

Micro-credentialing Program 2023

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a micro-credential?

For the purposes of the Micro-credentialing Program funding round, a micro-credential is defined as a non-accredited skills outcome – i.e. not vocational education and training or VET. Applications that propose nationally recognised training, including existing units of competency or VET skill sets, will not be eligible for funding.

Can my application request funding for capital and IT development costs?

No. Capital and IT development costs will not be funded through this program. However, licence costs relating to accessing existing learning platforms may be considered.

Who is eligible to apply through this Fund?

Industry Skills Advisors (approved by the Department), unions, industry peak bodies, regional industry bodies, employers (on behalf of an industry) and Queensland's public VET providers (TAFE Queensland and CQUniversity) are the only organisations eligible to apply for the Micro-credentialing Program funding round.

What is an industry peak body?

For the purposes of the Micro-credentialing Program funding round, a **peak body** is defined as: an advocacy group; industry group; body with allied economic, regional or industry interests; or organisation representing a cluster of businesses in the same industry.

I am a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), can I apply?

No, unless the RTO is the training arm of an eligible organisation. Industry Skills Advisors (approved by the Department), unions, industry peak bodies, regional industry bodies, employers (on behalf of industry) and TAFE Queensland and CQUniversity (representing an organisation or a group of businesses) are the only organisations eligible to apply through this funding round.

What is a co-contribution?

A co-contribution is a mandatory requirement through this application process and relates to the level of funding from industry, employers or participants towards the cost of the project.

Co-contributions can be either financial or in-kind and there is no maximum percentage required. The level of co-contribution will be evaluated during the assessment process as part of the cost/value for money criteria.

I own a small business. How can I have my employees trained under the program?

Employers can submit an application on behalf of their industry. The application would need to detail what consultation has occurred and how the broader industry and/or other employers would benefit from the proposal.

Alternatively, you can collaborate with an eligible organisation such as your industry peak body or a regional industry body to support an application for funding or seek to link with an approved Micro-credentialing Program project when the list of successful projects is published by the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training.

What workers are eligible to be assisted?

The Micro-credentialing Program is seeking to upskill Queensland existing workers, new entrants or job seekers in industries and enterprises.

To be eligible, a project must target participants that are aged 15 years or over, no longer at school, are Queensland permanent residents, as well as meeting the criteria listed in the Program Guidelines for Funding which can be found at [Micro-credentialing Program | Department of Employment, Small Business and Training \(desbt.qld.gov.au\)](https://desbt.qld.gov.au/micro-credentialing-program).

Where do I find a provider delivering micro-credentials?

A list of successful projects will be published on Department of Employment, Small Business and Training's website at [Micro-credentialing Program | Department of Employment, Small Business and Training \(desbt.qld.gov.au\)](https://desbt.qld.gov.au/micro-credentialing-program).

Can I apply for non-accredited training?

Yes, skill outcomes to be targeted will not be national recognised training (i.e. vocational education and training or VET) as these outcomes can be supported under existing VET Investment programs.

Projects containing nationally recognised training, or seeking to replace existing VET pathways, will not be considered.

Can I apply for qualifications and/or skill sets listed on the Priority Skills List?

No, projects containing nationally recognised training (VET) will not be considered.

Can someone help me complete my application?

The Department will be able to assist you with understanding the program but will not be able to help you write or review your application. The Department's officers in VET Programs & Investment can be contacted at VPI@desbt.qld.gov.au.

When is the last day an application can be submitted?

The funding round will open on 3 April 2023 and will close at 5.00pm on 11 May 2023. Applications, including supporting evidence, are to be submitted via the online

application which can be found at [Micro-credentialing Program | Department of Employment, Small Business and Training \(desbt.qld.gov.au\)](#).

Late applications will not be considered.

How much funding can I apply for?

The Micro-credentialing Program funding round provides up to a maximum of \$250,000 (GST exclusive) per project, with the amount dependent on the nature of the project, skills development to be delivered, assistance to be provided, and the number of participants targeted by the project.

How will applications be assessed?

A panel will assess the applications against the selection criteria detailed in the [Program Guidelines for Funding](#) document, which include: Capacity to manage; Workforce skills needs; Industry driven; Accessible to participants; Portable and recognisable; and Cost, value for money and sustainability.

The funding round is expected to be highly competitive, and the assessment panel will seek to recommend the projects that best meet the objectives of the Micro-credentialing Program, and also to achieve a balance of projects at a regional and industry level.

When will I know the outcome of my application?

It is anticipated that notification of the outcome of your application is expected to occur early in the 2023/2024 financial year.

How will I know if my application is approved?

If your application is approved for funding, you will be offered a Micro-credentialing Program Services Agreement to sign and return to the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training before commencing your project.

If my application is unsuccessful, can I apply again?

Not in the 2023 funding round. Your organisation can request feedback but this is the only funding round expected for 2023. It is anticipated another funding round will occur in 2024, and we would encourage you to consider applying again when the next funding round is announced.

Can I apply for feedback?

Yes, non-successful applicants may seek feedback from the Department in relation to the provision of funding under the Micro-credentialing Program. A request for feedback must be emailed to:

Executive Director, Skills Investment
Department of Employment, Small Business and Training
VPI@desbt.qld.gov.au

Feedback will be provided in writing by the Department within 21 business days from receipt of the request.

Associated links:

[Department of Employment Small Business and Training's Micro-credentialing Program 2023 Website](#)
[Priority Skills List](#)