Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

AusIndustry
R&D Tax Incentive

Upcoming changes to the R&DTI application form

Overview factsheet

From 5 July 2021 a new R&DTI portal will be launched where companies can complete and lodge their applications to register eligible R&D activities.

Following consultation with companies and stakeholders, the re-designed online registration form is more closely aligned with the legislation underpinning the R&DTI, and the questions have been made clearer.

What's changing

The new online registration form is structured a little differently to the current PDF form. Some questions have been rewritten and the help text has been updated to help companies understand the kind of information they need to provide.

The most significant changes are to questions about core and supporting R&D activities, which are presented in the table below. These have been restructured to help companies clearly demonstrate the eligibility of their R&D activities against the program criteria.

Current form questions	Changes to questions	What's changed?
Section: Core activities		
Core R&D activity title	Name for this core activity	**Change in language**
No equivalent	Which project is this core activity related to?	**New question** Formerly automatically added under project structure

Current form questions	Changes to questions	What's changed?
Section: Core activities		
No equivalent	Does this core activity commence after the end of your income period for this application?	**New question** If yes, applicant is asked to provide dates and briefly describe the intended hypothesis for this core activity This assists with prefilling data in applications in following years and allows supporting activities to be connected to future core activities
Start year of core activity End year of core activity	Enter the start and end dates for the core activity	**Change in language** Month and year required
This question is currently within 'Projects'	For your selected income period, what was the estimated expenditure for this core activity?	**Change in location** Requires estimated expenditure at core activity level
No equivalent	What was the hypothesis? What was the experiment and how did it test the hypothesis?	**New questions**
Describe the new knowledge intended to be produced by the core activities (i.e. experiments) in this project. Explain how it is different from current knowledge	Did you conduct this core activity for the substantial purpose of generating new knowledge?	**Change in structure** Formerly one question; now aligns more closely to the legislation
	What new knowledge was this core activity intended to produce?	**Change in structure** Appears if applicant answers yes to previous question
No equivalent	How did you evaluate or plan to evaluate results from your experiment?	**New question**
No equivalent	If you reached conclusions from your experiments in the selected income period, describe those conclusions	**New question**
Explain how the outcome of the core activities in the project could not have been known or determined in advance on the basis of current knowledge, information or experience	How did the company determine that the outcome could not be known in advance? Please explain what sources were investigated, what information was found, and why a competent professional could not have known or determined the outcome in advance	**Change in structure** Formerly one question; now split in two

Current form questions	Changes to questions	What's changed?
Section: Core activities		
No equivalent	Please explain why the company did not search existing knowledge	**New question** Appears if applicant indicates they did not look into existing knowledge
No equivalent	What evidence did the company keep about this core activity?	**New question**

Note: In both the core activities and supporting activities sections, questions relating to collaboration with Research Service Providers and Cooperative Research Centres are now asked within the individual activities rather than at the project level.

Section: Supporting activities		
Supporting R&D activity title	Name for this supporting activity	**Change in language**
Describe the supporting activity carried out in the income year covered by this application. Explain how the activity contributed to supporting (or will support) core activities	Briefly describe this supporting activity How did this activity directly support the core activities?	**Change in structure** Formerly one question; now split in two
Relationship to the core R&D activity	Which core activities are supported by this supporting activity?	**New question** Formerly automatically added under project structure. Can now add to more than one core activity Can now also link supporting activities to multiple core activities
Start year of supporting activity End year of supporting activity	When was this supporting activity conducted?	**Change in language**
This question is currently within 'Projects'	For the selected income period, what was the estimated expenditure for this supporting activity?	**Change in location** Requires estimated expenditure at supporting activity level
No equivalent	Did this activity produce a good or a service, or is it directly related to producing a good or a service?	**New question**

For further information on the R&DTI, visit www.business.gov.au/RDTI or contact us at: RDTI.Engagement@industry.gov.au