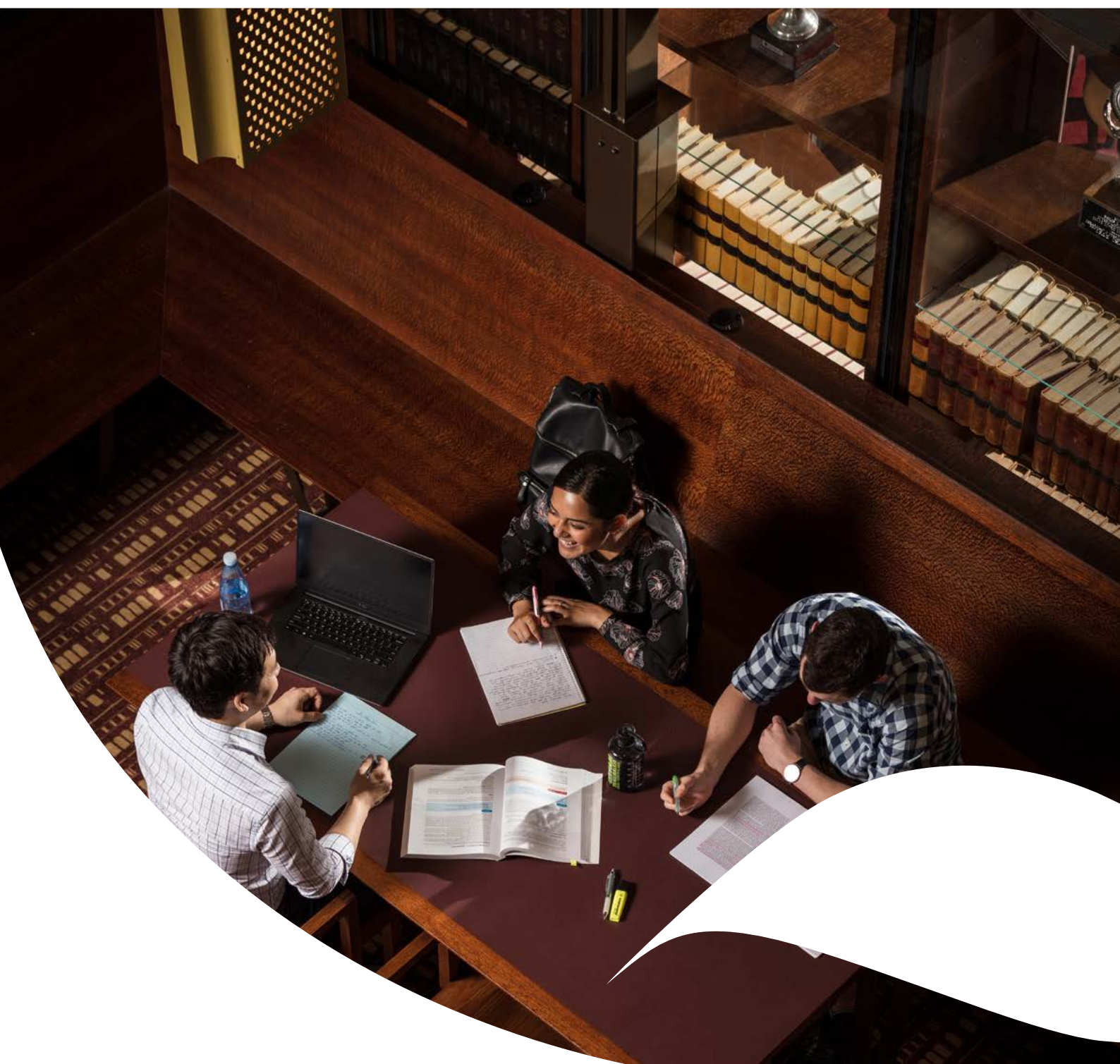


The University of Queensland - Technical University of Munich

Partnerships Research Collaboration Grants

2025 Round guidelines for applicants



Background

The University of Queensland (UQ) and the Technical University of Munich (TUM) have a transformative partnership intended to address global challenges and inspire scientific leadership for a better world. Our research strengths across bioeconomies, food science, health science, and green energy are helping to create a healthier and more sustainable future. Our partnership fosters innovation and encourages entrepreneurial thinking, meeting the future-focused needs of our students, peers, industry, and government collaborators.

In support of this vision, UQ will offer two funding schemes each year to promote a broadening of collaboration between UQ and TUM – the Workshop Grants Scheme and the Partnership Research Collaboration Grants Scheme.

The 2025 round of the Partnership Research Collaboration Grants Scheme is now open to applications, with a closing date of **2 December 2025**.

For more about the UQ-TUM partnership, visit:
global-engagement.uq.edu.au/UQ-TUM

Objectives

Partnership Research Collaboration Grants are intended to strengthen collaborations that may lead to further teaching, learning, research innovation and government/industry engagement. The Grants support joint applications between academics from UQ and TUM.

The Grants can be used as a stand-alone award but where possible should be seen as a step towards applying for external funding. They may support collaborative events and strengthen links and foster new joint projects. In summary, the key aims are:

- to support **enabling activities** that bring together academic staff with excellent and complementary expertise and capability
- to address **challenges with potential for significant impact** that could not be as effectively carried out by one partner on their own
- to facilitate **exploration of novel concepts** to a point at which external funding can be sought
- to promote and facilitate **groundbreaking interdisciplinary research**
- to facilitate the development of new, shared educational provision leading to significant **enhancement of the curriculum and student experience**
- to demonstrate clear **added value** from the partnership.

Funding details

Applications up to a maximum **A\$15,000** are invited.

Funding will be provided to the nominated overall lead applicant, who will be responsible for management of the project, the budget for both institutions and reporting on outcomes.

Up to three grants will be awarded in 2025. All funded applications will be promoted via the Global Partnerships website and must be completed in a twelve-month period from the award date, after which any remaining funding will be lost.

Eligibility criteria

The Partnership Research Collaboration Grants will be available to the whole academic community at UQ and TUM. The lead applicant should have an ongoing role or contract at UQ that exceeds the project duration. Casual staff or students, including PhD candidates, are not eligible as the lead applicant.

Aside from international travel, funding awards can be used to support digital collaborations and other costs as listed below. Eligible events and costs include:

- Digital Collaborations. Hosting online workshops, seminars, symposia etc for the purposes of:
 - Networking
 - Co-creating of digital resources
 - Sandpits - Exploring new ideas (research, education, entrepreneurship)
- Development of joint education initiatives
 - Interactive (undergraduate and postgraduate students / ECR) experiences i.e. Hackathons, grand challenges
 - Virtual guest lectures (pre-recorded content) teaching into existing modules content.
 - Education sandpits - bringing academics together to explore new joint education ideas/concepts (joint-online courses, in-person exchange experiences, field-trips, summer / winter schools etc).
- Directly incurred labour costs of staff directly employed to deliver the core elements of the proposed activity.
- Venue and catering costs
- External speakers/facilitators to participate in events
- If international travel is supported by both partner institutions: Travel, visas, accommodation and subsistence.

Where funding is requested for research or technical posts that are also partially funded by another grant / source of funding, please check the terms and conditions of any pre-existing contract to ensure that there are no conflicts of interest.

You can read the latest University policy updates on international travel here: travel.uq.edu.au

The following items are **not** eligible for funding under this scheme:

- academic salaries
- student fees/tuition
- indirect costs and overheads

Application process

Applicants must complete the application form in conjunction with their counterpart(s) at the partner institution. An overall lead applicant must be nominated, to whom the funds will be transferred if successful.

Applicants should ensure that activities are planned and scheduled to enable completion within twelve months. No extensions will be possible.

[Online applications](#) should be submitted by **5pm (AEST), 2 December 2025**.

Lead applicants will be notified within the specified timeframe (see **Key dates**, below).

Key dates

Date	Activity
29 October 2025	Calls for applications issued
2 December 2025	Application deadline
10 December 2025	Applicants notified of outcome
10 December 2026	Project completion deadline
10 February 2027	Report submission deadline

Assessment criteria

Applications will be assessed via a competitive selection process using the following criteria:

- quality of initiative/activity
- perceived value for money of the initiative
- potential to develop sustainable connection/collaboration
- achievability and strength of envisaged outcomes
- alignment with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**.

Please refer to the appendix for further information regarding the assessment criteria.

Feedback and resubmissions

Please note that feedback is not provided. Resubmission is by invitation only. Please refer to **Pitfalls and top tips** column to assist with preparing your submission.

Grant acquittal and reporting

Awardees must agree to comply with all terms and conditions related to the receipt of funding including deadlines and procedures for acquittal of funds and reporting on outcomes.

Awardees will have up to a maximum of twelve months after the award date to utilise the funds. Funds that are not utilised within the specified period will be withdrawn.

Upon completion of the project awardees will have a maximum of two months to submit a brief report outlining the successes and outcomes of the project. Report forms will be provided to Project Leads. Any outputs from the funding are to be reported a year after the project completed.

This report will be used by Global Partnerships for the follow up of potential opportunities and reporting on outcomes, and will potentially be highlighted on UQ website.

If a funded project includes international travel, award-holders must abide by the official reporting, insurance and registration requirements as outlined in UQ policies [travel](https://www.uq.edu.au/travel). [uq.edu.au](https://www.uq.edu.au)

Pitfalls and top tips

1. **Added value: failing to articulate, and therefore persuade the panel, of the added value of your partnership.**

Ask your team – *what can be achieved as a collaboration that could not be achieved as a single institution?* Your answer needs to be strongly and clearly articulated in the application, and evidenced where appropriate.

2. **Step change: failing to envisage and articulate the potential step change that can be achieved through your project.**

This connects to **#1 Added value** - linking the added value of your partnership to the step-change made possible by the unique resources available through UQ-TUM partnership *i.e. what will you do differently: academics, infrastructure, training, external partners etc?*

3. **Leveraging external funding and other tangible outcomes: panel members need to be persuaded of the application's value for money. They are looking for clear anticipated outcomes and realistic, cost-effective plans and leadership to achieve them.**

Articulate specific details of any potential external funding sources that can be leveraged (amounts, submission deadlines). Provide the same level of detail for other anticipated outcomes e.g. publications, industry links, staff development etc. Provide details about managing the project itself, how you will achieve the project goals in the time and with the funding available.

4. **Sustainability: applications fail to articulate how the momentum and successes achieved will be sustained in the longer term.**

Outline a clear sustainability plan. Consider and articulate issues such as ongoing partnership meetings/communications, future links with industry or other external partners, leveraging further funding, expanding the network, raising the profile and influence of the group both internally and externally.

Appendix: Detailed assessment criteria for Partnerships Research Collaborations Grant scheme

This guidance has been drawn up to assist applicants when completing their application forms. The purpose is to explain what type of information and evidence is required to satisfy the assessment criteria.

Assessment criteria	Evidence required
Quality of initiative/activity	How well the application has been considered and planned, and the strength of its potential for taking forward a development or collaboration. Are the goals stretching but achievable? Using data to substantiate, the bid identifies the need for and value of the proposed research and how this ties in with the Technical University of Munich and The University of Queensland research objectives. Include supporting details on how the project would be significantly enhanced as a result of it being undertaken through this partnership rather than by an individual academic or institution.
Potential to expand upon existing or newly identified collaboration	Evidence of strength and potential of the relationship. How can the group and its work develop beyond the project? What mechanisms will be used to ensure ongoing communications and interaction? Clear sense of potential trajectory for the project and the relationship.
Strategic fit	Clear information on how the proposed research would enhance the development of the partnerships.
Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals	Does the project align with one or more of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, which aim to provide a blueprint for achieving a better and more sustainable future for all? If so, state the goal/s and explain how the project will aim to advance the goal/s.
Value for money	Is the proposal offering value for money? Is it communicating strong evidence of: • a unique research opportunity that is in line with the partnership's purpose • mobilising a new or already interested, but perhaps disparate, research group, or disciplines, to come together and collaborate for the purpose of step change quality research • project management capabilities of the proposers -reassurance that, if funded, the project will run on time, to budget and deliver against agreed aims, activities and outcomes • tangible and quantifiable outcomes and impact for the benefit of the institutions as well as the more immediate group • the potential to publish high quality papers, influence policy, and leverage external funding as part of the partnership • sustained development of the partnership and collaborative research in the longer term.
Anticipated outcomes and benefits	Specific reference to outcomes and benefits that are anticipated to be a direct result from this project, with timetable. How likely are these? How significant?
Leveraging funding (desirable but not required for Workshop Grants)	Clear details of how the project aims to leverage external funding as a direct result of this award.
Impact (desirable but not required for Workshop Grants)	Communicates how this project will create impact in a way that will benefit both the University of Queensland and the Technical University of Munich. What is this potential impact (internal/external) and when might it be felt. Examples of impact could include leverage of external funding/measures of academic esteem such as publications/ raised profile of the research and the partnership both internally and externally with industry, local communities and government.

Contact

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