



## FACTSHEET

# Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship (WISE)

**Programme status:** Open for applications

*The Women in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) and Entrepreneurship programme encourages women's participation in STEM education and careers and in the broader innovation ecosystem focusing on entrepreneurial activities and careers.*

### *What does it offer?*

The programme was announced as part of Inspiring all Australians in Digital Literacy and STEM. It is an \$8 million competitive programme and will run over four years from 2016–17 to 2019–20.

The programme funds activities that support women in STEM, and eliminate barriers for women's participation in STEM education and careers. It also targets challenges for women's participation in the broader innovation ecosystem such as innovative businesses, start-ups and other entrepreneurial activities and careers.

Funding will support outreach projects that target girls and women to:

- foster their interest in entrepreneurship
- develop their innovation and entrepreneurial skills
- build their professional networks.

The programme also provides funding to identify and celebrate STEM role models in science and research, entrepreneurship and corporate leadership to inspire school-age girls.

### *How does it work?*

To be eligible to apply your project must:

- include eligible activities, that address discrimination against or inequality for girls and women in STEM and entrepreneurship
- have at least \$5,000 total eligible expenditure
- take no longer than 24 months to complete.

### *Who can apply?*

To be eligible to apply you must have an ABN and be one of the following:

- an entity incorporated in Australia
- a Publicly Funded Research Organisation (PFRO)
- a not for profit organisation.

Trusts are not eligible to apply, however an incorporated trustee may apply on behalf of a trust.

Joint applications from consortia are acceptable provided you have a principal applicant who is the main driver of the project and is eligible as per the list above.

### *Who is not eligible to apply?*

- primary or secondary schools (however they may apply as part of a consortium if the principal applicant is eligible).
- an individual or trust (however an incorporated trustee may apply on behalf of a trust).
- government agencies and bodies including government business enterprises.

### *What activities are eligible?*

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and can include:

- developing and delivering workshops, conferences, networking events and other forums
- developing and delivering education and professional development activities including courses and training
- developing and distributing educational materials, curriculum content, toolkits or similar activities
- developing and delivering change management programmes and industry transformation activities
- research activities provided they are part of and directly in support of the activities above.

### *How will my application be assessed?*

If eligible, we will assess your application against the Women in STEM and Entrepreneurship merit criteria.

To be competitive you must score highly against all of the following merit criteria:

- expected impact and benefits of the project
- demonstrated capacity and capability to carry out the project
- the value for money offered by your project.

### *What will I need to do if successful?*

You will need to sign a grant agreement with the Australian Government. The terms and conditions of the grant agreement are not negotiable.

- The grant agreement requires you to report on your completed activities.
- Grants up to \$50,000 will receive the entire grant amount on execution of the grant agreement.
- Grants over \$50,000 will receive an initial payment on execution of the grant agreement and subsequent payments based on the progress of your project.

### *How do I apply?*

You should read the Programme Guidelines before you apply.

We expect two application rounds per year and we will publish the dates for each round on [business.gov.au](http://business.gov.au).

To apply you must:

- complete the online application form
- address all eligibility and merit criteria
- submit your application by the advertised closing date.

### *Where can I find more information?*

Visit [business.gov.au](http://business.gov.au) or call 13 28 46.