



Department of
**Jobs, Tourism, Science
and Innovation**

Native Forestry Transition: New Industry Development Grants

Frequently asked questions



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1. Who should apply?

Businesses, innovators and organisations with planned and investment-ready projects (or capacity to raise capital) aimed at diversifying regional economies, committed to expanding, creating or facilitating industry development.

2. Do I need to match the funding?

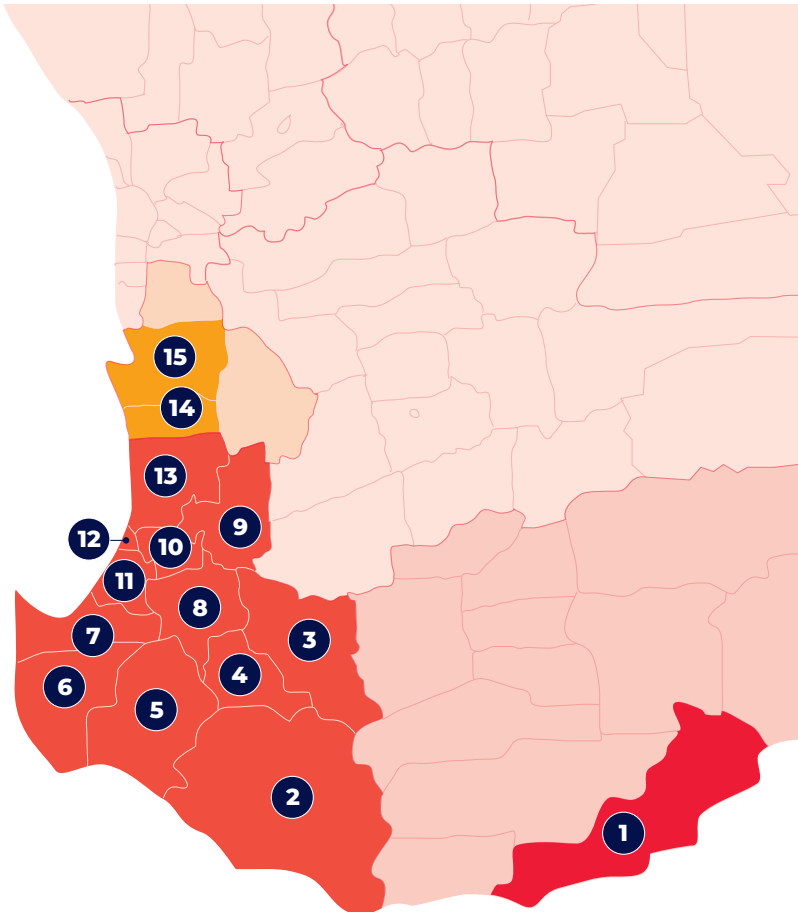
Yes, applicants are required to match the requested funding. Matched funding will need to be evidenced and can come in various forms for example, personal funds, bank funding, other business loans, other grant funding etc. Labour costs, in-kind funding and asset values are not eligible as matched funding.

3. Can I apply as a group or collaboration?

Collaborative projects are encouraged, however there must be a lead applicant as the main driver of the project that is eligible to apply. Any formal arrangement in place between collaborating groups should be identified as part of the application process. Formal joint ventures that have their own ABN and structure would be eligible to apply.

4. What are the Native Forestry Timber Regions?

Native Forestry Timber Regions



Great Southern	
1	Albany
South West	
2	Manjimup
3	Boyup Brook
4	Bridgetown-Greenbushes
5	Nannup
6	Augusta-Margaret River
7	Busselton
8	Donnybrook-Balingup
9	Collie
10	Dardanup
11	Capel
12	Bunbury
13	Harvey
Peel	
14	Waroona
15	Murray

5. Does my project have to be delivered in the Native Timber Forestry Regions?

The project must be implemented in, or deliver outcomes in, one or more of the Native Forestry Timber Regions.

6. How will the jobs criteria be weighted?

The jobs criteria will give the highest score to jobs created, protected or developed within the three most impacted local government areas of Bridgetown-Greenbushes, Manjimup and Nannup.

Jobs created, protected or developed within the adjacent local government areas of Augusta-Margaret River, Donnybrook-Balingup or Boyup Brook, or the impacted local government areas of Murray or Waroona, would score moderately.

Jobs created, protected or developed within other local government areas of the Native Forestry Timber Regions would receive a low score.

If there is no employment impact within the Native Forestry Timber Regions, the application is ineligible.

The scores will also take into account the types of jobs that will be created (whether they are short-term or long-term jobs, full-time or casual, and what skill sets are required) and the evidence you provide for the employment impact.

7. Do I have to apply for the full \$2,000,000?

No, you can apply for any amount up to \$2,000,000. Seeking a smaller amount will not impact on the assessment of your application. Applicants will be required to demonstrate how the entire funding amount will be spent.

8. The first program objective is to “swiftly establish new industries”. What does ‘swiftly’ mean in this context?

You will need to have a planned and investment-ready project to apply for this program. The timelines for the project would be determined with any successful applicant, but it is expected that the project could commence immediately or shortly after the execution of a grant agreement. It is expected that jobs created as a result of the project would be made available as soon as possible.

9. The term ‘Competitive Neutrality’ is referred to at various points in the guidance notes. What does Competitive Neutrality mean?

Competitive Neutrality is the term used to describe whether a project would be to the economic detriment of any other Western Australian business i.e. whether a grant award would impact competing businesses or not. If awarding a grant was going to cause an economic detriment to another business then it would not be competitive. Applicants will be required to state whether they believe competitive neutrality is an issue or not and how any impact may be mitigated.

10. Can I apply for the NIDG if I have received a grant from other Native Forestry Transition programs?

You can receive an NIDG payment if you have received a payment from Industry and Community Development Programs – Program 2 (Community Small Grants Fund).

You cannot apply for the NIDG if you have received a payment from Business Transition Program – Program 1 or Industry and Community Development Programs – Program 1 (Small Business Development and Diversification) or Program 4 (Closure of Impacted Businesses).

11. When do projects have to start and finish?

Project activities cannot commence until a grant agreement has been signed between the Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science and Innovation (JTSI) and the applicant. The project timelines will be agreed between both parties when signing the grant agreement.

12. Can I submit multiple applications?

Yes, applicants can submit more than one application, provided that they are separate and unique proposals. Proposals will be considered independently on their merits.

13. Will payment be made on reimbursement or on project milestones?

Payment terms will be determined when negotiating the grant agreement. These will be dependent on the size of the grant as well as the nature and duration of the project.

14. If I am unsuccessful, can I adjust my application and reapply?

There are many reasons why a grant application might not be successful. The NFT team can provide feedback on unsuccessful applications and it can be resubmitted for assessment if funding is still available.

15. How long will it take to process my application?

There will be a period of 12 weeks after the funding round opens to allow time for applications to be submitted. The assessment process will then begin which will take up to a maximum of 12 weeks.

16. Do I need to sign a grant agreement?

Yes, all successful applicants will need to sign a grant agreement. The agreement will be negotiated between the NFT team on behalf of JTSI and the successful applicant. It will be signed within 12 weeks of the funding offer. If an agreement cannot be negotiated with the successful applicant in that timeframe, the funding offer may be withdrawn.

17. Do I need to answer all the questions on the Smarty Grants application?

Yes, all questions on the Smarty Grants application need to be completed. The questions on the Smarty Grants application have been designed to give the assessment panel a full understanding of your business and proposed project. Each question presents an opportunity for you to demonstrate to the assessment panel how you meet the objectives of the scheme and why you believe you should be awarded a grant.

If you require further space or wish to provide further information, there will be an opportunity for you to add attachments, but the key information still needs to be written into the designated fields. In some places, you will be required to attach further information, such as financial statements.



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