SPRINTS
FAQs

What is the objective of SPRINTS?

The objective of the SPRINTS program is to support Australian micro enterprises and Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) on their digital transformation by providing practical, project-based assistance to commercialise novel digital products or services that will advance manufacturing.

How does SPRINTS work?

The program is split over two stages. The first stage, namely the Expression of Interest (EOI), is an open call-out to micro enterprises and SMEs to apply for the program. Following receipt of written expressions of interest, ARM Hub will shortlist ten applicants to undertake an assessment and pitch to ultimately select two businesses. These two businesses will progress to the second stage – Project Award.

Each successful business will be provided with direct support by ARM Hub staff and experts over a 6-month project lifespan. This support will be provided in the form of project services and capability, to the value of up to $25,000 including:

- proof-of-concept,
- prototyping,
- technology review,
- pre RFQ,
- supply chain engagement,
- membership and profile building,
- grant funding support (if applicable) for business and technology growth.

EOI Stage Timeframe
Project Award Stage timeframe:

STAGE 1
- EOI Closed (9 January 2022)
- Internal Assessment (9- 14 January 2022) - preliminary shortlisting
- Digital Advisors Assess Applications (14 - 23 January 2022)
- Successful & unsuccessful applicants notified (24 January 2022)

STAGE 2
– Assessment open (10 applicants) (24 January 2022)

STAGE 2
- Assessment close (18 February 2022)
- Assessment presentations (21 & 22 February 2022)
- Awarded Applicants Announced (28 February 2022)

Is the SPRINTS program competitive?

Yes, applications for the EOI stage are assessed against the SPRINTS assessment criteria. The assessment criteria are listed in the [SPRINTS guidelines](#).

Who will assess the SPRINTS EOI applications?

ARM Hub will assess whether the application meets the SPRINTS eligibility criteria. Assessment against the selection criteria will be undertaken by a panel of industry experts for both the EOI and Project Award stages.

What grant amounts are available?

The SPRINTS program provides services for two eligible businesses. Each project has a total value of $50,000, to be comprised of $25,000 cash contribution provided by the industry applicant, and $25,000 of in-kind contribution provided by ARM Hub.

Are in-kind contributions eligible for matched funding?

No. ARM Hub is providing the in-kind contribution for the project. Each applicant organisation must have $25,000 in cash to be eligible for the funding.

Can I submit a late application?

No. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Can I amend my application after the submission date?

No. However, if your situation changes during the submission review period, you must make a reasonable effort to notify the ARM Hub, as this could affect your eligibility.

Can I submit more than one Expression of Interest application?

No. You cannot submit more than one application. This includes applications received by the same applicant or related parties. Where two or more businesses have directors/managers and/or shareholders in common, only one application will be accepted.

Can I submit supporting documentation after the submission deadline?

No. ARM Hub will only accept information submitted at the time of application.

Who can apply for the SPRINTS Program?

The SPRINTS program is available for Australian based microenterprises and Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) whose principal activity and majority annual turnover is derived from manufacturing or manufacturing supply chain activities This includes businesses comprising of 1 to 199 people, with a turn-over of no more than $250M per annum.

An eligible applicant must be an Australian citizen, or be submitted on behalf of an Australian industry entity.

Which Technology Readiness Level is the program aimed at?

The program is not aimed at a particular Technology Readiness Level (TRL). However, the applicant must be able to demonstrate how they will accelerate the technology readiness level (TRL) as a direct result of this program.

An overview of TRLs is outlined below.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Basic principles observed	Technology concept formulated	Experimental proof of concept	Technology validation in lab	Technology valid in relevant environment	Demonstration in relevant environment	Demonstration in operational environment	System complete and qualified	Successful mission operations

Can I submit an application as part of a collaboration partnership (i.e. with university partners, other industry partner, overseas organisations)?

Yes. You are allowed to apply as a collaboration partnership with others. Applicants must identify a project lead from their business who will be responsible for all management activities and be the sole point of contact for the ARM Hub.

What are the timeframes for eligible projects?

The SPRINTS program is for projects that can demonstrate completion between 6 to 9 months from agreement to proceed.

Can I apply for this program if I am a start-up?

Yes. The program is available to start-ups that can demonstrate an eligible project.

Will I keep any IP developed during the program?

Yes. All applicants will retain intellectual property rights developed during the program. This includes any background IP brought into the project by the applicant.

Where can I find out more information about the program?

For more information on the SPRINTS Program visit armhub.com.au/sprints.

Will you provide feedback if my application is unsuccessful?

Yes. We will provide feedback to the ten shortlisted applicants. The feedback will be based on the independent assessment panels review of each application and will outline the key strengths and areas of improvement for each application.

Will there be another SPRINTS program if I miss out?

ARM Hub expects to run the program on an annual basis.

Do I need to be registered for GST to apply?

Yes. All applicants must be registered for GST.

Can I apply if I am already receiving grant funding from another funding program?

Yes. The ARM Hub program is available to entities that are receiving funding from elsewhere.

What manufacturing sectors are eligible?

The SPRINTS program is available for manufacturing and tech micro enterprises and SMEs operating in all Australian Government manufacturing industry verticals.

ARM HUB FAQ:

Is the ARM Hub a government organisation?

No. The ARM Hub was initially funding by QUT (founding research organization), UAP (industry) and the Queensland Government. We are an independent not-for-profit organization.

Where is the ARM Hub located?

The ARM Hub is physically located in Northgate, Brisbane QLD.

Does ARM Hub service any areas outside of Australia?

No. The ARM Hub priority focus is growing Australian business in Australia.

Is the ARM Hub available to meet with outside of the grant program?

Yes. Please contact our info@armhub.com email should you wish to connect with our business development staff outside of the SPRINTS program. Please note that we are unable to discuss the grant program selection with you due to probity.