

INDUSTRY PRIORITY PROJECTS

PROJECT GUIDELINES

Applicants should follow these instructions carefully in preparing their application.

1. APRIL

APRIL (Australasian Pork Research Institute Limited; ABN **25 113 703 174**) seeks to enhance the Australasian Pork Industry by investing in research and development, education and training, and commercialisation activities focused on priorities and deliverables that ensure the sustainability of Australasian pork production, and to generate optimal returns for its stakeholders.

2. APRIL INDUSTRY PRIORITY PROJECT RESEARCH GRANTS

APRIL is seeking applications that clearly address the challenges of, and provide solutions for, each Industry Priority Project (see 7., below). Applications in other areas will not be considered.

APRIL will seek to leverage its limited funds by strategically investing in an Industry Priority Project. APRIL wishes to be an active co-funder of these projects, and is seeking collaborations with other partners to co-invest with to address these key industry priorities.

There is no lower or upper limit on the monetary value, nor the timeframe, of an Industry Priority Project grant. However, APRIL does have limited funds to invest in a project, therefore there is an expectation that the size, scope and monetary value of an application is sufficient to suitably address the challenges that each Industry Priority Project presents.

APRIL does not fund any indirect cost recovery of projects costs.

Please note, final approval and funding of an Industry Priority Project may be subject to changes in the budget. This is at the sole discretion of APRIL.

3. ELIGIBILITY

APRIL Industry Priority Project grants are open and nationally competitive, hence open to any individual(s) from any organisation(s), and are open to all Australian universities.

4. APRIL REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for funding, an application **MUST**:

- Demonstrate direct relevance to the Industry Priority Project.
- Demonstrate clear pathways to solutions for the Industry Priority Project.
- Demonstrate partnerships with relevant end-users.
- Demonstrate that the research team has the relevant expertise to complete the project.
- Be able to provide evidence of external co-funding. APRIL expects a minimum external cash contribution of 25% of the total cost of the project; applications that can display a higher external cash contribution may be viewed more favourably.
- Provide a translation plan which describes how the research will be translated to practice.

Collaboration with one or more APRIL Members is actively encouraged.

What will NOT be considered for funding:

- An application that does not conform to the scope of the Industry Priority Project.
- An application that does not suitably address the selection criteria.
- An application that does not meet the minimum external cash contribution.
- An incomplete application.
- A late application.

5. SUBMISSION

An application along with the budget and milestones spreadsheet must be submitted using the Industry Priority Project application form by 5 pm, 1 October 2021, via email to: j.pluske@april.org.au.

6. APPLICATION PROCESS AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

An application for an Industry Priority Project is expected to demonstrate the following characteristics:

- A strong, robust and scientifically sound plan to address the challenges each Industry Priority Project presents.
- Evidence of co-funding (leverage) for overall support of the project.
- Evidence of partnerships that will inform the research and facilitate research into practice.
- Evidence of tertiary training activities (where appropriate).
- A translation plan to demonstrate the intent and capacity for the research outcomes.

All Industry Priority Project funding applications to APRIL will be assessed and evaluated by the APRIL R&D Advisory Committee, which has the collective expertise and experience to effectively evaluate applications against all selection criteria for this scheme.

Assessment criteria:

1. The quality of the science being proposed.
2. Soundness and logic of rationale and methodologies.
3. The relevance of partnerships, and appropriateness of the collaboration and engagement strategies.
4. Track record, multi-disciplinary composition and capability of research team. Performance and outputs from previously held research grants may be taken into consideration, where appropriate.
5. Appropriateness of the budget, and overall value for money in regard to the contribution of this research to the strategic directions and purposes of APRIL.
6. Ease of adoption of the project outcomes and their potential impact on the Australasian pork industry and APRIL Stakeholders.

Once applications are received, APRIL reserves the right to ask applicants to revise a proposal, or ask applicants to explore collaborations with other proposals.

APRIL Board approval

The APRIL R&D Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the APRIL Board regarding funding. The decision of the APRIL Board is final.

7. INDUSTRY PRIORITY PROJECT PRIORITIES

The following information is intended to guide potential applicants on APRIL's Industry Priority Projects. This information is for guidance only, and addressing one of these areas does not guarantee funding.

Priority Project	Key Deliverables and Objectives
Novel approaches to allow increased use of food wastes in pig diets.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish sustainable and cost-effective methods for recovery of energy and nutrients from human food waste streams. • Better application of manufacturing / additive technologies to generate and (or) conserve energy and nutrients from food waste streams. • Maintenance and (or) improvement in feed conversion efficiency. • Funding partnerships with other organisations.
Improved water quality and utilisation for use/re-use on-farm and in processing facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimise the quality of water as a delivery mechanism for water-soluble additives. • Assessment of water use and efficiency.
Development of real time monitoring and surveillance technologies under commercial conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More efficient feeding/management systems and (remote) monitoring of the environment, performance, feed consumption (and waste), and health and welfare of pigs. • Early detection of health and welfare challenges.
Establish pork as an integral part of a healthy lifestyle.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater awareness of the role of pork as a key food component in a healthy lifestyle.
Reducing variation in lifetime performance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish/validate new reproductive and (or) management technologies, strategies and nutrient requirements that reduce weight variability from birth to finish. • Improved feed conversion efficiency.
Heavier carcasses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optimising the value of carcasses from heavier pigs. • Establishing customer acceptance and value pathways for rind-off products, larger primals and export competitive pieces.

8. RESEARCHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Research providers, successfully being awarded projects, will be responsible for:

- Assembling expertise identified in the proposal from within or between organisations to deliver the research outcomes identified in the proposal.
- Securing access to required research facilities (laboratories, equipment, facility-funded facilities, other facilities, on-farm demonstration sites etc.) and the necessary approvals for the conduct of the research.
- Delivering the research outcomes within agreed budget and timeframe.
- Analysing and reporting all data generated in formal reports to APRIL using standard templates.
- Identifying potential IP and commercialisation opportunities likely to arise from the project.
- Disseminating key findings from the research in a variety of formats, subject to approval by APRIL.

If awarded, it will be a contractual requirement that all grants accord to the reporting requirements as per the APRIL Research Deed and (or) Project Details.