

Incolink Industry Investment

(Industry Training Funding - Principles & Criteria)

Principles

1. Maintaining a vibrant industry ably supported by a skilled workforce is of paramount importance and a priority for Incolink industry investment endeavours.
2. Incolink is committed to the building and construction industry and will support initiatives, whether industry initiated or otherwise, that underpin the future of the industry, particularly those that advances Principle 1.
3. Incolink will seek to partner with likeminded organisations to pool resources to ensure cost effective, quality and measurable industry investment in skills training initiatives.
4. Incolink will provide direct investment via grant funding for projects it considers will achieve Principles 1 and 3 above.
5. Incolink's industry investments are subject to:
 - a) Ensuring that each grant must achieve value with Members' money¹. This is done by considering (both from Incolink's as well as prospective grantees' perspective) and promoting proper² use and management of Members' funds including: active risk identification and management to minimize potential adverse impacts and waste of Members' funds while maximizing benefits; ongoing monitoring, engagement and management of grants³.
 - b) Solid governance structures and clear accountability for all parties involved⁴.
 - c) Probity⁵ and Transparency⁶ standards.

¹ A fundamental appraisal criterion is that a grant should add value by achieving something worthwhile that would not occur without the grant.

² Proper means efficient, effective, economical and ethical

³ Includes appropriate reporting and evaluation of grants so that Members' funds are appropriately applied by grantees

⁴ Parties must demonstrate that they have a robust governance framework, which clearly defines the roles and responsibilities of the responsible individuals within the organization. This will facilitate accountability, which requires individuals and organisations (Incolink and grantees) to be answerable for their plans, decisions, actions and results.

⁵ Probity relates to ethical behaviour. This involves applying and complying with values and duties such as honesty, integrity, impartiality and accountability.

⁶ Transparency refers to the preparedness of those involved to be open to scrutiny about grants, which includes: for example, proper reporting by grantees of the projects and proper reporting by Incolink of the grant administration processes.

Criteria

1. Industry investment funding is at Incolink's absolute discretion.
2. Incolink will only invest when there are surplus funds available and subject always to maintaining an aggregate member liability funding coverage and Incolink Board's funding allocation policy as amended.
3. Funding is only available to approved reputable industry based training providers that deliver training for participants of the Victorian commercial building and construction industry (Industry).
4. Subject to 2, Incolink may reasonably consider any additional training investment opportunities as they arise and where there are identified and proven industry needs, which will advance Principles 1 and 2.
5. Applicants must provide access to their training for all members of Incolink.
6. Applicants must demonstrate the need for the training (courses) for which funding is applied that cannot be met by the Applicant alone or that may not be adequately met through the functions of other bodies such as Government.
7. Applicants must demonstrate that appropriate full or partial funding is not available elsewhere AND THAT the costs of the initiative(s) is reasonable given the benefits to be delivered.
8. Applicants must demonstrate ability to achieve measurable benefit/impact to the Industry from the training.
9. Subject to Criteria 3 Applicants must be certified as a Registered Training Organisation and currently registered with either ASQA⁷ or VRQA⁸.
10. Applicants must be effectively governed and demonstrate capacity to manage the training.
11. All training must meet the minimum requirements of ASQA or VRQA.

⁷ Australian Skills Quality Authority

⁸ Victorian Registration & Qualifications Authority

12. Applicants must always comply with relevant Commonwealth, State and Territory legislation and regulations.
13. Applicants must demonstrate best efforts in achieving viable and economically sustainable training programs and where possible but without compromising the objective and quality of the relevant programs, without requiring ongoing funding from Incolink.
14. Applicants must acknowledge Incolink funding in its publications.
15. Applicants must participate in Incolink initiated surveys, studies, reviews and publications.
16. Current eligible applicants are:
 - Plumbing Joint Training Fund (Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre);
 - MBAV (The Master Builders Association of Victoria); and
 - CFMEU (CFMEU Education & Training Unit)