



Australia's Economic Accelerator – Ignite and Innovate Webinar

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Research Division

Agenda



Overview: Australia's Economic Accelerator

- **Competitive grant program** designed to bridge the gap between basic research and commercialisation
- Grants **used for translation and commercialisation activities** to demonstrate proof-of-concept, validate research in a laboratory or real-world environment, proof-of-scale, and develop and test prototypes
- Activities in scope correspond to Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 3-7
- **Stage-gated model**: AEA program consists of Seed (pilot) and Ignite (TRL 3-5) and AEA Innovate (TRL 5-7) competitive grants
- **Stage 3** vehicle through the CSIRO Innovation Fund - Main Sequence Ventures. Note: this is **not** a formal part of AEA with no automatic transfer between AEA grants and Main Sequence Ventures

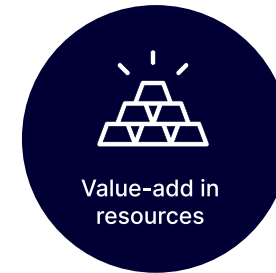
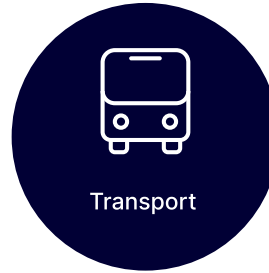
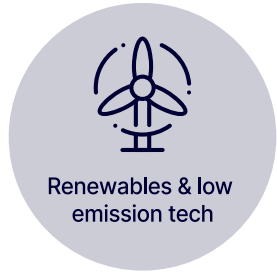


AEA – Ignite and Innovate

	Ignite	Innovate
Rounds in 2024	2	1
Timetable	Applications open for 6 weeks	EOIs open for 6 weeks Applications open for 6 weeks
Table A and Table B Universities can apply	✓	✓
University Colleges can apply	✓	✓
Maximum grant amount	Up to \$500,000	Up to \$5 million
Maximum project duration	12 months	24 months
Engagement with industry partner/s	Preferred	Mandatory
Minimum applicant (Lead Organisation) contribution	10%	50%
Technology Readiness Level	3-5 (Proof-of-concept)	5-7 (Proof-of-scale)

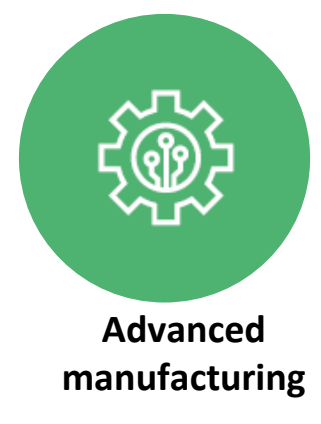
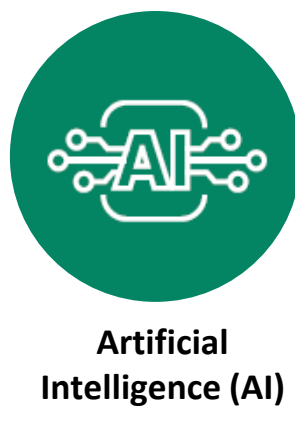
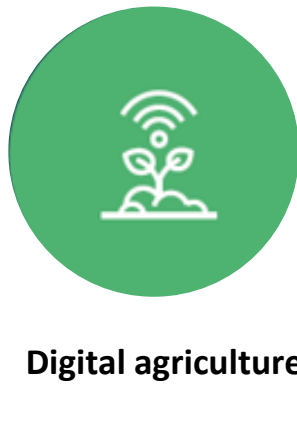
AEA Investment Strategy

AEA grants support the Australian Government identified priority areas for the economy, outlined in the National Reconstruction Fund Corporation (Priority Areas) Declaration 2023.



Focus Areas*

Within these priorities, the first round of grants will prioritise projects that align with one or more of the following focus areas:



*Eligible applications for projects that do not focus on these 6 technology areas but are within the 7 government identified priority areas for the economy will still be considered.

AEA industry problem statements

Problem statements articulate tangible problems faced by industry where there is an opportunity for AEA investment to deliver a solution and a pathway to real-world impact

- ✓ Complement AEA focus areas
- ✓ Guidance to researchers in identifying applications and partners
- ✓ Mechanisms to increase linkages between researchers and end-users (Australian Universities Accord)

Industry problem	Opportunity	Impact
The storage, transport and handling of hydrogen requires infrastructural renewal, components and novel inter-operability solutions	Pioneer commercially viable systems to safely store, transport and handle renewable hydrogen at scale	Improve the commercial viability of renewable hydrogen to accelerate scaleup
Complex and personalised therapeutics require higher speed and output production methods to scale up and become affordable	Develop innovations that support high-throughput methods to produce higher volumes of diverse pharmaceutical products	Expand availability of novel therapeutics and medicines across Australia and support the development of domestic pharmaceuticals manufacturing

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AEA Ignite – Selection criteria



Eligibility Criteria

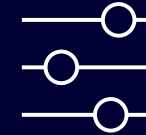
Table A and B
Universities or
university colleges



Funding requests
between \$50,000
to \$500,000 per
project



Project period
from 3 months up
to 12 months only



Project must
currently be at
technology
readiness level
(TRL) 3 - 5



Projects to have
strong industry
engagement,
preferably
investment



Be aligned with at
least one
Government
priority area
+ one of 6 focus
areas*



Nominate one
lead entrepreneur
with a 0.5FT
commitment for
the project

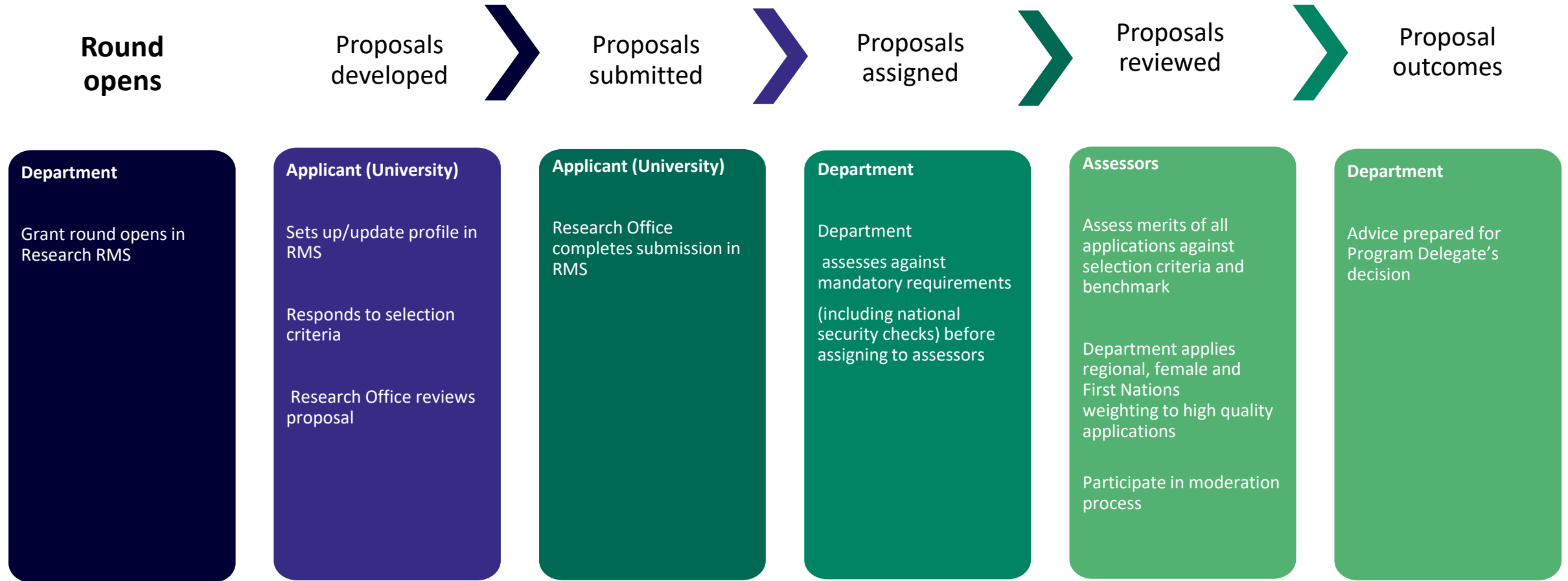


Identify and
mitigate all actual
and perceive
conflicts of interest

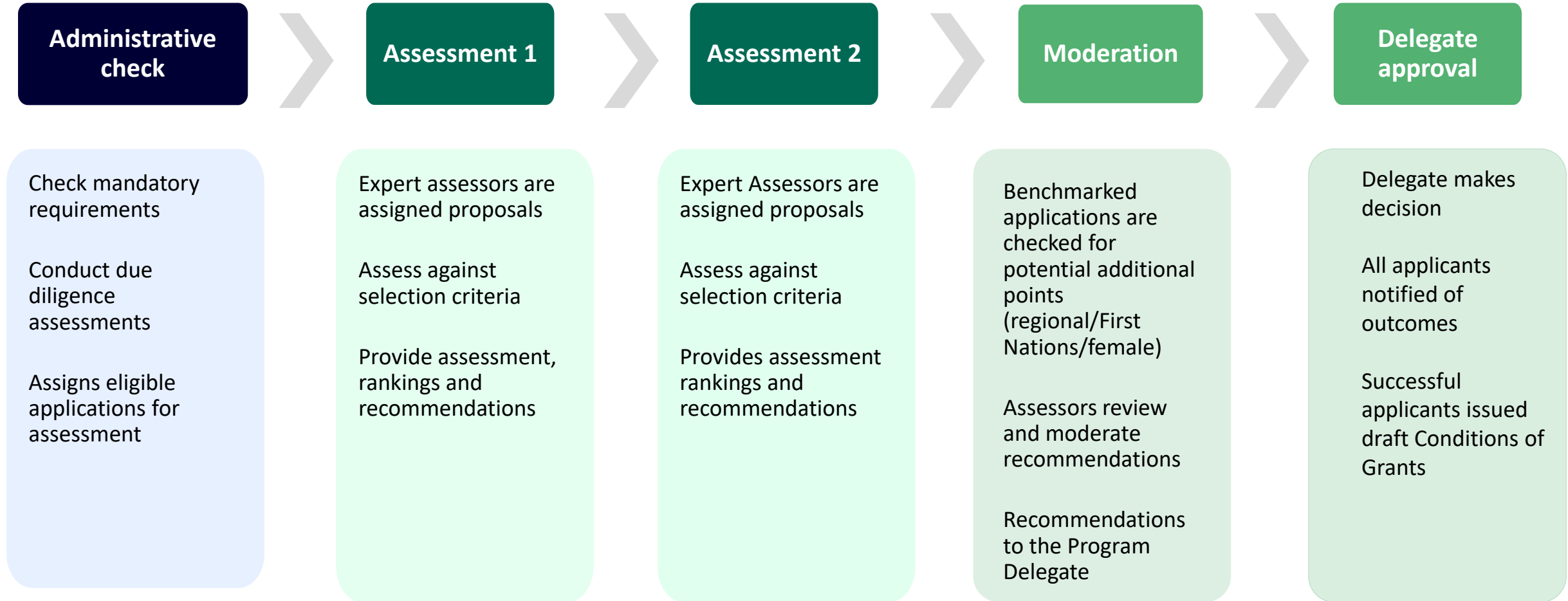


Applicants to
make a minimum
contribution of 10
per cent of total
budget

AEA Ignite – End to end process



AEA Ignite – Assessment process



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AEA Innovate – Eligibility Criteria



Must submit an EOI prior to full application



Requests up to \$5 Million per project



Project period up to 24 months only



Table A & B Universities and University Colleges



Projects must demonstrate engagement with industry partner organisation



Be aligned with at least one government identified priority area



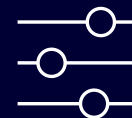
Nominate one lead entrepreneur engaged by the lead organisation



Demonstrate all actual and perceived conflicts of interest are disclosed, and steps taken to address and resolve conflicts



Applicants to make a minimum contribution of 50 per cent of total budget

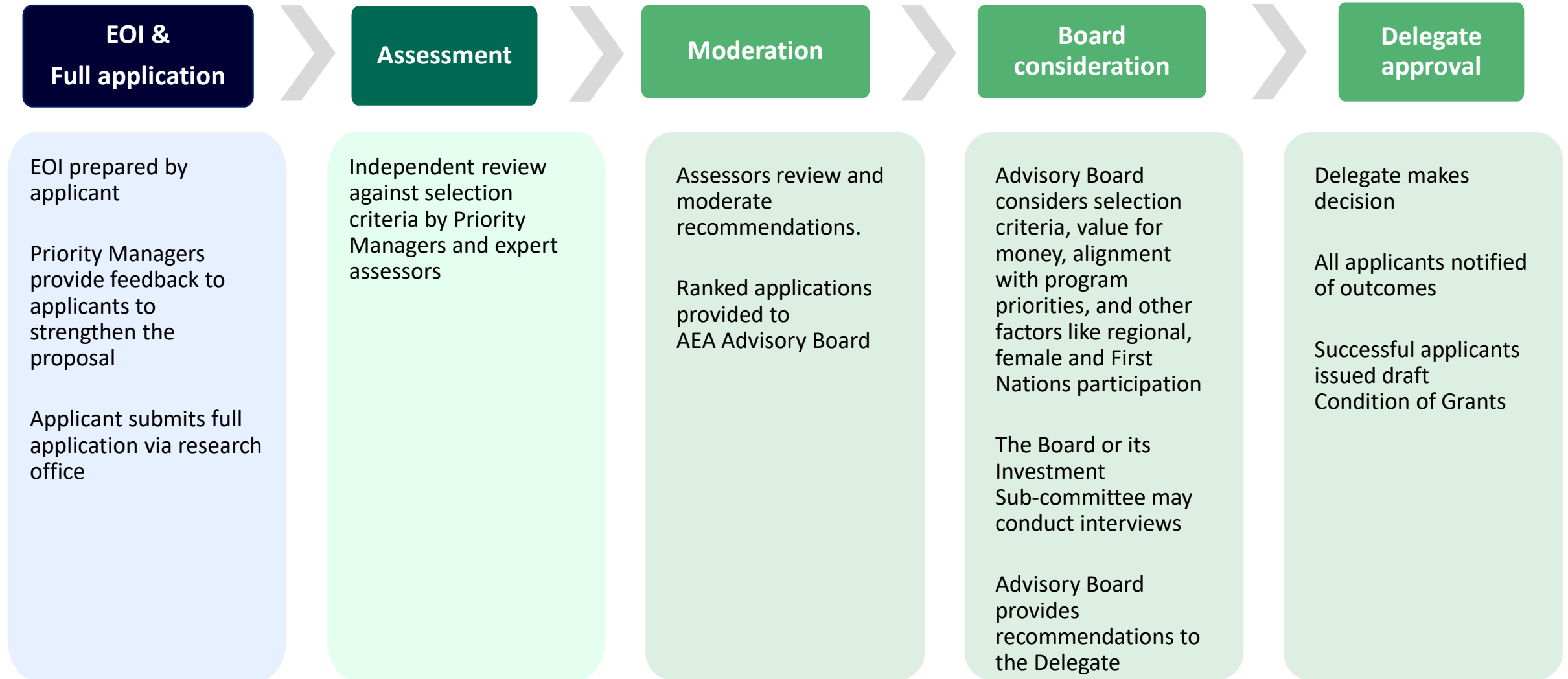


Project must currently be at technology readiness level (TRL) 5 - 7

AEA Innovate– End to End Process



AEA Innovate – Assessment process



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Australian Government



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ECONOMIC
ACCELERATOR**