

Changes to the *Grant Guidelines for the Linkage Program: Linkage Projects for funding applied for in 2019*

Note: this list contains the major changes to the guidelines since last year, and is not to be taken as exhaustive. Please consult the *Grant Guidelines* or contact your research office for further clarification.

- The format and content of the guidelines has changed in line with the move to the whole of government grant guidelines template. This includes the use of standard terms such as ‘grant opportunity’ (rather than scheme round), ‘grant funds’ (rather than Project funding) and ‘application’ (rather than Proposal).
- The Linkage Program Guidelines have been divided into separate documents for each scheme. These *Grant Guidelines* only apply to Linkage Projects applications.
- There have been some minor changes to the Objectives (4.8) and Assessment Criteria (8.3) to ensure clarity and consistency.
- ‘Emeritus Appointment’ has been changed to ‘Honorary academic appointment’ (at 6.27) with no change to the definition from last year.
- There has been a slight amendment to the way project limits are checked for Linkage Projects. Only Linkage Projects applications will be counted, rather than all Linkage Program applications. This change is to recognise that other Linkage Program applications do not need to meet limits until announcement.
- There has been a new clause added at 9.3 to identify that Linkage Projects application may be re-submitted in the same round, due to the continuous nature of assessment.
- **National Interest Test** - On 31 October 2018, the Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Education, announced a ‘National Interest Test’ would be introduced for applications for funding under the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP) and that the new requirement would apply to all future grant rounds yet to open. The details of this new element have been included in the Linkage Program: Linkage Projects processes on page 4, as well as in an additional section titled ‘National interest test’ at 10.16. It is also referenced under ‘Who will approve grants?’ at 10.25. A definition of ‘national interest’ has been included in the Glossary at page 45.

There have been no other changes to the policy intent of the ARC Linkage Projects since the previous selection round and Funding Rules.