

## Eligibility Criteria for Black Summer Innovation Program

This information should be read before completing the Black Summer Innovation Program Application form along with the other documentation available on the FIAL website at [www.fial.com.au](http://www.fial.com.au).

This fund aims to:

- ENCOURAGE existing food and agribusinesses to pivot post natural disaster to use innovation for future success.
- ACCESS new and novel food processing, packaging and agricultural technologies.
- ENGAGE experts across the sector to identify and implement the innovation opportunities.

### By submitting your application, you acknowledge and accept the following:

Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants up to \$25,000 for Australian food or agribusiness owners who were negatively affected by events of national natural catastrophe or global diseases outbreaks in 2019 or 2020.</li> <li>• Grants are to be used to support business, product or service innovations.</li> <li>• No matched funding is required.</li> <li>• A portion of the grant must be used for business training.</li> <li>• Projects must be completed within 12 months from signing and before 31 May 2021.</li> <li>• A 1-page case study outlining the innovation and key learnings is required.</li> <li>• A 1-page outline of how the FIAL funding was spent is required.</li> <li>• Generated IP will be owned by the applicant.</li> <li>• Assistance with grant submission is available for businesses upon request from FIAL.</li> </ul>
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only food or agribusiness owners who were negatively affected by events of national natural catastrophe or global diseases outbreaks in 2019 or 2020 are eligible.</li> <li>• Recipients are entitled to a single grant per affected business.</li> <li>• Only Australian Registered companies with a minimum 12-month track record prior to the event, and a trading history in/supporting the agri-food sector can apply.</li> <li>• This grant is only for business, product or service innovations, not recovery assistance.</li> <li>• Part of the funding provided must go toward training or upskilling of staff. This training plan must be included in the application. Submissions without a training plan will be not considered.</li> <li>• Applicants must attempt to commercial the innovation within 24 months of completion. As such a commercialisation plan must be included in the application, showing a clear path to market.</li> </ul>
Fund Rules and Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is anticipated that the applicant will attempt to commercialise the innovation within 24 months of completing the innovation project.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work on the innovation project must not start prior to all relevant parties signing the Research Agreement.</li> <li>• The legal contract must be signed and finalised within 60 days from the date the applicant is notified of successful application. Failure to do this, will result in the withdrawal of the offer.</li> <li>• All research work must be completed before 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021.</li> <li>• A one-page case study must be submitted by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021</li> <li>• Unless previously agreed, the training must be completed and paid for by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021.</li> <li>• All report templates will be provided.</li> </ul>
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total value of funding available is \$500,000 exclusive of GST.</li> <li>• Maximum grant value is \$25,000 exclusive of GST.</li> <li>• Grants funds can only be spent on eligible activities. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Costs for trials, research, training, contracting consultants, shelf life, microbiological and laboratory testing, and the purchase or lease of new capital items for innovation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ineligible activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff salaries and wages, market opportunity assessments, marketing campaigns, feasibility studies, existing regulatory requirements, infrastructure, civil works or utility repairs or replacement of previously owned equipment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Training and upskilling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All projects must include an aspect of formalised job specific training or upskilling related to the project. This education must be completed by either the applicant or applicants' staff with training records of completion to be provided.</li> </ul>
Capital Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The grant can be used for the purchase of capital items that are innovative and novel to the business.</li> <li>• They can be used for the rental/lease of equipment for R&amp;D purposes.</li> <li>• Funds cannot be used for the purchase of capital items to replace those that were available or destroyed prior to the disaster period.</li> </ul>
Case Study Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A one-page case study is mandatory that may be shared publicly, a template will be provided.</li> <li>• The content of the case study is a generic overview of the challenge, the approach to address the challenge and the learnings and benefits to the applicant (Without disclosing commercial sensitive information).</li> <li>• Any applicant not willing to complete a case study is ineligible for funding.</li> <li>• A one-page report on who the FIAL grant funds were spent is also required.</li> </ul>
Selection Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fund will be open from the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020, with the last applications to be received by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2020 (5.00pm AEST).</li> <li>• A Selection Panel of four experienced industry professionals will review all valid applications.</li> <li>• Applications will be continuously reviewed and approved as received until funds are exhausted.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eligible businesses are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.</li> </ul>
<p>Selection Criteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Projects scored by the panel that receive a minimum average total score of 65% will be eligible to receive funding.</li> <li>• The selection categories include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Type of innovation, (i.e. New to world, New to country, New to Industry, New to firm).</li> <li>• Potential of the stated market opportunity.</li> <li>• Level of understanding of proposed route to market.</li> <li>• Likelihood of commercialisation success within stated market.</li> <li>• Complexity of the training.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Disputes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIAL reserves the right to change criteria and timeframes without notice except with existing applicants that are being possessed.</li> <li>• All decisions by the selection panel are final, with no opportunity for appeal.</li> <li>• All Disputes should be directed to the Managing Director of FIAL via email <a href="mailto:admin@fial.com.au">admin@fial.com.au</a></li> </ul>