

FAQs | Global Research & Impact Program (GRIP) Initiator Grants

1. Application Submission and Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply for a GRIP Initiator grant?

UNSW academics on a fixed term or continuing contract are eligible to apply, including conjoint academics. Sessional academics, students and visiting academics are not eligible to apply as the Lead CI, but may be listed as team members.

Where can I submit an application for GRIP (Initiator)?

You can submit an application via the link on the [GRIP website](#).

Do I need approval from my Head of School to apply for an Initiator grant?

Yes. Please seek approval from your Head of School (HoS) prior to submitting your application. No proof of HoS approval is required by the GRIP team however you will be asked to confirm you have obtained approval from your HoS in the application form.

Does the GRIP prioritise Early-to-Mid Career Researchers (EMCRs)?

GRIP prioritises EMCRs for UNSW researchers but has no preference for the career stage of researchers from partner institutions.

Is interdisciplinary collaboration prioritised by the GRIP?

GRIP Initiator grant proposals will be assessed based on their potential for initiating high-impact collaborations, rather than interdisciplinary collaborations.

What are Australian Defence Export Control (DEC) regulations and Foreign Arrangement requirements?

Australian DEC regulations are regulations that govern the export of military and dual-use goods, technology, and services. These controls ensure that exports align with Australia's national security interests and international commitments. For more details, visit the Department of DEC [website](#).

The Foreign Arrangements Scheme requires Australian public entities, including universities, to notify or seek approval from the Minister for Foreign Affairs before entering into agreements with foreign entities. This ensures such agreements do not compromise Australia's foreign policy or security interests. For more details, visit the Foreign Arrangements Scheme [website](#).

How do the Australian DEC regulations and Foreign Arrangement requirements affect my GRIP grant application?

All funded projects must comply with Australian Defence Export Controls and Foreign Arrangement requirements. If your project involves international partnerships, technology sharing, or potential

military applications, it may require additional scrutiny. Applications that do not meet these requirements may be deemed ineligible.

If you're unsure whether your project is affected, please reach out to grip@unsw.edu.au for guidance.

Can I submit multiple proposals?

Yes, you may submit multiple proposals.

Can each proposal have multiple lead investigators from UNSW and/or external partner institutions?

No, each proposal should designate only one lead investigator from UNSW and one from the external partner institution. While multiple investigators from UNSW and the partner institution can be involved in the project, only a single lead investigator can represent each institution.

Is matching funding from partner organisations required?

While not essential, matching funding will make your GRIP application more competitive.

What matching funding proof or documentation do I need to provide?

A letter from the external researcher stating the matching funding commitment or arrangements will suffice. Please reach out to the GRIP team for support as needed.

Are partner in-kind contributions permitted?

Yes, in-kind contributions are permitted. Please specify the nature of the in-kind resources (both UNSW and partner) in your application.

2. Eligible Collaborations

What types of partners are eligible under the GRIP Initiator scheme?

Eligible partners include universities, governments, research institutes, NGOs, and industry organisations that bring strong strategic value to the proposed collaboration and UNSW. Priority is given to partnerships that enhance UNSW's reputation and enable impactful work aligned with UNSW's *Progress for All Strategy*.

Do partners need to be universities?

While universities are encouraged, non-academic partners are equally encouraged, provided they demonstrate a clear mission fit, institutional reputation, and capacity to deliver impact.

Can I partner with more than one organisation?

Yes, multi-partner collaborations are permitted, but the proposal should clearly outline the role and contribution of each partner, and how the combined effort advances the project's goals.

Do international focussed initiatives need to involve international organisations, or can we partner with local (Australian) organisations?

No, international focussed projects do not need to exclusively involve international organisations. Partnerships with local organisations, including Australian civil society organisations, are encouraged, especially if they support research translation within Australia.

3. Funding Awarded & Funding Utilisation

Will I receive the full amount I requested in my budget?



Not necessarily. Your proposed budget will be reviewed during the assessment process, and the final awarded amount may differ from the amount you requested.

Are there restrictions on how GRIP funds can be used?

All expenses must be directly attributable to the activities outlined in your GRIP initiator grant application and budget, and clearly support the objectives of the proposed project. All UNSW GRIP initiator grant funding must be administered and expended within UNSW and cannot be transferred to external institutions or partners.

Is the GRIP grant only for use at UNSW, or can it be shared with partner institutions?

All UNSW GRIP initiator grant funding must be administered and expended within UNSW and cannot be transferred to external institutions or partners. However, it can go towards covering the travel costs of partner investigators to come to UNSW.

4. Reporting Obligations

Am I required to report on the outcomes of my funded project?

Yes, successful applicants will be required to submit a final report noting research outcomes and financial expenditure in line with the guidelines.