



*The Industry Skills Fund provides training places and support services for Australian businesses.*

The Industry Skills Fund (fund) assists businesses to invest in training and support services, and to develop innovative training solutions. The fund will help build a highly skilled workforce that can take advantage of new business growth opportunities and adapt to rapid technological change.

### **Types of assistance available under the fund**

#### ***Skills advice***

Identification of skills opportunities to maximise training outcomes.

Experienced skills advisers dedicated solely to providing advice under the fund will work with businesses to:

- Understand their growth opportunity
- Identify the skills needed to help increase competitiveness and achieve the growth opportunity.

#### ***Training Grant***

Co-investment with businesses to improve the skills of their workforce for an identified growth opportunity.

### **Financial co-contribution**

The fund operates a co-contribution model where businesses that are awarded funding must financially contribute to the proposed project. The required contribution amount (percentage of the total project cost) is dependent on the size of the business determined by full time equivalent (FTE) staff levels:

- Micro business (0 – 4 FTE) – 25%
- Small business (5 – 19 FTE) – 34%
- Medium business (20 – 199 FTE) – 50%
- Large business (200+ FTE) – 75%

Co-contribution amounts for businesses operating in or seeking to expand into northern Australia will be reduced from 1 September 2015.

- Micro, Small and Medium (0-199 FTE) – 25%
- Large Business (200+ FTE) – 50%

Businesses must cover in full, all costs not directly attributed to the delivery of the training and contributions cannot be in-kind.

### **Types of businesses the fund will assist**

The fund focuses on:

- Small and medium enterprises, including micro businesses but does not exclude large businesses.
- Businesses within the following industries will be given priority; however businesses from other industries are encouraged to apply.

Priority industries include:

- Food and agribusiness
- Mining equipment, technology and services
- Medical technologies and pharmaceuticals
- Oil, gas and energy resources
- Advanced manufacturing; and
- Enabling technology and service industries that support one or more of the priority areas listed above.

Businesses can apply individually or through a consortium. If the business is not eligible individually, it may still be eligible as a consortium member.

For further information on eligibility, refer to the [Customer Information Guide](#) located on the website detailed below.

### **Accessing assistance**

The first step in seeking assistance through the fund is to:

1. Call the single business service on 13 28 46, or
2. Complete a simple online [enquiry form](#) available on [business.gov.au/industryskillsfund](http://business.gov.au/industryskillsfund).