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

**Interstate Led**

**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 University of Western Australia, Curtin University, Edith Cowan University and Murdoch University request that NOIs are submitted for any potential LIEF26 bids where 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 where a WA based CI is participating on a bid led by an interstate university.**

**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 WA 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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| **Lead University**  |
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**List all Investigators (CI & PI) on LIEF application (max 15 CI & PIs; max 5 CIs per institution) including WA CI’s.**

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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 where the equipment/facility will be located* |

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

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| **Summary of all participating organisations and their contributions, including the request from each participating WA university:**  |
| **Organisation Name *(****Please add additional rows to distinguish local contributions from your University school/centre / Industry partner)* | **Cash Contribution (AUD$)** | **Percentage total cash contribution** | **Percentage of non-ARC cash 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%* |
| ARC |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| 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 Australia and/or internationally.*

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| **In plain language, describe the benefit of the proposed infrastructure to the WA 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 access/usage/fee arrangements for WA researchers (<150 words).**  |
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**WA CI Certification**

Certification required from the first named investigator of each participating WA university.

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: |