

Evaluation Open Grant Round: Frequently Asked Questions

The following FAQs will be updated throughout the EOI process, so please check regularly.

What is the total amount of funding that we can receive?

We expect the grant amount will be up to \$300,000 (ex. GST) over up to 3 years. This will include the costs of the experimental and non-experimental evaluation components (such as the cost of recruitment to ensure statistical power). It will also include the costs of disseminating the findings and methods of the evaluation to the wider Australian for-purpose sector.

Do I have to publish the results of the evaluation?

Yes; it is a condition of the grant that you will publish all your evaluation protocols and also make publicly available evaluation reports and other relevant material funded by the grant.

Can the grant money be used to fund the initiative or is it just for the evaluation of the initiative?

The grant money can **only be used for the design and delivery of the evaluation and dissemination of the learning from the evaluation** (this can include contracting a third-party evaluator and/or internal evaluation capability building). The delivery of the initiative must already have secure funding independently of the evaluation.

I don't know much about experimental evaluation; how can I tell if my initiative is amenable to this kind of evaluation?

The Arnold Ventures Foundation in the USA has been running a similar grant round for many years. Have a look at the [proposals it has funded](#) as examples of the initiatives we have in mind. The EOI application does not require detailed knowledge of evaluation and will not require a lot of your time so if in doubt, apply!

Apart from running the initiative and the evaluation of it, what else am I expected to do?

Grantees are expected to discuss their project with an evaluation steering committee at least annually, and to also meet at least annually with other grant recipients to share learning and approaches. Grantees may also be required to contribute to an overall learning document that captures what the rest of the sector may need to know about using experimental designs for social impact.

I am already a PRF grant partner; can I apply?

You can apply for this evaluation grant funding if you are a current PRF grant partner, but not to evaluate the initiative for which you received PRF funding.

I already have an evaluation budget for this initiative; can I add this grant to it?

You can add this PRF evaluation funding to other sources of evaluation funding, but the **total from all sources cannot exceed \$300,000 (ex. GST)**.

I don't yet have an evaluator, how do I find one that can do this type of evaluation?

You can do your own outreach to identify potential evaluators to either employ or contract; the [Australian Evaluation Society](#) has a list of evaluation experts which can be a good starting point. PRF also has a list of experts we can provide to you so that you can explore options for potential partners. Note that it is not a requirement to have an evaluator in place to submit your EOI – if you get to the Application stage, PRF can work with you to find one.

I don't know where I will get data from to evaluate my initiative, should I apply?

To submit an EOI you don't have to have a data plan for measuring your outcomes; at the EOI stage we just want to know that your outcomes are *measurable*. For EOIs that go to the Application stage we will provide support to identify relevant data sources, including connecting you with government agencies that can make available data they hold.

I am an evaluation consultant/firm – can I apply?

Only not-for-profit entities with a social impact mission or relevant charitable purposes can apply and receive this funding. If you are an evaluation consultant/firm we encourage you to identify registered charities/NFPs who you can partner with to support their application.

Can I use the money to build internal evaluation capability?

Funding does not need to flow to a third-party evaluator; you can use some or all of these funds to employ people with relevant skills and/or to develop the capabilities of existing staff.

I have received grant funding from another foundation; can I still apply?

Yes, provided you meet the requirements above.

What happens if I get to the application stage?

If your EOI successfully progresses to the application stage, you will be expected to work with an evaluation partner with relevant expertise to submit a more detailed application, unless you have a strong internal team that has the relevant expertise. If you don't have any contacts with such experts, PRF will work with you to link you to possible evaluation partners. If you can identify and work with an evaluation partner during the EOI process, we encourage you to do so; the [Australian Evaluation Society](#) has a list of evaluation experts which can be a good starting point

What happens if I think my initiative would be a good candidate, but my organisation does not have evaluation capabilities or links to an evaluation provider?

If you think your initiative would be a good candidate for this grant round based on the criteria for organisation and initiative eligibility outlined above, but you don't have a strong internal team that has the relevant expertise, or any contacts with such external evaluation experts, you should still submit your EOI. PRF will work with you to link you to possible evaluation partners.

My organisation is a social enterprise run by a charity/not for profit organisation. Can we apply?

Yes, you can. We recognise that social enterprises have various structures. Some social enterprises are registered charities, while others are run by for-profit corporations. As a charity, the Paul Ramsay Foundation (PRF) is required to ensure its grant funds are used for public benefit, not private benefit. This means, to be eligible for funding under this Open Grant Round, the relevant initiative must either be carried out by a charity or not-for-profit organisation.