



UQ Dow Centre for Sustainable Engineering Innovation

2026 Accelerating Future Decarbonisation Technologies Seed Grants

The Accelerating Future Decarbonisation Technologies Seed Grants (“Grant”) provide initial financial support for tackling significant societal problems that cross disciplinary boundaries. The Grant aims to accelerate the translation of research into real-world impact by fostering collaboration across UQ organisational units, strengthening internal capability, building strategic partnerships, and enabling broader adoption of technologies across industry, government, and community sectors.

Guidelines

1. Each Grant is up to \$50,000, lasting up to 12 months. Unspent funds may be carried over to the second year, subjected to Finance and Centre Management Team approval.
2. The project team should include at least two (and up to three) named investigators from different organisational units. One of the named investigators must be an EMCR (less than 10 years post-PhD). Researchers can only be named investigators on one proposal. Furthermore, individuals currently holding an active Seed Grant are ineligible to apply for new funding until their existing project is completed.
3. Proposals must clearly outline why cross-disciplinary expertise is crucial for research translation.
4. Each project should support technology translation.
5. All requests must have clear objectives, which may include, but not limited to:
 - develop prototypes and validate new technologies
 - conduct preliminary Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), Techno-Economic Assessment (TEA), or environmental, social and governance (ESG) studies on newly developed technologies
6. All requests should submit a proposal to an external funding organisation upon project completion and include at least one of the following deliverables:
 - Progression by one level in the TRL scale
 - Submission of an article to a public forum such as the Conversation or a newspaper
 - Submission of a response to government consultations
 - Production of an industry report
 - Other deliverables specified by the team in the application
7. Eligible costs: Personnel, small equipment, laboratory consumables, access fees and user charges, data acquisition costs, stakeholder engagement expenses (e.g. workshops, events and hosted meetings).

Ineligible costs: Salaries for named investigators, conference travel, overheads

Eligibility

The first-named (lead) investigator must be from one of the following UQ units:

- EAIT
- AIBN
- BEL
- Science



Assessment Criteria & Weightings

The selection committee include representatives from academia, industry, government, and the community. The committee will determine the final list of approved projects for funding.

Criterion	Weight
Research and Innovation Merit	30%
Strategic Alignment & Industry Relevance	25%
Interdisciplinarity & Collaboration	25%
Team Capability & Feasibility	20%