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ACDICT
Success factors in ALTC grant applications

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Assessment and decision-making processes

- All project proposals are grouped according to the priority area which they address.

- Project proposals are assessed on the program criteria and:
  — the quality of the design
  — value for money
  — the importance of the outcomes proposed in the context of the ALTC's mission, objectives and responsibilities; and
  — the capacity of the project team to deliver the outcomes proposed.

- At least two assessors review each application within these groupings, rating them on a scale from 1 to 5 (where 5 is the highest.
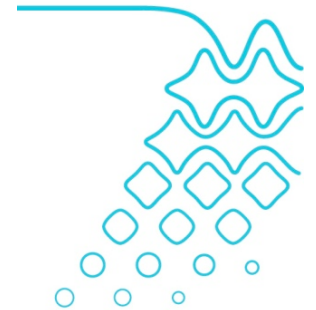
Assessment and decision-making processes

- Applications within the lowest range, and those with significant variations in their assessment, are reviewed by a second pair of assessors to confirm a final rating. Assessors meet to discuss their evaluations and make joint recommendations.

- Assessments form the basis of recommendations to a Standing Committee of the ALTC Board: an Assessment Report summarizing the assessment process and the assessors' comments are provided to the Standing Committee. The Assessment Report is published on the ALTC website after notifications have been made to successful and unsuccessful applicants.

- The relevant Standing Committee reviews project proposals, assessors' recommendations, and makes the final funding decisions.

Grants Criteria

1. Project Outcomes and Rationale

2. Approach

3. Value/Need for Project

4. Project Management

5. Budget

Other issues to address:

— technical design specifications

— the qualifications and experience of the project leader(s) and project team

— rationale for single institution projects

Assessment reports — general comments

- The weaknesses identified in applications included:

  — Poor budget justifications

  — Lack of clear evaluation plans, particularly in engaging stakeholders

  — A lack of detail about:

    - how outcomes would be achieved;

    - how collaborating partners would work together and what these roles would be;

    - how large project teams would be led and managed to ensure outcomes were achieved and focus was maintained; and

    - how the proposed outcomes have wide applicability.

  — A lack of engagement with key ideas and theoretical concepts

  — Poor understanding of dissemination

Grant statistics — Competitive, Leadership, Priority

Applications by EOI & proposal

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2005–09
Applications	64	290	213	259	331	1157
EOIs		224	158	172	241	795
Proposals		66	55	87	90	298

Success rate

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2005–09
Applications	64	290	213	259	331	1157
Funded	6	47	41	56	51	201
%	9%	16%	19%	22%	15%	17%

Grants Scheme statistics — success rates

Competitive Grants Program

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2005–09
Applications	n/a	156	154	88	149	547
Funded		19	29	17	19	84
%		12%	19%	19%	13%	15%
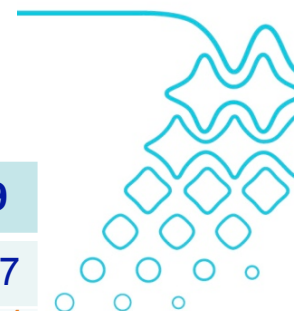
Leadership Program

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2005–09
Applications	31	63	25	46	38	203
Funded	2	17	3	17	13	52
%	6%	27%	12%	37%	34%	26%

Priority Projects Program

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2005–09
Applications	33*	71	34	125	144	407
Funded	4	11	11	22	19	67
%	12%	15%	32%	18%	13%	17%

Useful resources

- How to Apply — http://www.altc.edu.au/grants-how-to-apply

- http://www.altc.edu.au/managing-your-project

- Evaluating Projects — http://www.altc.edu.au/extras/altc-gsep/index.html

- ALTC Dissemination Framework — http://www.altc.edu.au/resource-dissemination-framework-altc-2008

- Strategies for effective dissemination of project outcomes (2005) — http://www.altc.edu.au/resource-strategies-dissemination-uq-2005

- Dissemination, Adoption & Adaptation of Project Innovations in Higher Education (2005) — http://www.altc.edu.au/resource-dissemination-adoption-uts-2005

- Assessment reports on previous funding rounds

- Program guidelines and summaries

- What's happening in Leadership, Science, etc.

Thank you

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