



Business, Industry and Infrastructure Funding Opportunities

Welcome to our Business and Infrastructure Funding Opportunities Newsletter

Welcome to our Business, Industry and Infrastructure Funding Opportunities Newsletter where you will find details of grant and funding programs that are available for the Northern Inland Region for businesses and infrastructure projects.

Due to the number of grants that are available, we send two funding opportunities newsletters a month; one for Business and Infrastructure and another for Community Projects and Award Programs. These newsletters are a free service that we provide, and you can add the Community Funding Opportunities and Awards Programs newsletter to your subscriptions by filling your details into on the left hand side of our website: www.rdani.org.au

We wish you all the best with the Funding Opportunities below and if you are looking for a grant between newsletters, have a look at the grants search tool on our website which is updated with new grants weekly: www.rdani.org.au/grants-funding/search.php

If you need some facts and figures for your applications, a range of data for our region is also available on our website here: www.rdani.org.au/our-region/regional-data.php

Please note the below information is intended as a guide only. Closing dates and other details should be verified using the links provided as they are subject to change by the providers without notice.

Featured Grants

Growing Regional Economies Fund

Closes: 23rd of May 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: \$2 Million to \$30 Million

Run By: NSW Department of Regional NSW

The Growing Regional Economies Fund aims to accelerate economic development and prosperity in regional NSW, increase the appeal of investing in regional NSW, support investment in major transformational projects that increase employment opportunities in regional areas and ensure that regional communities have the infrastructure and services required for sustainable growth.

The Fund also has a focus on enabling infrastructure that will support investment in regional housing projects to meet demand generated by growth in employment and economic activity.

Regional Investment Activation Fund - Stream Two

Ongoing Until Program Closes: 31st of December 2024 or until expended

Value: \$1 Million to \$10 Million

Run By: NSW Government Department of Regional NSW

This grant supports projects that are time-sensitive and strategically significant for a priority industry or location. Projects may be recommended for funding support under the Regional Investment Activation Fund.

The \$110 million Regional Investment Activation Fund will co-invest with eligible entities on projects that will deliver, significant economic, social and/or environmental benefits for a priority industry or location.

The objectives of the grant are to:

- Support the growth of existing industries and the establishment of new/emerging industries where regional NSW has a strong actual or potential competitive advantage
- Activate the economic potential of Special Activation Precincts, Regional Job Precincts, Renewable Energy Zones, hydrogen hubs and other priority locations through increased private sector investment
- Create new high quality employment opportunities
- Support the shift towards higher-value-added activities and participation in global value chains and supply chains
- Promote collaboration between businesses, education and research institutions and other parties through sharing of knowledge, resources and infrastructure.

Coles Nurture Fund - Round 11

Closes: 24th of February 2023

Value: Up to \$500,000

Run By: Coles

Coles launched the \$50 million Nurture Fund in April 2015 to help Australian food and liquor producers innovate and grow.

Since then, they have offered more than \$30 million in financial support to more than 90 small and medium sized businesses. From Australia's first quinoa processing facility, to fence posts made from recycled plastic, and a state of the art factory to grow grass indoors, the Coles Nurture Fund is helping Aussie producers bring their big ideas to life.

Australian producers can apply for a grant of up to \$500,000 to help them develop new market-leading products, technologies and processes.

[back to top ↑](#)

Closing in February

Disability Employment – Tourism Local Navigators Pilot

Closes: 21st of February 2023 - 9:00 pm

Value: Up to \$3.3 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Social Services

Funding to deliver Tourism Local Navigator services to help small and medium sized tourism businesses address barriers to employing workers with a disability.

National Agriculture Traceability Grants Program - Sustainability Reporting Uplift Grant Round

Closes: 23rd of February 2023 - 9:00 pm

Value: \$50,000 to \$500,000

Run By: Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Funds projects that increase the agriculture sector's data capabilities to consistently report against sustainability frameworks and meet emerging international requirements and standards.

Coles Nurture Fund - Round 11 (2023)

Closes: 24th of February 2023

Value: Up to \$500,000

Run By: Coles

Funding for producers to help them develop new market-leading products, technologies and processes.

Aged Care Registered Nurses' Payment to Reward Clinical Skills and Leadership - Round 1

Closes: 28th of February 2023 - 2:00 pm (extended)

Value: Up to \$6,000 per Registered Nurse Employed

Run By: Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

An annual payment for Registered Nurses' in aged care, to be claimed and then passed on by their employer.

Maintaining Our Supply of Diesel Exhaust Fluid Program

Closes: 28th of February 2023 - 5:00 pm (extended)

Value: Up to \$16.5 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

Supports sovereign capability in manufacturing to produce TGU for the domestic DEF market.

Accelerate Adoption of Wood Processing Innovation Program

Closes: 28th of February 2023 - 9:00 pm

Value: \$1 Million to \$5 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Funding for projects which will make better use of existing timber supplies, add value to existing products, create new products, and/or reduce the industry's carbon footprint.

[back to top ↑](#)

Closing in March

Cooperative Research Centres Projects (CRC-P) - Round 14

Closes: 2nd of March 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: \$100,000 to \$3 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Supports short term industry-led collaborations between industry, researchers and the community

Before and After School Care Fund - Transport Grant - 2022-23

Closes: 3rd of March 2023

Value: Up to \$160,000

Run By: NSW Government Department of Education

funds transport solutions to improve access to Before and After School Care services.

Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) Grants - Round 24

Closes: 7th of March 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: Average of \$45 Million per CRC in previous rounds

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science and Resources

Supports long-term industry-led collaborations between industry, researchers and the community to focus on research and development towards use and commercialisation.

Future Drought Fund: Long-term Trials of Drought Resilient Farming Practices Program

Closes: 15th of March 2023 - 9:00 pm

Value: Up to \$8 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Funds projects that contribute to improved drought resilience through investigations that explore innovative approaches to farm productivity and natural capital.

[back to top ↑](#)

Closing in April

Rheem Apprentice Plumber Grants - 2023

Closes: 21st of April 2023

Value: Up to \$3,000

Support for apprentice plumbers and gas fitters, including money to go towards TAFE/RTO fees and textbooks, and tools.

Moon to Mars Supply Chain Capability Improvement

Closes: 30th of April 2023

Value: \$250,000 to \$1 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Supports Australian businesses with domestic or international supply chain opportunities by providing grant funds for building their capacity, skills and capabilities.

[back to top ↑](#)

Closing Later

Growing Regional Economies Fund

Closes: 23rd of May 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: \$2 Million to \$30 Million

Run By: NSW Department of Regional NSW

Supports projects that increase infrastructure investment and economic activity in regional NSW.

Automatic Dependent Surveillance (ADS-B) Broadcast Rebate Program

Closes: 31st of May 2023 - 5:00 pm or until expended

Value: Up to \$5,000 per eligible aircraft

Run By: Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Incentivises voluntary uptake of ADS-B equipment in Australian- registered aircraft operating under Visual Flight Rules (VFR) to improve safety and efficiency for Australian airspace users.

1,000 Jobs Package Grant Funding

Closes: 30th of June 2023 , or when exhausted

Value: Up to \$56,000 (GST exclusive) over two years

Run By: National Indigenous Australians Agency

Tranche Two provides a subsidy for new jobs for Community Development Program participants in remote Australia to support economic development.

Defence Global Competitiveness Grants

Ongoing Until Closes: 30th of June 2023

Value: \$15,000 to \$150,000

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Helps Australian SMEs to invest in projects that build export capability to build a stronger, more sustainable and globally competitive Australian defence industry.

Critical Producer Grant

Closes: 30th of June 2023 - 5:00 pm or Until Expended

Value: \$10,000 to \$100,000

Run By: NSW Government Department of Regional NSW

Help primary producers and primary production enterprises impacted by the February and March 2022 NSW Severe Weather and Flooding events to rebuild and recover.

Disaster Recovery Small Business Grant – Storms and Floods August and September 2022

Closes: 30th of June 2023

Value: Up to \$50,000

Run By: NSW Government

Support for small business and not-for-profits directly impacted by storms and floods from 4 August 2022 or 14 September 2022 onwards.

Elsa Dixon Aboriginal Employment Grant - 2022-23

Closes: 30th of June 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: \$10,000 to \$40,000

Run By: NSW Government Department of Education

A range of strategies to develop and support Aboriginal people through the creation of training and employment opportunities.

Special Disaster Grants – NSW Flooding – August to November 2022

Closes: 30th of June 2023

Value: \$25,000 to \$75,000

Run By: Rural Assistance Authority

Support for primary producers recovering from the devastating impacts of floods.

Strengthening Business Program

Closes: 30th of June 2023 - 5:00 pm

Value: Individualised Advice and support

Run By: AusIndustry

Connects small businesses impacted by selected natural disasters with experts to make your business stronger, more resilient and better prepared for the future.

COVID-19 Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program - Phase 3

Closes: 30th of June 2023 - 11:30 pm

Value: \$20,000 to \$23.42 Million Estimated

Run By: Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Supports Local Councils to create jobs by delivering priority local road and community infrastructure projects.

Fee-Free Traineeships NSW

Closes: 31st of December 2023

Value: Unspecified

Run By: NSW Government Department of Education

Traineeships are a proven pathway to well-paid jobs in a diverse range of careers and are fee free in NSW.

Rural Procedural Grants Program

Closes: 31st of December 2023 (extended)

Value: Up to \$20,000

Run By: Australian College of Rural and Remote Medicine

Support for rural GPs providing unsupervised anaesthetics, obstetrics, surgery and/or emergency medicine to maintain and update their skills.

Regional and Remote Airports Security Awareness Program

Closes: 30th of May 2024 - 5:00 pm

Value: \$1,000 to \$5,000

Run By: Australian Government Department of Home Affairs

Re-imbursement based funding to support regional and remote airports to meet requirements of the Screener Accreditation Scheme.

Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Program - 2022 to 2024

Closes: 30th of June 2024

Run By: Australian Government Department of Education

Broad support program for eligible employers who employ apprentices in priority occupations.

Regional Investment Activation Fund - Stream Two

Ongoing Until Program Closes: 31st of December 2024 or until expended

Value: \$1 Million to \$10 Million

Run By: NSW Government Department of Regional NSW

Supports regional projects that are time-sensitive and strategically significant for a priority industry or location.

Regional Australia Microgrid Pilots Program

Closes: 31st of December 2026 or until expended

Value: \$1 Million to \$5 Million

Run By: Australian Government: Australian Renewable Energy Agency

Support pilot projects for microgrids in Regional Australia.

[back to top ↑](#)

Ongoing

Advancing Renewables Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Unspecified

Run By: Australian Government: Australian Renewable Energy Agency

Supports a broad range of development, demonstration and pre-commercial deployment projects that can deliver affordable and reliable renewable energy for Australian families and businesses.

AgBiz Drought Loans

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$500,000

Run By: Australian Government Regional Investment Corporation

A concessional loan if your small business is currently or has been supplying goods or services relating to primary production to farm businesses in an affected area.

Australian Government's Youth Jobs PaTH

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$11,000

Run By: Australian Government Job Active

Helps employers find and recruit the right young person for their business by facilitating trials and providing a wage subsidy of up to \$10,000 if you hire them.

Black Spot Program

Closes: Ongoing

Run By: Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

By funding measures such as traffic signals and roundabouts at dangerous locations, the programme reduces the risk of road crashes.

CSIRO Kick-Start

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$50,000 matched funding

Run By: CSIRO

Funding support and access to CSIRO's research expertise and capabilities to help grow and develop their business.

Drought Loans

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$2 Million

Run By: Australian Government Regional Investment Corporation

Concessional loan to help farm businesses in the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral, apiculture, or aquaculture industry to prepare for, manage through, and recover from drought.

English Family Foundation - Ingnitor Fund

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$100,000

Run By: English Family Foundation

Supports Australian social enterprise change makers who are finding new and innovative solutions to tackle the most pressing issues within their local communities.

Entrepreneurs' Programme- SMART Projects and Supply Chains

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Tailored advice

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Provides access to a skilled advisor who will work with you to develop an improvement plan for an identified supply chain opportunity and support you as you implement the plan.

Farm Investment Loans

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$2 Million

Run By: Australian Government Regional Investment Corporation

You can apply for this loan if you solely or mainly sell products into supply chains that are interstate or outside Australia, or plan to in the future.

Get Connected Listing for Tourism Businesses

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Website Listing

Run By: Destination NSW

Provides tourism operators with the opportunity to showcase your tourism products on Destination NSW's consumer websites for free.

Impact Investment Ready Growth Grant

Closes: Ongoing rounds through the year

Value: Up to \$140,000

Run By: Impact Investing Australia

Provides impact businesses and mission-driven organisations with grants for business, financial, legal and other capacity building support from providers to secure investment.

Indigenous Business Australia

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Financial support and advice

Run By: Indigenous Business Australia

Assists Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to access the skills, knowledge and resources required to start and grow viable and sustainable businesses.

Innovation Connections

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$50,000

Run By: AusIndustry

Provides small and medium sized businesses with access to expert technology advice to address technology and knowledge gaps, and collaborate with the research sector in developing new ideas with commercial potential.

Landing Pads for Start Ups

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Support

Run By: Australian Trade and Investment Commission (Austrade)

Assists market-ready scaleups take their business global by providing an operational base and customised support for their overseas expansion goals.

New Enterprise Incentive Scheme

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Income Assistance and Advice

Run By: Australian Government Department of Employment

NEIS is a program delivered by a network of 21 providers who provide individualised help for job seekers to become self-employed business owners.

Newsagents Assistance Fund

Closes: Unspecified

Value: Up to \$10,000

Run By: NSW Fair Trading

The Newsagents Assistance Fund assists eligible agents to update their NSW Lotteries retail image and fit-out to align with the NSW Lotteries brand.

Regional Investment Attraction - Investment Concierge

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Support

Run By: NSW Government

Grants and interest-free loans targeted at offsetting government levies and duties, such as payroll tax, to eligible businesses that want to invest and grow in regional NSW, which will lead to new jobs.

Regional Skills Relocation Grant

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$10,000 per worker

Run By: NSW Government Department of Regional NSW

Support for the costs of relocating skilled staff from metropolitan centres around Australia to Regional NSW.

Safe and Secure Water Program

Closes: Ongoing until expended

Value: No minimum or maximum, \$1 Billion total pool

Run By: NSW Government

Co-funds eligible water and sewerage projects that deliver economic growth in regional NSW through improvements to public health, water security, environmental outcomes and/or social benefits.

Tradex Scheme

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Varies based on the goods imported

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Provides an upfront exemption from Customs duty and GST for eligible goods imported to Australia that are then exported within one year or other approved period.

Business Connect

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Advice and Support

Run By: NSW Government

A dedicated and personalised NSW Government program that provides trusted advice to help you start or grow your small business.

SafeWork Small Business Rebate

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$1,000

Run By: SafeWork NSW

Support for small business owners and sole traders in NSW who buy and install equipment to make their workplace safer.

Ladies in Livestock Program

Closes: Ongoing

Run By: Northern Tablelands Local Land Services

Delivers hands-on, practical skills to women as independent land stewards with a keen interest in agriculture, to work and make decisions on properties.

Entrepreneurs' Programme - Growth Grants

Closes: Ongoing

Value: \$2,500 to \$20,000

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Funding to help improve specific business areas that have been recommended in a roadmap or plan by a facilitator through a Growth Service in the Entrepreneurs' Programme.

Entrepreneurs' Programme - Growth Roadmap

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Expert Advice

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

provides an analysis of your business carried out on-site by an independent and skilled growth facilitator to develop a Growth Roadmap.

Major Project Status

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Government Support

Run By: Major Projects Facilitation Agency

Formally recognises the significance of a project to the Australian economy and provides extra support and coordinated approvals.

Accelerating Commercialisation

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$1 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Provides expert guidance and support to help you commercialise novel products, processes and services and find a commercialisation solution.

Entrepreneurs' Programme - High Growth Accelerator

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Expert Advice

Run By: Australian Government Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Provides access to skilled and experienced facilitators for up to two years to help your business develop the skills, knowledge, strategies and connections to accelerate growth.

Employment Assistance Fund

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Unspecified

Run By: Job Access

Assists people with disabilities and mental health conditions to buy work related modifications and services.

Workplace Legal Advice Program

Closes: Ongoing

Run By: Fair Work Ombudsman

Provides eligible employers and employees with free independent legal help to deal with workplace issues arising from the coronavirus outbreak.

Bridges Renewal Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$5 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Funding to upgrade and replacement of bridges to enhance access for local communities and facilitate higher productivity vehicle access.

Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$5 Million

Run By: Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Funds infrastructure projects that improve the productivity and safety outcomes of heavy vehicle operations across Australia.

NSW Quad Bike Safety Rebate

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$2,000

Run By: SafeWork NSW

Support for farmers and businesses to improve quad bike safety by investing in key safety items.

Minimum Viable Product Grants

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$25,000

Run By: NSW Government

Supports pre-revenue technology startups to help them engage with a potential business customer, or channel to market.

Regional Roads REPAIR Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Undisclosed

Run By: Transport for NSW

assist councils in carrying out larger rehabilitation and development works on regional roads.

Boating Infrastructure Emergency Repair Pool (BIERP)

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$500,000

Run By: Transport for NSW

Funding for repair or replacement of recreational boating infrastructure.

Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Undisclosed

Run By: Transport for NSW

A subsidy for providing a higher level of lighting on certain major routes, with the aim of decreasing night time road crashes.

Electric Vehicle Rebate

Closes: Until allocation exhausted

Value: Up to \$3,000

Run By: NSW Government

Rebates for the first 25,000 new full battery electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles purchased.

Electric Vehicle Stamp Duty Refund

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$3,000

Run By: NSW Government

Reimbursement of the stamp duty paid on purchases of new or used full battery electric vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles.

Local Government Road Safety Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Unspecified

Run By: Transport for NSW

Works in partnership with local councils to co-fund Safety Officer positions and contribute funding to projects targeting road safety issues at a local level.

Regional Filming Fund

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$100,000

Run By: Screen NSW

Offsets costs for film makers associated with shooting in regional areas of NSW.

Startup Travel Stipend

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$2,000

Run By: NSW Government

Helps regional recipients of the Minimum Viable Product grant to travel for an innovation-related purpose.

Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme

Closes: Ongoing

Run By: Australian Government Clean Energy Regulator

Creates a financial incentive for individuals and small businesses to instal eligible small-scale renewable energy systems.

Conservation Partners Grant

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Up to \$15,000

Run By: NSW Government Biodiversity Conservation Trust

Supports landholders in managing their conservation area, allowing them to improve the biodiversity value of their properties.

Natural Disaster Donated Fodder Transport Subsidy

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Transport costs up to 1,500km

Run By: Rural Assistance Authority

Supports organisations that donate and transport donated fodder to a central location within NSW for the benefit of primary producers with livestock, in the event of a natural disaster.

Off-farm Efficiency Program

Closes: Ongoing

Value: Unspecified

Run By: NSW Department of Planning & Environment - Water

Supports projects that provide long-term benefits through improved water infrastructure and reduced water losses.

[back to top ↑](#)



An Australian Government Initiative