

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (RED) GRANTS 2020-21 Round Three (3) – Peel Region

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants Program?

The Regional Economic Development (RED) Grants Program Grants invests in community driven projects that contribute to economic growth and development in regional Western Australia.

2. What can RED Grants funding be used for?

The RED grants program provides funding to support locally driven projects that will contribute to economic growth in regional communities. The guidelines outline what funds can be applied to. Further clarification can be sought from the Regional Development Commission contact Simone Hutton or Kristie Tonkin on 9535 4140.

3. How can I apply?

Download the guidelines information and click on the link to the online application form under the “Funding” tab on the Peel Development Commission website www.peel.wa.gov.au.

Applicants **must** contact the Peel Development Commission for more information on project eligibility and advice relating to your application, prior to completing the application form – Phone: 9535 4140 or email grants@peel.wa.gov.au.

4. What is the closing date?

Applications for the RED grants open Tuesday 12 May 2020 and they must be submitted and received through the SmartyGrants system by noon Tuesday 7 July 2020.

5. How much funding can I apply for?

Eligible applicants in the Peel region may apply for funding of up to \$250,000 distributed over the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 financial years. Applicants are encouraged to limit their ask in any one financial year to \$150,000 (or less) due to the anticipated volume of applications as a result of the region’s significant economic impact of COVID-19.

6. What if I am not registered for GST?

Applicants can still apply for grants if they are not registered for GST concessions. Unregistered grant applicants must provide the Peel Development Commission with a budget for the amount of the grant inclusive of all project costs including GST.

If you are not registered for GST concessions and need further clarification please contact the Peel Development Commission prior to submitting your application.

7. Does my organisation have to be regionally based to apply?

The RED Grants are targeted at providing financial assistance to regionally based organisations.

Organisations outside the region may apply, but will need to demonstrate significant, sustainable regional benefits and a commitment to local decision-making and planning.

8. How are applications assessed and how soon after applying will I know if I am successful or not?

The Commission undertakes a rigorous assessment process of all applications. Applicants should allow four to six months for the RED Grants approval process which should be considered by applicants during project planning.

The assessment criteria and decision making process used to assess applications are provided in the RED Grants guidelines. Assessors are required to declare any potential conflicts of interest.

9. How many applications will be awarded with a RED Grant per region?

There is no limit on the number of applications funded per round however, there are limited funds available in each region. Successful projects in this round must be approved and funded ready to commence September 2020.

10. Can I submit an application for funding in more than one region?

Where funding is sought for projects across multiple regions, applicants will be required to submit separate applications to each Regional Development Commission (RDC) as they will be assessed independently.

Applicants will need to seek advice on their project proposal with each relevant RDC where funding will be sought. Each region has differing regional priorities and assessment panels.

11. If I am unsuccessful this round, can I still apply when the next round opens?

Upon notification of being unsuccessful, applicants can contact the Peel Development Commission to discuss the outcome of the assessment and how the application/project might be amended for consideration in any future rounds.

12. When is the next round?

Future rounds for the RED Grants have not yet been announced.

Criteria	Projects that demonstrate:	Guidance Notes
Meets at least one RED Grants program objective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable jobs • Expanding or diversifying industry • Developing skills or capabilities • Attracting new investment in the region • Maximising recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic impacts 	<p>You should present a clear case of how your project meets each of the relevant objectives. If you meet more than one criterion include an assessment against each of the objectives.</p> <p>Round Three (3) includes an additional objective: Maximising recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic impacts. The aim of this objective is to assist projects that build the resilience of the Peel economy and/or diversifies a regional economy to maximise recovery efforts during this unique environment.</p> <p>To be competitive your project should demonstrate how it contributes to an increase in economic activity in the region beyond your own business.</p> <p>You may wish to use the SMART methodology or a similar tool to outline how you meet each of the relevant program objectives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific (be specific e.g. how exactly will your project meet the program objectives i.e. create or retain jobs, develop new skills? Provide examples of how your project is not 'business as usual') • Measurable (be meaningful – how does your project achieve this objective e.g. how will you measure new skills or an investment in the region i.e. number of people trained, number of people employed, perception surveys etc) • Achievable (Set out how your project will achieve the objectives) • Relevant (demonstrate how your project is realistic and resourced for the funding requested to meet the objectives). • Time bound (what are your timeframes for delivering the project?) <p>Jobs created should be specified as full time equivalent (FTE) i.e. This project will employ two people in two new part time positions, creating 1 new FTE.</p> <p>The Commission can assist with economic modelling to support your project. Any request for economic modelling assistance from the Commission must be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the closing date for this grants round (25 June 2020).</p>
Meets at least one Peel regional themes/ priorities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reshape or rebuild your service or business model 2. Supply chain improvements including local supply 3. Reskilling / upskilling for industry sustainability 4. Building vibrant communities through social enterprise development 	<p>The Commission Board has endorsed four regional themes/priorities. Projects that align with one or more of these regional priorities in addition to alignment with one or more of the RED Grants program objectives will be considered preferably.</p> <p>You should demonstrate how your project aligns with the Commission's priority areas including any relevant collaboration you may have been involved in, with the Commission during 2019-20, or if you have previously participated in any Peel or DPIRD led or funded programs.</p>

Criteria	Projects that demonstrate:	Guidance Notes
Financial Commitment Collaboration and Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage funding • Own contribution • Partnerships and demonstrated collaboration • Co-investment and attracting new investment • Local Content outcomes 	<p>Projects that have co-contributions from the applicant and/or other organisations will be considered preferably.</p> <p>Projects that can demonstrate strong partnerships and collaborative working with other organisations, including the establishment of new partnerships or ways of working between the public, private and not-for-profit sectors, may be considered favourably.</p> <p>REDs is a regional grants program, and leveraging a high level of local content is important. Applicants are encouraged to consider local organisations, suppliers and contractors in the delivery of their projects. The Commission has a locally based Local Content Adviser that may assist with local content strategies in your application. Please call the Commission on 9535 4140 to reach the Local Content Adviser.</p> <p>Business applicants are encouraged to secure a minimum own or leveraged cash contribution of at least 30% of the REDs project funding request.</p> <p>Projects that can leverage regional investment, strong partnerships and local content will be considered favourably.</p>
Governance and organisational capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability and ability to meet ongoing maintenance • Good governance structure • Project Management experience and personnel experience • Risk identification and mitigation • Project readiness 	<p>The REDs program will support organisations and businesses that can demonstrate good governance practices and management and that have potential to be sustainable into the future. Projects should demonstrate relevant approvals either in place or outline the process to achieve those approvals.</p> <p>The applicant must demonstrate relevant management structures and project personnel with suitable experience to manage the delivery of the project.</p> <p>The applicant must demonstrate a good understanding of the risks and mitigation measures they will put in place for their project and their organisation.</p> <p>A well-prepared and consistent application that demonstrates alignment with the objectives, concisely answers all questions and includes relevant attachments will provide a sound reference for your organisation's governance and management practices.</p>

Outcomes and Benefits

Outcomes refer to the intended economic impact that is expected as a result of delivering the Project with the Grant funding – the expected outcomes listed should be realistic as successful applicants will be expected to report against these.

RED Grants Objective	Expected Outcome	Timeframe	How will this be measured?	Target
Sustainable Jobs	<i>Example: Number of new Jobs created/ retained (Full Time equivalent) created (type of job ie. direct/indirect, during construction phase only)</i>	<i>Example: after 2 years, or during project phase only (ie. Construction jobs).</i>	<i>Example: Number of new FTE employed</i>	<i>Example: 3 FTE</i>
Increased productivity	<i>Example: 5% increase in production</i>	<i>Example: within one year of installing infrastructure</i>	<i>Example: sales and revenue figures</i>	<i>Example: 5% increase from x to y</i>
Expanding or diversifying Industry	<i>Example: new canning line introduced.</i>	<i>Example: upon installation of equipment</i>	<i>Example: Commissioning of new equipment and new markets secured</i>	<i>Example: 2 new clients taking 500 tonnes product pa, 1000 tonnes product sourced from region</i>
Developing Skills or capabilities	<i>Example: Skills training and job matching provided to 100 participants</i>	<i>Example: Within 12 months of commencement.</i>	<i>Example: Number of participants through program and secured positions</i>	<i>Example: 100 secured positions within 12 months</i>
Attracting new investment in the region	<i>\$5m investment in new aquaculture hatchery</i>	<i>Within 3 months of FAA execution</i>	<i>Confirmation of investment received.</i>	<i>\$5m investment</i>
Maximising recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic	<i>Example: Efficient and adaptive online sales</i>	<i>Example: Within a year of system implementation</i>	<i>Example: Increase in digital sales</i>	<i>Example: Generate \$X income from online sales post COVID-19</i>

Applications that can provide specific, quantified benefits will be more competitive. Additional guidance on outcomes and benefits can be discussed with the Commission.