



Innovate to Grow: Agrifood Western Australia

Applications are open for a free 8-week R&D training program for small-to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) working on innovative technologies or solutions in the Western Australia (WA) agrifood industry.

Build your R&D idea

SMEs play a key role in growing Australia's innovation capability, but having the right support is critical to success.

Our free self-paced 8-week program will build your skills and networks so you can learn how to advance your idea with R&D.

Apply today

Applications close: 27 April 2025

Program starts: 15 May 2025

csiro.au/agrifoodWA

Key program outcomes

Personalised support to refine your idea: We'll step you through the process of turning your idea into a viable research project.

Confidential feedback: All submissions through the program portal will receive prompt expert feedback.

Mentor: You will be paired with an R&D coach from CSIRO or a university to help connect you with a relevant specialist.

Build your network: You will build key contacts in your sector, including researchers and other SMEs.

Key program outputs include how to:

- Create a strong research question for your idea
- Assess the value of your innovation
- Work out your collaboration options
- Compose a high impact R&D business case
- Prepare a funding application.

Commitment and course outline

Preparing for the program (3–4 hours)

Onboarding session, pre-workshop videos and reading materials.

Week 1

Workshop (4 hours)

Guest speakers from CSIRO, sector experts and SMEs who will provide tips and information on topics such as trends and opportunities, innovation experience and funding. You will also meet your fellow participants and mentor.

Weeks 2–8

Self-paced innovation program (2–3 hours per week)

Participants explore opportunities to grow their business through innovation and research.

Fortnightly virtual webinars for participant networking and guest speakers.

Program participants will be invited to an in-person meeting in the last week of the program in Perth CBD.

Who can attend

Participants based and operating in Western Australia who are working on innovative technologies or solutions in the agrifood sector. This can be in any sub-sector including:

- Meat and meat product manufacturing
- Agriculture and fishing support services
- Aquaculture
- Livestock
- Beverage manufacturing
- Food product manufacturing
- Alternative proteins
- Agritech
- Other

Selection criteria (essential):

- A business based and operating in Western Australia that is registered with an ABN and ACN/ICN
- A business classified as small to medium (<200 employees)
- An R&D idea to work on throughout the program related to agrifood.

Please note: Australian subsidiary companies of foreign entities are not eligible. Researchers working at universities can apply as a mentor but not a participant.

Other considerations:

- A strong alignment to the program objectives
- A clear desire to investigate doing a R&D project

'I thought I was in a good position before Innovate to Grow, but I soon realised I didn't know what I didn't know! I'm so grateful for this opportunity - it has been invaluable. I've come away feeling more confident and excited.' – Jo Barrett, Little Picket

CSIRO Innovate to Grow is delivered using [Practera's](#) online ed-tech platform and facilitation services.