



**Australian Government**

**Department of Industry, Science and Resources**

## Sample application form

# Critical Minerals Development Program

Version December 2022

This document shows the questions included in the online application form for this grant opportunity. It will help you prepare your responses and the mandatory attachments you need before you apply online.

# Instructions

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The online form captures the information required by the department to assess and manage your application for services and funding.

The first page of the application page contains the following instructions.

## Completing your application

The application consists of separate pages as shown in the navigation menu on the left hand side of the portal page. You can navigate between pages using the menu or the buttons at the bottom of each page.

A red asterisk \* indicates a mandatory question. A warning message may appear if you have not completed all of the mandatory questions or if there is an issue with information you have entered.

## Saving your responses

You can save your changes at any time by using the Save button.

To prevent you losing your work you should save often. The portal will time out after 30 minutes if you do not save. Typing or moving your mouse does not reset the time out.

You must use the Save and Continue button to validate the information on each page. If you use the menu to navigate between pages, you will be prompted on the final page to go back and validate all of the information you have entered. A green tick indicates a validated page.

You can modify saved responses up until you submit your application.

## Participants

You may invite others to assist in completing your application via the application summary page. To do this:

- Select the Participants button
- Enter the details

An email will be sent to the participant inviting them to assist with your application.

## Submitting your application

You must complete every page of the application before you can submit.

You must also read and agree to the declaration which advises you of your responsibilities.

Check all your answers before you submit your application. After you submit, it will no longer be editable.

## Internet browsers supported by the portal

We recommend that you use the following browsers for optimum functionality:

- On Windows: The latest versions of Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge
- On Mac: The latest versions of Safari and Google Chrome

## Getting help

If you require further assistance completing this form, [contact us](#) by email or web chat or on 13 28 46.

Sample

## A. Program selection

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Before you start your application, we need to first identify what type of entity is applying.

If you are a trustee applying on behalf of a trust we will need details of both the trust and trustee.

Before you start you should have the following details ready if they are applicable to you.

- Australian Business Number (ABN)

### A.1. Program selection

You must select from a drop-down menu the program that you are applying for. If you have been provided with an Invitation code, you will be able to enter it here which will select the program for you.

- Field 1 select – Critical Minerals Development Program
- Field 2 select – Critical Minerals Development Program

*When you have selected the program, the following text will appear.*

This grant opportunity will run over 3 years from 2022-23 to 2024-25.

The grant opportunity was announced as part of the Australian Critical Minerals Strategy. Up to \$48.9 million is available for this grant opportunity.

The objectives of the program are to:

- support and lower the risk associated with critical development activities to help companies progress towards financing to proceed to production
- support the global transition to net-zero emissions by 2050 through the development of Australia's critical mineral resources
- support economic development and jobs in regional communities
- support workplace gender equality, opportunities for First Nations people and economic development and jobs in regional communities.

The maximum grant amount is \$30 million and the minimum is \$1 million.

You should read the [grant opportunity guidelines](#) and [sample grant agreement](#) before filling out this application. We recommend you keep the guidelines open as you are completing your application so you can refer to them when providing your responses.

You may submit your application at any time up until 5.00pm AEDT on 20 February 2023. Please take account of time zone differences when submitting your application.

## B. Eligibility

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We will ask you the following questions to establish your eligibility for the Critical Minerals Development Program grant opportunity.

*Questions marked with an asterisk are mandatory. If you do not provide a response to all of the following questions your application may be deemed ineligible.*

Select your entity type\*

- an entity incorporated in Australia and a trading entity as defined in the grant opportunity guidelines
  - an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust
  - an Australian State/Territory Government agency or body
  - or none of the above
- Do you have an ABN and/or ACN? \*
- YES  NO

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- Is your organisation non-income-tax exempt? \*
- YES  NO

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- Is your organisation registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST)? \*
- YES  NO

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- Is your project producing or planning to produce critical mineral(s) as listed in Australia's Critical Minerals Strategy and in the early to mid-stages of development including post exploration and before final investment decision \*

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- are your project activities substantially undertaken in Australia? \*

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- can you provide evidence from your board (or chief executive officer or equivalent if there is no board) that the project is supported, and that you can complete the project and meet the costs of the project not covered by grant funding\*

*You must attach this evidence later in your application.*

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- can you provide evidence of your capability to provide your share of project costs (such as a funding plan that details where and how you will source funding, balance sheets, evidence of past successful capital raising, evidence of engaging credible commercial advisors)\*

*You must attach this evidence later in your application.*

*You must answer yes to proceed to next question.*

- can you provide all mandatory attachments \*

*You must attach these later in your application.*

*You must answer yes to proceed to next section.*

## C. Applicant address

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### C.1. Applicant street address

You must provide your street address

*When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.*

### C.2. Applicant postal address

You must provide your postal address

*When you start typing the address in the field you can select the correct one from the drop down list that appears. If it is not there you can enter manually.*

Sample

## D. About your organisation

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*We collect the following data from all applicants across all grant programs. We use this data to better understand your organisation and to help us develop better policies and programs.*

### D.1. Latest financial year figures

*All values must be whole numbers. For example*

*6.5 months should be presented as 7 months*

*\$2 million should be presented as \$2,000,000*

- Has the applicant existed for a complete financial year?
- If no, enter the number of months completed in the financial year to date.

You must provide the following financial information about the applicant organisation for the financial year you have entered above.

*Values must be that of the entity applying (the 'applicant'), regardless of whether the entity belongs to a consolidated group for tax purposes.*

*These fields are mandatory and entering \$0 is acceptable if applicable for your organisation.*

- Sales revenue (turnover)

*Total revenue from the sale of goods and services, as reported in your organisation's Business Activity Statement (BAS).*

- Export revenue

*Total revenue from export sales, as reported in your organisation's Business Activity Statement (BAS).*

- R&D expenditure

*Expenditure on research and development, i.e. creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of humankind, culture and society, and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications.*

- Taxable income

*Taxable income or loss as per your organisation's income tax return form.*

- Number of employees (headcount)

*Number of individuals who are entitled to paid leave (sick and holiday), or generate income from managing your organisation. This should include working proprietors and salaried directors.*

- Number of independent contractors (headcount)

*Number of individuals engaged by your organisation under a commercial contract (rather than an employment contract) to provide employee-like services on site.*

### D.2. Your ANZSIC code

Provide from a drop-down menu:

- your organisation's main revenue earning division under the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification ([ANZSIC](#)).

- your organisation's main revenue earning class under the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification ([ANZSIC](#)).

### **D.3. Indigenous organisation**

Is your organisation Indigenous owned?

*An organisation is considered Indigenous owned where at least 51% of the organisation's members or proprietors are Indigenous.*

Is your organisation Indigenous controlled?

*An organisation is considered Indigenous controlled where at least 51% of the organisation's board or management committee is Indigenous.*

Sample

## E. Project information

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On this page you must provide the detailed information about your proposed project.

*If your application is successful, we will publish some grant details on [GrantConnect](#) and other government publications. Published details include:*

- *name of the grant recipient*
- *a project title*
- *a brief project description and its intended outcome*
- *amount of grant funding awarded.*

### E.1. Project title and description

Provide a project title.

*Your response is limited to 75 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

Provide a brief project description.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

*Ensure your project description focuses on your project's key activities and outcomes. Outline what it is you are going to do and how it will address the priorities identified in Australia's Critical Mineral Strategy.*

### E.2. Detailed project description and key activities

*This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.*

Provide a detailed description of your project including the project scope and key activities.

*Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

You must also provide a project plan later in your application.

### E.3. Project outcomes

*This information will be included in your grant agreement if your application is successful.*

Provide a summary of the expected project outcomes.

*Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

### E.4. Employment

How many employees do you currently employ (headcount)?

- Full-time employees
- Part-time employees
- Casual employees or contractors

Of the above how many Indigenous employees do you currently employ (headcount)?

- Full-time employees
- Part-time employees
- Casual employees or contractors

Of the above how many employees (headcount) are skilled in working in the critical minerals processing industry?

*For this context skilled refers to those trained in resources processing, metalurgy, engineering or related fields.*

How many new employees (headcount) do you expect to employ as a result of your organisation's participation in this project?

- Full-time employees
- Part-time employees
- Casual employees or contractors

Of the above how many new Indigenous employees (headcount) do you expect to employ as a result of your organisation's participation in this project?

- Full-time employees
- Part-time employees
- Casual employees or contractors

## **E.5. Project duration**

Your project must be completed in line with the dates provided in the grant opportunity guidelines.

- Estimated project start date 1 June 2023
- Estimated project end date 31 March 2025
- Estimated project length (in months)

*Your project can be no longer than 21 months.*

## **E.6. Project milestones**

Provide details on the project milestones including the key activities occurring at each milestone.

*The milestone start and end dates must be between the project start and end dates.*

- Milestone title

*Your response is limited to 100 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

- Description

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

- Estimated start date
- Estimated end date

Maximum number of milestones – up to 10

## **E.7. Project location**

You must provide the address where your project will be undertaken and the estimated percentage of project value expected to be undertaken at that site. If you have multiple sites you must add the address of each site.

*A project site must be a street address. Do not provide a postal address, institution or building name.*

- Project site address
- Estimated percentage of project value expected to be undertaken at site

## **E.8. Disclosure of financial penalties**

Have any of your board members, management or persons of authority been subject to any pecuniary penalty, whether civil, criminal or administrative, imposed by a Commonwealth, state, or territory court or a Commonwealth, state, or territory entity?

If yes, provide details of the penalty.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

## **E.9. Foreign affiliations**

Does your project receive any funding or non-financial support from a foreign source?

If yes, provide details of the foreign financial support.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project receive financial support or benefits from a foreign source?

If yes, provide details of the arrangement.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project have any current or former association with a foreign talent program?

If yes, provide details of the foreign talent program.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

Do any entities or key personnel involved with the project have any ties to a foreign government, military or state-owned enterprise?

If yes, provide details of the affiliations or associations.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

## **E.10. National security plan**

Does your organisation have a plan or framework in place to manage any potential security risks associated with the project and your organisation more broadly?

*This includes protecting your organisation from potential national security risks including cyber security threats and the secure handling of data. We may ask for a copy of your plan or framework at a later stage.*

## F. Project budget

### F.1. Project budget summary

Provide a summary of your eligible project expenditure over the life of the project.

*If you are registered for GST, enter the GST exclusive amount. If you are not registered for GST, enter the GST inclusive amount. We only provide grant funding based on eligible expenditure. Refer to the guidelines for guidance on eligible expenditure.*

*The minimum project expenditure for this grant opportunity is \$2 million*

*Labour on costs cannot exceed 30 per cent of total labour costs*

*Travel and overseas costs cannot exceed 10 per cent of total project costs*

*Independent audit report costs cannot exceed 1 per cent of total eligible project costs*

*You must attach a detailed project budget later in the application form*

Type of expenditure	Head of expenditure	Financial Year	Cost
Project expenditure			\$
	Labour		\$
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
	Labour On costs		\$
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
	Contract		\$
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
	Plant and equipment		\$
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
	Travel and overseas		\$

Type of expenditure	Head of expenditure	Financial Year	Cost
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
	Independent Audit Report		
		2024/25	\$
	Other eligible expenditure		\$
		2022/23	\$
		2023/24	\$
		2024/25	\$
Total			

Provide details of "other eligible expenditure". 750 characters limit

## F.2. Source of funding

In this section you must provide details of how you will fund the project.

*The total of all sources of funding, should be equal to your total project expenditure in the section above. Sources of funding include:*

- *grant amount sought*
- *your contribution*
- *other contributions as allowed in the grant opportunity guidelines*

## F.3. Grant amount sought

You must enter the amount of grant funding you are requesting. We will add GST to this where applicable.

*The minimum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$1m. The maximum grant amount under this grant opportunity is \$30m.*

## F.4. Contributions

For further details on cash and in-kind contributions refer to the Guidelines. In-kind contributions are limited to a maximum of 10 per cent of non-grant eligible expenditure.

You will need to provide the following information for all other sources of funding

- Name of contributor
- Type of contributor

*Contributors are divided into the following types*

- *Your contribution*
- *Other non-Commonwealth government grants*
- *Other non-government contribution*
  - Value of contribution
  - Date due of contribution
  - Description

*You may need to provide details around whether your contribution is sourced from bank loans, equity or cash flow etc.*

*Where you are receiving other government funding you will need to provide details.*

Sample

## G. Assessment criteria

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We will assess your application based on the weighting given to each criterion and against the indicators listed beneath each criterion. We will only consider funding applications that score at least 50 per cent against each criterion as these represent best value for money.

*The amount of detail and supporting evidence you provide should be commensurate with the project size, complexity and grant amount requested. You should define, quantify and provide evidence to support your answers.*

### G.1. Assessment criterion 1 (50 points)

*Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

#### Alignment of your project with program objectives

You should demonstrate this by describing:

- a. how the project underpins a new supply chain of strategic relevance to Australia, that is:
  - material from the project feeds into a critically important supply chain (i.e. supports one or more crucial and strategically important technologies, such as lithium-ion batteries, rare earth element magnets, semiconductors, high end communication technology, defence applications, biomedical products)
  - the project's output is significant relative to global demand
  - the existing supply chain is concentrated and at risk of disruption, and/or
  - the project is likely to be of interest to Australia's international partners, including the US, Japan, South Korea, India, the UK and EU member states, and their private industries.
- b. the contribution to new or strengthened sovereign capability within Australia, this may include how the project will catalyse broader growth in the sector or contribute to downstream processing in Australia
- c. how the project will contribute to the global transition to net-zero emissions by 2050, and help the international economy decarbonise
- d. how the project will create jobs and investment, including in regional Australia, indicating the number, type and location of the Australian jobs that will be created as part of the project
- e. how you can demonstrate the credibility of the company (with supporting evidence) and how the project has comparative advantages which position it to be commercially competitive (i.e. lower costs of production, higher grade ore)
- f. how the project is actively being advanced, i.e. not in care and maintenance.

### G.2. Assessment criterion 2 (30 points)

*Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

#### Capacity, capability and resource to deliver the project

You should demonstrate this by describing:

- a. your track record and experience in managing similar projects and your plan specific to this project to utilise and manage personnel with the right skills and experience, including strong governance, management and technical expertise
- b. the expertise and capacity of the project management team and partner organisations to deliver the project, including the level of full-time resource allocated to key responsibilities
- c. your plan to access any finance, infrastructure, capital equipment, technology, intellectual property required to deliver the project
- d. a project plan that includes, but is not limited to, scope, implementation methodology, project timeframes, a project risk assessment and risk management plan
- e. your plan to achieve regulatory approvals, including, but not limited to, planning, development and environmental approvals. You may wish to include details of all completed due diligence including, technical, legal, market, tax, and financial for your project regarding to your project's stage of development
- f. your strategy to support workplace gender equality
  - this should document specific numerical targets, indicators, progress and actions to be undertaken during the grant activities.
- g. your strategy to support First Nations engagement
  - this should set out objectives for First Nations participation, procurement and employment.

*You must attach the project plan later in your application*

### **G.3. Assessment criterion 3 (20 points)**

*Your response is limited to 5000 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

#### **Impact of grant funding on your project**

You should demonstrate this by describing:

- a. how the grant will benefit the project in terms of scale and timing
- b. how the grant will assist the project to secure or enhance the strategic outcomes of the project and accelerate the project to its next phase of development
- c. details of your and/or your investors cash contribution/s and the impact of that contribution with respect to the size of the project and percentage of development costs
- d. how Government investment in the project would be unlikely to crowd out private sector financing where a project is seeking to achieve outcomes aligned with the Critical Minerals Strategy
- e. how the project will progress if grant funding is not awarded to it.

## H. Project partners

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You must provide details about your project partners.

*For details about project partner contributions refer to the grant opportunity guidelines.*

You must provide

- Australian Business Number (ABN)
- Other registration number where applicable
- Business address
- Postal address
- Contact details
- Project partner letter of support attached. Letter to include details of partner contributions.

## I. Bank account details

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### I.1. Bank account details

If your application is successful we will need to set up a payment process to pay your grant. We need your bank account details to do this. If your application is not successful we will not process these details.

*We can only pay grant funding to the applicant organisation, who if successful will be party to a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. You must provide bank account details for this organisation.*

### I.2. Account details

Account name

BSB

Account number

### I.3. Payment contact

Given name

Family name

Email address

Phone number

## J. Application finalisation

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You must answer the following questions and add any supporting documentation required.

### J.1. Conflict of interest

Do you have any perceived or existing conflicts of interest to declare?

*Refer to the grant opportunity guidelines for further information on your conflict of interest responsibilities.*

If yes, describe the perceived or existing conflicts of interest.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

If yes, describe how you anticipate managing this conflict.

*Your response is limited to 750 characters including spaces and does not support formatting.*

### J.2. Program feedback

How did you hear about the grant opportunity?

*You may select from a drop-down menu.*

### J.3. Additional information

You must attach the following supporting documentation. You should only attach documents we have requested

*The total of all attachments cannot exceed 20 MB.*

*Individual files must be smaller than 2.0mb, and be one of the following types: doc, docx, rtf, pdf, xls,xlsx, csv, jpg, jpeg, png, gif.*

*Filenames should only include letters or numbers and should be fewer than 40 characters.*

- Project plan

*You must attach a project plan that includes details of how you will manage the project including scope, governance, implementation methodology and timeframes, how you will mitigate delivery risks (including national security) and how you will secure required regulatory or other approvals.*

- Project budget

*You must attach a detailed project budget (split across financial years) to demonstrate your estimated project expenditure.*

- Funding strategy

*You must attach evidence of funding strategy which may include financial statements, loan agreements and cash flow documents*

- Board support

*You must provide evidence from your board (or chief executive officer or equivalent if there is no board) that your project is supported and that you can complete the project and meet the costs of the project not covered by grant funding.*

- Track record and experience

*You must provide evidence of your track record and experience in managing similar projects, those of the project management team and (where appropriate) partner organisations.*

- Workplace Gender Equality

*You must attach your strategy to support workplace gender equality. This should document specific numerical targets, indicators, progress and actions to be undertaken during the grant activities.*

- First Nations engagement

*You must attach your strategy to support First Nations engagement. This should set out your objectives for First Nations participation, procurement and employment.*

- Due diligence (where applicable)

*Any additional due diligence reports such as feasibility studies (for projects in the planning, design and construction phase), pre-feasibility studies (for projects in the feasibility stage) market or asset modelling, technical or legal reports, key project agreements*

- Register of shareholders (where applicable)

*You must provide your register of shareholders with over 5 per cent ownership in the company*

- Trust deed (where applicable)

*Where you have indicated your entity type is a trustee applying on behalf of a trust, you must attach trust documents showing the relationship of the incorporated trustee to the trust.*

## **K. Primary contact**

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You must provide the details of a primary contact for your application.

*The primary contact is the person authorised to act on behalf of the applicant. We consider them our primary contact point for all aspects of this application. We will send all email correspondence to this person. If these details change, you must inform us as soon as possible so automated emails can be redirected. The details include*

- Given name
- Family name
- Position title
- Email address
- Phone number
- Mobile number
- Primary address

## L. Application declaration

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In order to submit your application you will be required to agree to the following declaration.

### L.1. Privacy and confidentiality provisions

I acknowledge that this is an Australian Government program and that the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (the department) will use the information I provide in accordance with the following:

- [Australian Government Public Data Policy Statement](#)
- [Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines](#)
- grant opportunity guidelines
- applicable Australian laws.

Accordingly, I understand that the department may share my personal information provided in this application within this department and other government agencies:

- a. for purposes directly related to administering the program, including governance, research and the distribution of funds to successful applicants
- b. to facilitate research, assessment, monitoring and analysis of other programs and activities unless otherwise prohibited by law.

I understand that where I am successful in obtaining a grant, the financial information that I provide for the purposes of payment will be accessible to departmental staff to enable payments to be made through the department's accounts payable software system.

I understand that information that is deemed 'confidential' in accordance with the grant opportunity guidelines may also be shared for a relevant Commonwealth purpose.

The department will publish information on individual grants in the public domain, including on the department's website, unless otherwise prohibited by law.

### L.2. Applicant declaration

I declare that I have read and understood the grant opportunity guidelines, including the grant agreement, privacy, confidentiality and disclosure provisions.

I declare that the proposed project outlined in this application and any associated expenditure has been endorsed by the applicant's board/ management committee or person with authority to commit the applicant to this project.

I declare that the applicant will comply with, and require that its subcontractors and independent contractors comply with, all applicable laws.

I declare that the applicant and any project partners are not listed on the [National Redress Scheme](#) list of institutions, where sexual abuse has occurred, that have not joined or signified their intent to join the Scheme.

I declare that the applicant is not named by the [Workplace Gender Equality Agency](#) as an organisation that has not complied with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012*.

I confirm that the applicant, project partners and associated activities are in compliance with current [Australian Government sanctions](#).

I declare that the information contained in this application together with any statement provided is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate, complete and not misleading and that I understand that giving of false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth).

I acknowledge that I may be requested to provide further clarification or documentation to verify the information supplied in this form and that the department may, during the application process, consult with other government agencies, including state and territory government agencies, about the applicant's claims and may also engage external technical or financial advisors to advise on information provided in the application.

I agree to participate in the periodic evaluation of the services undertaken by the department.

I approve the information in this application being communicated to the department in electronic form.

I acknowledge that if the department is satisfied that any statement made in an application is incorrect, incomplete, false or misleading the department may, at its absolute discretion, take appropriate action. I note such action may include excluding an application from further consideration; withdrawing an offer of funding; using the information contained in the application for a fraud investigation that would be consistent with the Australian Government's Investigations Standards and Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework and/or for a grant under management, terminating a grant agreement between the Commonwealth and the grantee including recovering funds already paid.

I declare that I am authorised to submit this form on behalf of the applicant and acknowledge that this is the equivalent of signing this application.