

Small Technologies Industry Uptake Program

Voucher program available for Victorian businesses wanting to explore the use of small technologies

The Small Technologies Industry Uptake Program (STIUP) is a program developed by the Victorian Government to help more Victorian businesses to make use of small technologies (micro and nanotechnologies).

The program will provide vouchers to successful applicants, which can be exchanged for access to small technologies facilities, goods, services, advice or expertise provided by participating service providers, up to a dedicated value.

Victorian businesses will have the opportunity to access Victoria's world-class small technologies-related infrastructure and skills, such as the Melbourne Centre for Nanofabrication, Australian Synchrotron, and MiniFAB, as well as institutions like CSIRO and universities, to explore opportunities to adopt small technologies.

The program will allow Victoria's innovative small technology companies to demonstrate and commercialise their goods and services.

What categories of vouchers are available?

Type of voucher	Activities	Value up to
Small Technologies Feasibility Voucher	Small fee-based services such as prior art searches, demonstration of coatings, preliminary testing, marketing studies, and consulting services.	\$10,000
Small Technologies Technical Voucher	Substantial micro or nanotechnology-based development activity such as assistance for small scale product prototyping, laboratory verification, field testing and fabrication of small technology demonstrators.	\$50,000
Small Technologies Trial Voucher	Prototype development, pilot scale trials or improvements to existing products or processes through the adoption or integration of small technologies.	\$250,000

Who is eligible?

Companies registered in Victoria or companies that carry out more than 50 per cent of their business activity in Victoria.

Is there matching funding required?

Companies are required to make a minimum 25 per cent matching contribution to the project, as follows:

- > if company turnover is less than \$1 million, a matching contribution can be all in-kind
- > if company turnover is between \$1 million and \$10 million, matching funds must be a minimum 10 per cent cash contribution and up to 15 per cent in-kind
- > if company turnover is greater than \$10 million, the 25 per cent matching must be in cash.

Who will administer the program?

The Small Technologies Cluster will administer, coordinate and facilitate the application process for both the Feasibility and Technical Vouchers.

The Victorian Government will manage and administer the Trial Vouchers and will set dates for each of the three funding rounds.

An expert advisory panel will be used to evaluate and rate each completed application.

Does the approved supplier need to be in Victoria?

Preference will be given to projects using service providers based in Victoria. Use of a voucher outside of Victoria will be considered on a case-by-case basis if there are valid reasons to gain access to specialised expertise or equipment outside of Victoria.

How do I become an approved supplier?

A standard form will need to be completed and submitted for approval to the Victorian Government.

How and when can I apply for a voucher?

The Feasibility and Technical Voucher applications opened on 28 September 2010 and will remain open for the duration of the program (through to June 2013). For general enquiries about the Feasibility and Technical Vouchers go to stc-melbourne.com or email stiup@stc-melbourne.com

For general enquiries about the Trial Vouchers contact the Manager Small Technologies Programs by email smalltechnologies@diird.vic.gov.au

For further information and to download application forms go to innovation.vic.gov.au/STIUP