



中国科学院昆士兰州生物技术合作计划
Queensland-Chinese Academy of Sciences (QCAS)
Biotechnology Fund 2010-11

Application Guidelines

项目指南

(2010-2011 年度)

Overview

The Queensland-Chinese Academy of Sciences (QCAS) Biotechnology Fund (the fund) is a joint initiative of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Queensland Government. The fund will assist Chinese and Queensland researchers and companies to jointly undertake highly innovative research and development projects.

The fund will be jointly administered by the Queensland Government through the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) and the Chinese Academy of Sciences through the Bureau of Life Science & Biotechnology and the Bureau of International Cooperation.

The fund objectives are to:

- increase the number of, and strengthen, collaborations between Queensland and CAS researchers and institutes to foster the exchange of ideas, information, skills, techniques and knowledge
- enable Queensland and Chinese researchers to conduct mutually beneficial projects that deliver economic, social and/or environmental benefits to Queensland and China by developing new or improved products, processes or systems that have the potential to be commercialised or have public good applications within the identified priority areas
- raise the national and international research profile of Queensland and China and build a critical mass of internationally recognised and competitive research, development and innovation networks.

Available funding

- For Queensland, grants of up to A\$250,000 (excluding GST) over a maximum of three years are available for approved projects with the requirement that the Queensland-based applicant provides a minimum of \$50,000 in cash funding to the project
- For CAS, grants of up to RMB 1,500,000 (including tax) over a maximum of three years are available for approved projects with the requirement that the CAS-affiliated applicant provides a minimum of RMB 500,000 in cash to the project.
- A maximum of three recipients will be awarded for this round.
- Payment of grants will be made based on agreed periodic project milestones. A final milestone payment will be made upon the provision of documentary evidence that all project requirements have been satisfied, including evidence that total project expenditure has been incurred and project contributions made by all relevant parties.
- Only eligible expenditure incurred on or after the project commencement date can be claimed by successful applicants.
- Queensland Government will provide and administer funding to the Queensland lead applicant and the Chinese Academy of Sciences will provide and administer funding to the Chinese lead applicant.

Eligibility

To be considered, the collaborating organisations and the proposed project must create and/or enhance a research alliance between Queensland and China for the benefit of Queensland and China. In doing so, the project application must meet the eligibility criteria below:

- focus on one of the following four priorities:
 - Medical Biotechnology
 - Agricultural Biotechnology
 - Industrial Biotechnology (including bionenergy); and
 - Biodiversity conservation (climate change, water quality).
- have a lead applicant that will be CAS-affiliated for the duration of the project, and is a separate entity to the lead Australia-based applicant i.e. not a subsidiary or parent
- have a lead applicant that will be Queensland-based for the duration of the project, has an Australian Business Number, is registered for GST and is a separate entity to the lead China-based applicant i.e. not a subsidiary or parent
- involve a research organisation in CAS and a research organisation funded by the Queensland Government(DEEDI)
- eligible research partners based in Queensland include, but are not limited to:
 - universities
 - research institutes
 - industry organisations and/or private sector firms
 - public not-for-profit organisations
 - Cooperative Research Centres or Australian Research Council Centres of Excellence (proposed or existing)
 - Queensland Government agencies and other Australian Government agencies active in Queensland
- have a cash contribution from the Queensland-based applicant of at least A\$50,000

- have a cash contribution from the CAS-affiliated lead applicant of at least RMB 500,000.

The application is ineligible if:

- the project is not a distinct activity/set of activities with specified start and end points, and aims and outcomes that are achievable within these specified points
- the lead Queensland-based applicant (and/or Queensland partners) receive Queensland Government support for their core activities and it cannot be demonstrated that the proposed project is an addition to those core activities
- the lead CAS-affiliated applicant receive CAS support for their core activities and it cannot be demonstrated that the proposed project is an addition to those core activities
- the activities carried out by partner organisation(s) are contract research and development activities, and do not involve genuine collaboration with the applicant organisation.

Assessment

The Queensland Government and the Chinese Academy of Sciences are seeking applications for leading edge projects that have progressed well beyond the concept stage. Applications will be assessed against the following three criteria, with each being weighted equally.

Scientific merit / innovation

- The research and development is relevant and significant on a national and/or international level.
- The project will develop new or improved products, processes and/or systems.
- The likelihood of the achievement of an innovative outcome within the projected timeframe.

To demonstrate this, applicants are required to provide details on the research and development to be undertaken and demonstrate the uniqueness and importance of the project, specifically:

- the challenges to be addressed by the project and how these relate to the existing state of knowledge internationally
- the project goals, proposed methodologies and proposed work-program and how these approaches are feasible given the available funding, facilities and other resources, and timeframe
- how the project will significantly advance knowledge in the field
- the extent to which the project will foster ongoing mutually beneficial collaboration with international partner(s).

Collaboration / capability to deliver the project

- Research partners with leading-edge and complementary areas of expertise will work together on a specific project to achieve an outcome that benefits both Queensland and China.
- The partners have the scientific, technical and management expertise, and access to infrastructure and funding, required to successfully deliver the project.

To demonstrate this, applicants are required to explain:

- the leading-edge and complementary research capabilities, specialised knowledge, expertise and access to key facilities and equipment of the Queensland-based and China-based partners and the importance of each partner to the successful outcome of the project
- strategies for managing the proposed project, including working relationships
- the proposed IP management plan, if applicable, for the project.

Project Outcomes

- The project is likely to build upon a competitive advantage for Queensland and China.
- The project is likely to deliver economic, social, and/or environmental benefits for Queensland and China.
- The project will result in a commercial return and/or public good for Queensland and China.

To demonstrate this, applicants are required to explain how commercialisation or public good will be achieved and if possible, outline quantifiable benefits and impacts. Qualitative descriptions of impacts and benefits should be a systematic process of expected project costs and benefits. Where possible these qualitative arguments should be supported through authoritative studies or data sources.

Project activities

Eligible costs

Funding may be used for the following eligible project costs:

- project consumables
- salary costs for key project staff

Items not eligible for funding include:

- the direct cost of physical infrastructure including any buildings, land transportation, telecommunications and IT networks
- operational overheads
- costs associated with the on-going programs of work and/or core business of the applicant or partner organisation(s).

Queensland Government funding either must be expended wholly in Queensland, or if partly expended in the partnering jurisdiction, must directly support the Queensland research proponent (for example to cover costs to access specialised research equipment not available in Queensland).

CAS funding either must be expended wholly in China, or if partly expended in the partnering jurisdiction, must directly support the CAS research proponent (for example to cover costs to access specialised research equipment not available in China).

Communication

Recipients will be required to participate in public engagement activities that engage the public with the economic, social, and/or environmental implications of the research.

Activities may include engaging the public through various forms of media communication, school visits and public events.

Applications

The application form (for Queensland applicants only) is available on the Queensland Government website at www.industry.qld.gov.au/smartfuturesfund.

The application form (for CAS applicants only) is available on the CAS website at: <http://english.bic.cas.cn/>

Queensland-based lead applicants should complete the Queensland Government application and China-based lead applicants should complete the Chinese Academy of Sciences application, with identical/corresponding content, as appropriate.

Applications---for CAS applicants only

Your application must contain:

- the CAS application – fully completed and signed
- a letter of support from any CAS-based partners

Applications must be received by on **31 March 2010**.

Applications may be mailed, couriered, or hand delivered in two separate copies to:

Division of Industrial Biotechnology
Bureau of Life Science and Biotechnology
Chinese Academy of Sciences
52 Sanlihe Road, Beijing 100864
(100864 北京市三里河路 52 号
中国科学院生命科学与生物技术局
工业生物技术处)

Division of Americas & Oceania
Bureau of International Cooperation
Chinese Academy of Sciences
52 Sanlihe Road, Beijing 100864
(100864 北京市三里河路 52 号
中国科学院国际合作局
美大处)

The application must be submitted in a sealed envelope/package addressed as outlined above and endorsed with the following details:

- 中国科学院-昆士兰州生物技术合作计划 (2010/11)
- 申请人姓名

- 申请人地址
- 申请人电话
- 项目名称

If multiple applications are being submitted, each application must be lodged individually in line with the instructions above, that is, do not combine applications in one envelope/package.

Assessment and approval process

Applications will be assessed on their strategic merit in comparison with other applications in the round. The applications may be subject to a range of assessments, including evaluation by a **joint selection panel** comprising experts and representatives from Queensland and China and appropriate due diligence, commensurate with the nature of the project and the level of funding sought.

During the assessment process Queensland Government may seek further information from Queensland-based lead applicants to verify research activities, specific details in the application and supporting documentation. Applicants may also be required to attend an interview. Milestone schedules may also be reviewed during the assessment process to facilitate execution of financial incentive agreements for approved applications.

There is no implicit guarantee of approval at any stage in the process.

Applicants will be notified in writing of the outcome of their application.

Contract of Collaborative Project under QCAS Biotechnology Fund (中国科学院与昆士兰州生物技术合作计划项目任务书)

If your application is successful, you will receive an offer of financial assistance issued jointly by the Bureau of Life Science & Biotechnology and the Bureau of International Cooperation. If you accept this offer, you will be required to complete, submit and sign a Contract of Collaborative Project in Chinese within 30 days of receipt of the offer, or the offer will lapse.

The Contract should specify all the terms and conditions of the grant. This will include a requirement for recipients to report on performance indicators which illustrate how the project has met the aims and objectives of the fund.

Once signed by all parties concerned, the Contract becomes legally binding.

Further information

Further information on the QCAS Biotechnology Fund application process can be obtained from:

Chinese Academy of Sciences

Bureau of International Cooperation

Telephone: +86 10 6859 7232

Email: fengkai@cashq.ac.cn

Website: <http://english.bic.cas.cn/>

Bureau of Life Science and Biotechnology

Telephone: +86 10 6859 7506

Email: yujie@cashq.ac.cn

Queensland Government

International Collaborations Unit

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

R&D branch

Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation

Website: www.industry.qld.gov.au/smartfuturesfund