

Ignite Initiative – Terms and Conditions

Chamber Connect | Tamworth Business Chamber

Last updated: January 2026

1. Program Overview

The Ignite Initiative (the Program) is delivered by the Tamworth Business Chamber (the Chamber) through Tamworth Chamber Connect. The Program is designed to support pre-launch entrepreneurs, emerging founders, and early-stage businesses through non-cash support, including mentorship, training, marketing assistance, networking, and access to Chamber resources.

The Ignite Initiative is not a cash grant or prize. All support is provided in-kind and coordinated by the Chamber.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible to apply and participate, applicants must:

- Be aged 18 years or over;
- Be a pre-launch entrepreneur, emerging founder, or early-stage business;
- Be based in, or intend to operate within, the Tamworth Regional Council Local Government Area;
- Demonstrate a genuine pathway toward a sustainable business operation within 6–12 months;
- Operate within an eligible industry and not engage in excluded activities, including gambling, vaping, adult entertainment, or activities inconsistent with Chamber values.

Holding an ABN at the time of application is not mandatory. However, successful participants may be required to obtain an ABN or formal business registration during the program where reasonably necessary to deliver program benefits.

The Chamber reserves the right to verify eligibility at any stage of the Program.

3. Application Process

Applications must be submitted via the official Ignite Initiative Application Form by the advertised closing date. Applications received after the closing date may not be considered.

Applicants acknowledge that:

- All information provided must be true and correct;
- Supporting materials, including video submissions, form part of the application;
- Submission of an application does not guarantee selection.

The Chamber may request additional information, interviews, or site visits as part of the assessment process.

4. Selection and Assessment

Applications are assessed by a Selection Panel comprising Chamber representatives, local business mentors, and independent community leaders.

All panel members are required to complete conflict-of-interest declarations prior to assessment.

Applications are assessed against published selection criteria, including business potential, community impact, commitment to growth, and alignment with Program objectives.

The Chamber's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding unsuccessful applications.

5. Program Inclusions

Successful participants may receive, subject to availability and compliance:

- Up to 12 months access to Chamber events (both free and ticketed);
- A dedicated marketing and promotional support budget (up to the advertised value), managed and approved by the Chamber;
- A complimentary 12-month Tamworth Business Chamber membership;
- Participation in Tamworth Chamber Connect;
- A structured 12-month mentorship program coordinated by the Chamber;

- Promotion through Chamber communication channels.

The estimated total value of inclusions is indicative only and not redeemable for cash or alternatives.

6. Use of Marketing Support Funds

Marketing and promotional support:

- Must be used solely for approved business-related purposes;
- Is subject to Chamber approval prior to expenditure;
- Cannot be used for political, religious, alcohol-related, personal, or unrelated expenses.

All allocated marketing support is subject to a use-it-or-lose-it condition and must be utilised within the 12-month program period. Unused support will lapse and return to the Chamber.

7. Participant Commitments

Successful participants agree to:

- Attend a minimum of 75% of Chamber events during the program period;
- Complete at least 10 hours of mentoring;
- Submit quarterly progress reports using Chamber-provided templates;
- Act professionally and respectfully in all Program activities;
- Support peer collaboration and shared learning;
- Acknowledge the Ignite Initiative and the Chamber in relevant marketing and communications;
- Comply with the Chamber's Code of Conduct and values;
- Confirm they have the capacity to meet Program time, attendance, and reporting commitments.

Failure to meet these commitments may result in benefits being paused, reviewed, or participation being terminated.

Failure to meet these commitments may result in review or termination of participation.

8. Branding, Media and Publicity

Participants agree that the Chamber may:

- Use participant names, business names, images, video, and general business descriptions for promotional, reporting, and media purposes;
- Share non-confidential program outcomes and success stories.

Any external use of the Chamber or Ignite Initiative branding by participants must receive prior written approval.

Participants may opt out of specific media use by providing written notice to the Chamber.

9. Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

Participants must respect the confidentiality of:

- Peer businesses;
- Mentors;
- Program discussions and shared materials.

Each participant retains ownership of their own intellectual property. Participation in the Program does not transfer ownership of business ideas, concepts, or materials to the Chamber.

Participation in the Program does not create an employment, partnership, agency, or joint venture relationship between participants, mentors, sponsors, or the Chamber.

10. Conflict of Interest

Participants must disclose any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise during the Program. The Chamber may implement reasonable measures to manage declared conflicts.

11. Data Privacy

The Chamber will collect and manage personal and business information in accordance with applicable privacy legislation.

Information will be:

- Used solely for program administration, reporting, and evaluation;
- Stored securely;
- Retained for no longer than 12 months following program completion, unless required by law.

Aggregated and anonymised data may be used to demonstrate program impact.

11. Withdrawal and Termination

Participants may withdraw from the Program by providing written notice to the Chamber.

The Chamber reserves the right to suspend or terminate participation where:

- Program commitments are not met;
- The Code of Conduct is breached;
- False or misleading information has been provided;
- Actions conflict with Chamber values or reputation.

Any unused benefits or support will be forfeited upon termination or withdrawal.

12. Program Changes

The Chamber reserves the right to:

- Amend program structure, inclusions, or timelines;
- Substitute mentors or delivery methods;
- Pause, vary, or cancel the Program where circumstances require.

Where practical, participants will be notified of material changes.

13. Force Majeure

The Chamber will not be liable for any delay, suspension, or cancellation of the Program due to events beyond its reasonable control, including but not limited to natural disasters, extreme weather events, public health orders, power outages, acts of government, or other unforeseen circumstances.

13. Liability and Disclaimer

The Ignite Initiative provides general business guidance, mentoring, and networking support only and does not constitute legal, financial, or professional advice. Participants are encouraged to seek independent professional advice where appropriate.

To the extent permitted by law, the Chamber is not liable for:

- Any loss, damage, or expense arising from participation in the Program;
- Business outcomes, profitability, or commercial success.

Participation is at the participant's own risk.

14. Sponsor Recognition

Participants acknowledge that the Ignite Initiative may be supported by sponsors and agree to reasonable sponsor recognition as part of Program communications.

15. Governing Law

These Terms and Conditions are governed by the laws of New South Wales, Australia.

16. Severability

If any provision of these Terms and Conditions is found to be invalid, unlawful, or unenforceable, that provision will be severed and the remaining provisions will continue in full force and effect.


17. Acceptance

By submitting an application and/or accepting participation in the Ignite Initiative, applicants acknowledge that they have read, understood, and agreed to these Terms and Conditions.

Contact

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