example: Efficient and adaptive online sales</i>	<i>Example: Within a year of system implementation</i>	<i>Example: Increase in digital sales</i>	<i>Example: Generate \$X income from online sales post COVID-19</i>
Increased productivity	<i>Example: 5% increase in production</i>	<i>Example: within one year of installing infrastructure</i>	<i>Example: sales and revenue figures</i>	<i>Example: 5% increase from x to y</i>
Expanding or Diversifying Industry	<i>Example: new canning line introduced.</i>	<i>Example: upon installation of equipment</i>	<i>Example: Commissioning of new equipment and new markets secured</i>	<i>Example: 2 new clients taking 500 tonnes product pa, 1000 tonnes product sourced from region</i>
Developing Skills or capabilities	<i>Example: Skills training and job matching provided to 100 participants</i>	<i>Example: Within 12 months of commencement.</i>	<i>Example: Number of participants through program and secured positions</i>	<i>Example: 100 secured positions within 12 months</i>

Applications that can provide specific, quantified benefits will be more competitive.
Additional guidance on outcomes and benefits can be discussed with the GEDC.