**Joint WA Universities Notification of Intent for ARC Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment & Facilities (LIEF) 2026**

**BACKGROUND**

In 2025, the Western Australian State Universities will run a combined Notice of Intent (NOI) process for the ARC LIEF scheme to strengthen the competitiveness of applications for WA based research infrastructure, reduce duplication of application for similar equipment and reduce administrative burden on applicants. Accordingly, the DVCR’s of the University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University and Murdoch University request that NOIs are submitted for any potential LIEF26 bids when either (a) a WA-based university is leading, or (b) a WA based CI is participating on a bid led by an interstate university. **This form is to be used for all WA led applications.**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS**

The WA NOI LIEF26 will be administered on the same form for all four participating Universities. Each project team needs to complete only one form per proposal and submit to each participating University before **5pm 1st November 2024**. Submissions and queries regarding this process should be sent to the following contacts for each university:

* University of Western Australia: infrastructure-oor@uwa.edu.au;
* Curtin: rocrelationships@curtin.edu.au
* Edith Cowan University: research@ecu.edu.au
* Murdoch: s.bong@murdoch.edu.au.

*Applicant Checklist*

* Review most recent [ARC LIEF guidelines on GrantConnect,](https://www.arc.gov.au/funding-research/funding-schemes/linkage-program/linkage-infrastructure-equipment-and-facilities) noting that release of the LE26 guidelines is not anticipated until after the close of the WA NOI process.
* Review the [ARC LIEF Register](https://dataportal.arc.gov.au/NCGP/Web/Grant/Grants#/20/1///(lief-register%3D%22true%22)) and confirm that the requested equipment or infrastructure is not duplicating another project. The ARC will not fund the same infrastructure twice.
* Under ARC eligibility criteria, all named Eligible Organisations (Universities) on a proposal must make a cash contribution to the proposal. Ensure that a reasonable request has been made of each participating Eligible Organisation on the project.
* Total contributions inclusive of industry partners and other contributions must comprise a minimum of 25% of the total budget.
* **Ensure the first named CI from each participating WA institution has certified the application**.
* **If financial support required from DVCR Strategic Research funds, please complete a business case**. Please note school(s) are expected to contribute at least 50% of the total ECU cash contribution.

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| **Administering Organisation:** |
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| **Project Title:** |
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| **Is this proposal a resubmission? (Y/N)** |
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**List all Investigators (CI & PI) on LIEF application (max 15 CI & PIs; max 5 CIs per institution):**

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| **CI** | **Title, Name** | **Institution/Organisation** | **School/Discipline/Centre** |
| **CIA** |  |  |  |
| **CIB** |  |  |  |
| **CIC** |  |  |  |
| **CID** |  |  |  |
| **CIE** |  |  |  |
| **CIF** |  |  |  |
| **CIG** |  |  |  |

*Add rows as necessary. A proposal may nominate no more than a total of fifteen (15) CIs and PIs. Every CI and PI (and/or their research group) must be a significant and regular user of the research infrastructure, on average, for a minimum of 10% of the available time of the research infrastructure. Where there are more than ten (10) named participants on a Proposal, the minimum usage may be pro-rated.*

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| **Location of equipment:** |
| *Please indicate whether the proposed infrastructure can be accommodated into an existing platform or facility. Please indicate here which platform/facility and confirm that the platform/facility manager has been consulted.* |

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| **Equipment Item** | **Unit cost (AUD$)** |
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|  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** |

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| **Summarise all participating organisations contributions** |
| **Organisation Name *(****Please add additional rows to distinguish local contributions from your University school/centre / Industry partner)* | **Cash Contribution (AUD$)** | **Percentage total contribution** | **Percentage of non-ARC contribution** |
| ***ARC*** *(Note this must be no more than 75% of the total budget)* | *$750,000* | *75%* | *NA* |
| *University 1* | *$175,000* | *17.5%* | *70%* |
| *University 2* | *$75,000* | *7.5%* | *30%* |
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| Total |  |  |  |

***Insert additional rows as required.***

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| **In plain language, summarise the research that this equipment will support (<300 words).** |
| *Describe the:** *aims and significance of the technical capability and research that will be supported by LIEF funding;*
* *relevance of the proposed research infrastructure to the needs of ARC and other competitively funded research projects/programs;*
* *importance of equipment for the training of research students;*
* *enhancement of support for areas of existing and/or emerging research strength; and*
* *demonstrated national or international focus for large scale cooperative initiatives.*
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| **In plain language, demonstrate the need for the proposed infrastructure (<300 words).** |
| *Describe the:** *demonstrated needs from the researchers and/or research projects that they will utilise the proposed research infrastructure, including level of demand and likely measurable impact on the research program, including beyond the project activity period;*
* *availability of and access to similar research infrastructure at organisational, regional, national and/or international level;*
* *alignment of the planned use with other similar existing infrastructure within Western Australia and/or nationally.*

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| **In plain language, describe the benefit of the proposed infrastructure to the research community, national interests, and industry (<200 words).** |
| *Describe the:** *benefit of the proposed research infrastructure to the broader research community;*
* *capacity to contribute to Australian Government priority areas, such as the* [*National Manufacturing Priorities*](https://www.industry.gov.au/news/modern-manufacturing-initiative-and-national-manufacturing-priorities-announced) *and the* [*Science and Research Priorities*](https://www.arc.gov.au/funding-research/apply-funding/grant-application/science-and-research-priorities)*; and*
* *where relevant, the extent to which the applicants have identified the freedom to operate in the Intellectual Property and patent landscape to enable future benefits to industry.*
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| **Describe how you have considered equity and diversity in the research team and project (<150 words).** |
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| **Describe access/usage arrangements for partners and non-partners, including remote access or usage options (<150 words).**  |
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| **Describe any operating costs (e.g. consumables, servicing, technical staff operators) and how these will be covered for the expected lifespan of the proposed infrastructure (<150 words).** |
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| **Describe the IT requirements of the proposed infrastructure (<100 words).** |
| *Consider the IT requirements of the equipment installation and on-ongoing operations, how the proposed equipment will integrate with the UWA network and outline any discussions with IT in support of this plan.* |

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| **Explain how the physical space will accommodate the proposed infrastructure (<100 words)**  |
| *Consider the appropriateness of the chosen location, the impact of installation and ongoing impact on co-located/neighbouring facilities and outline any discussions with Campus Management in support of this plan.* |

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| **Additional considerations:** | **Yes/No** |
| Does the equipment require additional power points to be installed? | Click here to choose |
| Does the equipment create an impact on the temperature of the building/room? | Click here to choose |
| Does the equipment require controlled environment conditions? e.g., alarm functionality. | Click here to choose |
| Does the equipment require special connections?  | Click here to choose |

**Head of School (or Facility/Centre/Institute Director) Certification**

I support the project contained in this application and confirm that the School/Faculty has capacity to house this equipment if successful.

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| **Head of School/Faculty Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |

**CI Certification**

**The first named investigator from each participating WA State University must certify their participation.**

I certify that the information provided above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I acknowledge that information contained in this submission may be used by the university for statistical and research management purposes.

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| **Lead UWA Researcher Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |

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| **Lead Curtin Researcher Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |

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| **Lead ECU Researcher Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |

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| **Lead Murdoch Researcher Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |

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| **Lead Notre Dame Researcher Name:**  |
| Signature: | Date: |