# Draft CMPAMIP Application Form

Form Preview

## Information

### About the program

The Critical Minerals Processing and Advanced Materials Innovation Program (CMPAMIP) is a two-phase competitive NSW Government grant program supporting the commercialisation of downstream critical minerals processing technologies and critical minerals derived advanced materials.

Through CMPAMIP, the NSW Government is providing targeted support for university-led collaborative research, partnering with industry and end-users to accelerate processing technologies and enable the development of high-value critical minerals-derived advanced materials.

The Program invites proposals from NSW-based research institutions for the development, refinement, validation, and piloting of innovative technologies and materials within NSW. It is designed to support sovereign capability, enhance collaboration across universities, industry, and government, and accelerate research translation, industry adoption, and market integration for sustained economic, workforce, and supply-chain outcomes.

Phase 1 – Proof of Concept provides grants of up to **$100,000 excluding GST** for short-term projects of up to **8 months** to establish the technical feasibility of a technology or advanced material. Phase 1 supports testing and small-scale validation activities required to assess whether the technology or advanced material is sufficiently mature to progress to Phase 2.

Phase 1 targets technologies and advanced materials within **Technology Readiness Level 3 to 7** (inclusive) at the time of application. Projects must show a pathway to achieving a minimum of **TRL 4** by the end of Phase 1.

### Indicative Dates

**Milestone**

**Date**

**Applications open**

Friday 7 August 2026, 14:00

**Applications close**

Friday 18 September 2026, 15:00

**Assessment process**

18 September – 16 October 2026

**Notification of outcomes**

Friday 4 December 2026

**Grant activity period**

December 2026 – August 2027

**Final report due**

Friday 27 August 2027

These dates may be varied by the Department at its discretion. **Late applications will not be accepted.**

## Before you apply

Please read the *CMPAMIP Phase 1 Program Guidelines* thoroughly before completing this application.

This application must be:

- completed in full
- submitted through SmartyGrants
- submitted with the knowledge and approval of the lead applicant research organisation
- submitted before the closing date and time.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Applicants are responsible for ensuring all information is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information may result in an application being excluded from further consideration.

## Attachments

If an applicant has partner(s) on this project, the applicant must provide letter(s) of support from research or commercial partners describing their contribution to the project. **For Phase 1**, partners are **not required** to provide financial contributions. Letters will be uploaded under Assessment Criterion 3: Deliverability.

**Note** that for **Phase 2** commercial partner(s) (such as mining companies, processors and NSW-based METS providers) **must** collectively contribute a minimum of 20% of the total project value through cash and/or in-kind support. This minimum contribution must be formally committed through a letter of support from each contributing partner, attached to the application.

# Applicant Information

* indicates a required field

## Lead applicant details

Organisations can apply on their own or in a consortium of partners. The application must be submitted by a single 'lead organisation' who will have an Australian Business Number (ABN).

**Organisation Contact Details** *
Organisation Name

**Organisation ABN** *

The ABN provided will be used to look up the following information. Click Lookup above to check that you have entered the ABN correctly.

| Information from the Australian Business Register | |
|---|---|
| ABN | |
| Entity Name | |
| ABN Status | |
| Entity Type | |
| Goods & Services Tax (GST) | |
| DGR Endorsed | |
| ATO Charity Type | More information |
| ACNC Registration | |
| Tax Concessions | |
| Main Business Location | |

Must be an ABN.

**Headquarters Address** *
Address

Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

**Primary Website** *

Must be a URL.

## Authorised Project Representative

**Name of project bid manager** *
Title First Name Last Name

**Position** *

**Faculty, Institute, Centre, Laboratory or Group**

optional

**Primary Phone Number** *

Must be an Australian phone number.

**Primary Email** *

Must be an email address.

**Declaration** *

○ I confirm that the lead applicant research organisation has approved this application for submission to CMPAMIP Phase 1.

## Project Details

**What is the title of your project?** *

**How much funding are you requesting for this grant** *

Must be a dollar amount and no more than 100000.

# Eligibility

* indicates a required field

## Lead applicant eligibility

**Is the lead applicant one of the following eligible research organisation categories?** *

○ University
○ Private non-profit research institute
○ NSW Government research organisation, lab or group
○ Federal Government research organisation, lab or group
○ Other - not eligible

## Eligible organisations

Eligible lead applicant categories are universities, private non-profit research institutes, and NSW , labs or groups. If you feel your organisation is not represented here but is eligible please confirm directly by email with the program administrators at grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

## Lead Applicant Approval

**Does the lead applicant have approval from its research organisation to apply for CMPAMIP?** *

○ Yes ○ No

## Primary Approver

Lead applicants must have approval from their head of their research organisation's commercialisation office to apply. The program administrators may contact your authorising period via email to confirm.

**Primary approver contact name or policy providing authority to you to apply** *

Title First Name Last Name

This must be the Head of your organisation's research commercialisation office (or equivalent) to approve submission of this bid.

**Approver Position** *

**Approver Primary Email** *

Must be an email address.

## Lead applicant eligibility

**Is the lead applicant headquartered in NSW?** *

○ Yes ○ No

lead applicants must be headquartereed in NSW

**Does the lead applicant own the IP or have an exclusive licence to commercialise the IP in Australia and globally?** *

○ Yes ○ No

**Does the lead applicant confirm that their application's technology/solution is viable for CMPAMIP Phase 2 Catalyser/ Demonstration grants and will have a proposal and partnerships that will allow their technology to be piloted in NSW should they be successful for Phase 2.** *

○ Yes ○ No

## Project eligibility

**Is the technology or advanced material currently between TRL 3 and TRL 7 inclusive?** *

○ Yes ○ No

Projects must be at TRL 3–7 at the time of application review Appendix A of the Program Guidelines for descriptions of TRLs

**Does the application involve an existing prototype relevant to mineral processing or critical mineral derived advanced materials in NSW?** *
○ Yes ○ No
Prototypes may be full or components of technologies in alignment with solutions at a minimum TRL 3

**Over the activity period of the grant will the proposed project undertake proof-of-concept activities to demonstrate feasibility in minerals processing or advanced materials development, including laboratory-scale or early pilot-scale testing where appropriate?** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Can the proposed activities for phase 1 be completed within a maximum of 8 months from execution of the funding deed?** *
○ Yes ○ No
Note progress will be monitored and reported throughout the grant period and documented in a final report

**Has the project previously received Commonwealth or State grant funding for the specific activities proposed in this application?** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Does the application consider a potential Phase 2 – Catalyser / Demonstrator grant and include a proposal and partnerships that would allow the technology or advanced material to be piloted in NSW if successful for Phase 2?** *
○ Yes ○ No
Lead applicants must confirm that their application considers Phase 2 and has a proposal and partnerships that will allow their technology to be piloted in NSW should they be successful for Phase 2.

## Expenditure eligibility

**Will all CMPAMIP grant expenditure listed in this application meet the eligible expenditure requirements in the Guidelines?**

**Be directly related to the eligible grant activities.** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Be incurred within the project period.** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Reflect competitive market rates.** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Be spent in NSW on activities occurring in NSW, with the exception of acquiring specialised equipment, components or inputs that are not available in NSW** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Be a true and accurate reflection of costs required to deliver the activity.** *
○ Yes ○ No

**Confirm that no grant funds will be spent on ineligible costs:** *

○ Yes ○ No

**Ineligible Costs** include but are not limited to the following:

- the purchase of land or property,
- costs incurred in the preparation of a grant application or related documentation,
- equipment financing arrangements, insurances, marketing campaigns and the depreciation of plant and equipment beyond the life of the project,
- overseas travel,
- participation at conferences including travel to attend,
- the covering of retrospective costs,
- costs incurred prior to the commencement of the project or after completion of the project,
- non-project related staff training and development,
- projects or expenses that are ongoing or constitute the normal course of business.

## Ineligible response

Your response indicates that you are not eligible for this grant program. Please review the Gudielines carefully and should you have any questions please contact in writing the program administrators at *grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au*

# Project Summary

* indicates a required field

## Section answers

The questions in this section are **not** assessable, however, they should help assessors quickly understand what the applicant is proposing before they read the detailed responses to the assessment criteria.

Elements of this section may be used publicly if the application is successful, for media releases, briefings and acknowledgment of grant outcomes.

For the above reasons this section should be written in plain English and with minimal jargon.

## Project Stream

CMPAMIP supports projects in one or both of the following streams. Select the stream or streams that best describe your project.

**Stream 1: Critical mineral processing**Activities that transform mined critical minerals into refined inputs, such as purified metals, oxides or chemical precursors, that prepare minerals for entry into industrial supply chains.

**Stream 2: Critical mineral derived advanced materials**High-value materials produced from processed critical minerals, such as alloys, permanent magnets, battery chemicals or advanced ceramics, designed for specific applications and used by downstream industries including clean energy, defence, electronics and advanced manufacturing.

**Which stream best describes your project?** *
- ○ Stream 1
- ○ Stream 2
- ○ Both streams

## Project Summary

**Describe your proposed project.**

In your response, briefly explain:

- what the critical mineral processing technology or advanced material is
- what problem or opportunity it addresses
- who may use or benefit from it.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

**What will be different by the end of Phase 1 if the project is successful?**

In your response, identify:

- the technical evidence that will be generated
- the expected technological progression or Technological Readiness Level
- how the Phase 1 project will help determine whether this technology or advanced material is ready to progress toward Phase 2.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 200 words.

## Assessment Criterion 1: Technology Proposal and Innovation

* indicates a required field

### Weighting 30%

Criterion 1 assesses the uniqueness and need for the solution, end-user engagement, technical viability and IP position. Criterion 1 requires evidence that the technology or advanced material can work as intended, supported by a plan to demonstrate feasibility through proof-of-concept activities. Projects must show a pathway to achieve a minimum TRL of 4 by the end of Phase 1.

**Explain why the proposed technology or advanced material is novel and needed.**

In your response, consider:

- the problem or opportunity being addressed by your solution and the lack of comparable capability in the market
- how the solution advances critical mineral processing and/or critical mineral derived advanced materials
- why the proposed approach is different from existing alternatives
- why this capability is needed in NSW.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

**Describe the intended use cases, end users or downstream markets for the technology or advanced material.**

In your response, consider:

- who the likely end users or customers are
- where or how the technology or advanced material may be used
- any evidence of end-user, industry or market engagement to date.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.
Note these are likely your partners and collaborators, the application will ask for specific information regarding your partners, for this section, Assessors need to see that you understand the use-case and commercialisation potential of your proposal

## Technical viability and TRL pathway

**Explain why the technology or advanced material can work as intended and how Phase 1 will demonstrate feasibility.**

In your response, consider:

- evidence generated to date, such as experiments, technical studies, modelling, analysis, prototype results or testing
- the current TRL and why that TRL is appropriate
- the target TRL at the end of Phase 1
- how the proposed activities will support progression to at least TRL 4.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 400 words.

## IP position and strategy

**Describe the IP position and strategy for the technology or advanced material.**

In your response, consider:

- whether the lead applicant owns the IP or has an exclusive licence and the implications of this position
- any patents, trademarks, know-how or other IP protection
- how IP will be managed with partners or collaborators
- how the IP strategy supports translation and commercialisation.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

# Assessment Criterion 2: Value adding to NSW Critical Minerals

* indicates a required field

## Weighting 30%

Criterion 2 assesses how the project will contribute to NSW critical minerals capability, critical mineral derived advanced materials, broader NSW benefits and alignment with NSW Government priorities.

## Contribution to NSW critical minerals processing capability

**Explain how the project will contribute to building critical minerals processing capability in NSW.**

In your response, consider:

- the specific NSW capability the project will strengthen
- how the technology may unlock value through commercialisation or scale-up
- whether the project supports new sub-industries or sovereign capabilities
- what skills and workforce development can be improved or unlocked by progressing this technology/solution
- any relevance to advanced processing, advanced materials manufacturing or metallisation.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 3350 words.

## Contribution to NSW critical mineral derived advanced materials capability

**Explain how it supports the development or future production of higher-value materials, intermediates or precursors in NSW.**

In your response, consider:

- the material, intermediate or precursor being developed
- the downstream application or market
- what skills and workforce development can be improved or unlocked by progressing this technology/solution
- how the project may support downstream manufacturing or emerging markets or sovereign capabilities
- how it strengthens NSW capability in materials development, validation or scale-up.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

## NSW critical minerals strategy alignment

**Which critical mineral/s identified in the NSW Critical Minerals and High Tech Metals Strategy does your proposal involve? Select all that apply.**

☐ High-purity alumina ☐ Antimony ☐ Bismuth ☐ Chromium ☐ Cobalt ☐ Hafnium ☐ Indium ☐ Lithium ☐ Magnesium ☐ Molybdenum ☐ Nickel ☐ Niobium ☐ Scandium ☐ Silicon ☐ Tantalum ☐ Titanium ☐ Tungsten ☐ Vanadium ☐

Zirconium ☐ Platinum group elements (ruthenium, rhodium, palladium, osmium, iridium and platinum) ☐ Rare earth elements (yttrium, lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium and lutetium) ☐ Other
At least 1 choice must be selected.

**How does your proposal align to the NSW Critical Minerals and High Tech Metals Strategy and support its core missions? What is the anticipated impact for the broader NSW critical minerals sector should this technology prove successful?** *

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

## Environmental, economic or social benefits to NSW

**Outline the broader environmental, economic or social benefits to NSW by supporting this technology or material and this application ?**

In your response, you may consider:

- Environmental, sustainability or circular economy outcomes of your proposal
- Sovereign and strategic outcomes for the security, safety or wellbeing of NSW and Australian communities
- Workforce, skills or training benefits
- Diversity and representation commitments
- Benefits to regional, rural or underserved NSW communities

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.
Assessment criterion 2 includes broader economic, environmental and/or social benefits to NSW.

## Alignment with broader government policies and strategies

**Explain how the project aligns with broader NSW Government strategies and priorities.**

Applicants may refer to relevant strategies such as:

- NSW Innovation Blueprint
- NSW Industry Policy
- NSW Trade and Investment Strategy
- NSW 20-Year R&D Roadmap.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

## Assessment Criterion 3: Deliverability

* indicates a required field

### Weighting 30%

Criterion 3 assesses the project plan and milestones, team capability, budget and risk

### Milestones and outputs

Provide a high-level milestone schedule for the Phase 1 project.

| Milestone number | Activity | Expected output or deliverable | Responsible organisation | TRL milestone (if relevant) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Must be a number. | | | | What TRL achieved by milestone |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

### Team capability

**Explain why the project team is well placed to deliver the project.**

In your response, include:

- key personnel and their roles
- relevant technical, research, industry or commercialisation expertise
- access to required facilities, equipment, partners or advisers
- any capability gaps and how they will be addressed.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 350 words.

### Partners and collaborators

**Are you applying as part of a consortium or with partners?** *
○ Yes
○ No

## Potential partnerships

**Expand on your position regarding partnerships and engagement with end-users and industry**

**In your response, consider:**

- how will you effectively explore the use-cases for your technology/material in Phase 1 without partners?
- how you would address finding partnerships to support piloting in NSW in Phase 2
- whether the proposal has a credible pathway to industry adoption or end-user validation.

*

## Partner and collaborator details

**List any project partners, industry partners, end users or collaborators.**

| Organisation name | Organisation type | NSW based? | Role in Phase 1 | Phase 1 cash contribution | Phase 1 in-kind contribution | Letter of support attached | Potential role in phase 2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | Must be a dollar amount. | Must be a dollar amount. | | |
| | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | |
| | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | |
| | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No | |

## Partner letters of support

**Partners to Phase 1 applications must provide a letter of support outlining their contribution to the project. Add as many letters as is required.**

**Please upload your letters of support from your partners here** *
Attach a file:

A minimum of 1 file must be attached.

## Partner and collaborator roles

**Describe how you will work with partners, collaborators, industry and/or end users.**

In your response, consider:

- how you will manage various stakeholders
- what each partner will contribute
- how partner involvement supports proof-of-concept activities
- how the partnerships may support piloting in NSW in Phase 2
- whether the proposal has a credible pathway to industry adoption or end-user validation.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.
Applicants must confirm that their application considers Phase 2 and has a proposal and partnerships that would allow the technology to be piloted in NSW if successful for Phase 2.]

## Budget

**Provide a high-level budget for the proposed Phase 1 project.**

## Budget income

| Income Type | Description and breakdown | Total |
|---|---|---|
| | | Must be a dollar amount. |
| Grant Amount | | |
| Partner Cash contribution | | |
| Partner in-kind contribution | | |
| Lead applicant cash contribution | | |
| Lead applicant in-kind contribution | | |
| | | |

## Budget totals

**Total Income Amount**

This number/amount is calculated.

## Budget expenditure

Please provide a breakdown of your planned grant expenditure over the activity period. Please provide adequate breakdown of costs as part of the expenditure description this could include costs per unit of equipment purchased, specific license fees or labour costs per hour.

If your application is successful, we may ask you to verify the project costs and request evidence of actual costs incurred such as supplier contracts, quotes, and invoices.

For expenditure include the following details in the budget table:

- **Expenditure type -** Identify the category of expenditure e.g. company personnel, expert or technical services, capital assets physical or digital (such as equipment or ICT) etc. Include as many as required to show the breakdown of costs and value for money relating to project activities.
- **Expenditure description** - Provide detail to justify the estimated cost i.e. hourly rate of personnel or experts, unit cost of equipment, travel rates for etc.
- **Total cost -** Total cost for the category to complete the pilot. Include grant funding and costs contributed by the company and other sources
- **NSW-based expenditure** - confirm the grant funding will be spent in NSW.

Be sure to review the Program Guidelines to ensure your costs are eligible.

| Expenditure type | Expenditure description | Total cost | NSW-based expenditure |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Enter the total amount to be expended on this budget item. Must be a dollar amount. | |
| | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No |
| | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No |
| | | | ❍ Yes ❍ No |

## Budget justification

**Explain why the proposed budget is reasonable and necessary to deliver the Phase 1 project.**

In your response, include:

- whether costs reflect market rates
- how the budget supports the proposed milestones
- any cash or in-kind contributions and how they will be used
- any expenditure proposed outside NSW and why it is necessary.

*

Word count:

Must be no more than 300 words.

## Risks and mitigations

**Identify the key risks to successful delivery and how they will be managed.**

| Risk | Risk type | Likelihood | Consequence | Mitigation or Control | Responsible person or org anisation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

# Assessment Criterion 4: Why CMPAMIP funding is needed

* indicates a required field

## Weighting 10%

Criterion 4 assesses why CMPAMIP funding is needed and the applicant's awareness of critical inputs needed for Phase 1 and potential Phase 2.

## Need for CMPAMIP funding

**Explain why CMPAMIP funding is needed for this project.**

In your response, consider:

- why sufficient funding cannot be accessed elsewhere
- why the project would not proceed at this scale in NSW without CMPAMIP support
- what would happen if CMPAMIP funding was not provided.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 300 words.

## Future investment or funding

**Describe when and how future private investment or other funding may be secured.**

In your response, consider:

- likely sources of future investment or funding
- the stage at which future investment may be sought
- how Phase 1 outcomes may support future investment or commercialisation.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

## Critical inputs for Phase 1

**Identify the critical inputs needed to meet the objectives of Phase 1.**

This may include:

- skills and expertise
- facilities or equipment
- materials or inputs
- technical advisers
- partner or end-user involvement
- testing or validation capability.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

## Likely inputs for Phase 2

**Describe the likely inputs that may be needed for a potential Phase 2 Catalyser / Demonstrator project.**

This may include:

- pilot site or operational environment
- industry or end-user partners
- scale-up expertise
- additional technical validation
- commercialisation capability
- investment or co-contribution requirements
- workforce, skills or training needs.

*

Word count:
Must be no more than 250 words.

## Reporting and Evaluation

* indicates a required field

**If successful, do you agree to provide progress reporting during the funding agreement term, including progress against milestones and outcomes, project expenses, risk management and participant contributions?** *
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

**If successful, do you agree to provide a final report and financial acquittal?** *
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

The final Phase 1 report will include activities undertaken, evaluation of technology performance and TRL progress, and engagement with industry and end-user partners. A complete financial acquittal is also required. The final report will be a component of a Phase 2 grant application

**If successful, do you agree to participate in any evaluation activities lead by the NSW Government?** *
- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Successful applicants are required to participate in evaluations after the project has commenced and for up to three years following the final grant payment

**Reporting and evaluation requirements are mandatory requirements of any grant funding provided by NSW Government.**

Should you be successful these requirements will be outlined in more detail in the funding agreement, and no grant funds will be paid without executing the funding agreement.

Consider if this program is right for you and if you have questions email the CMPAMIP program administrators at grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

## Declaration and Submission

* indicates a required field

### Applicant declaration

By ticking the box below, I declare that:

- I have read and understood the *CMPAMIP Phase 1 Program Guidelines*.
- The lead applicant organisation has approved this application.
- All details in this application are true and complete.
- The lead applicant owns the IP or has an exclusive licence to commercialise the IP in Australia and globally.
- The project has not previously received Commonwealth or State grant funding for the specific activities proposed in this application.
- All named partners and collaborators have agreed that this application accurately represents their role.
- I understand that submitting false or misleading information may result in this application being removed from the assessment process.
- I understand that this application and supporting documentation may be circulated to NSW Government agencies, external reviewers, the Assessment Panel, the Probity Advisor and other parties as required to assess, administer, monitor and evaluate the Program.
- I understand that relevant information about successful grants will be published on the NSW Government Grants and Funding Finder.
- I declare that the applicant has not lobbied the NSW Government in relation to this application in a way that may, or may be perceived to, give the applicant an unfair advantage.

**I Agree** *

○ Yes ○ No

**Project Lead Name** *

The individual leading the project and submitting the application

**Project Lead Organisation** *

**Project Lead Position Held** *

**Date of Declaration** *

Must be a date.

## Ineligible Response

By selecting no in the declaration, this application is not eligible to be considered for this program. The declaration covers key eligibility criteria for the program as well as standard grants administration requirements necessary for the delivery of the grants program.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the program administrators at grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au

## Ineligible Application

Your response indicate that you are not eligible for this grant program. Please review the Gudielines carefully and should you have any questions please contact in writing the program administrators at grants@chiefscientist.nsw.gov.au