[Research](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/index.html" \l "home) / [Work with us](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/index.html#work) / [How we support your research](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/how-we-support.html) / [ARC Funding](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/arc/scheme-list.html)

Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities

[Overview](#overview) [How to apply](#how) [Support documents](#resources) [Contacts](#contact) [Manage your grant](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/arc/manage-your-grant.html)

**Critical dates**

Thursday **10 September 2015**

**Release of Funding Rules**

Early December

**Expression of Interest Portal opens**

**8th February 2016**

**Expression of Interest Portal closes**

**8th-19th February**

**Research Office/DVCR review of EOIs**

**19th February**

**Feedback to progress to full application**

**22nd February to 4th March**

**Faculty confirmation of funding dates (refer to table)**

**4th March 2016**

**CoF due to RIC via faculty**

**Draft due to RIC**

**TBC**

**RIC review period**

**TBC**

**Request not to assess due**

**TBA, pending release of ARC dates**

**Final application due to RIC**

**TBC**

**ARC deadline**

**TBA, pending release of ARC dates**

**Overview**

The Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) scheme provides funding for collaborative research infrastructure of critical mass. Typically involving multiple university partners contributing cash investment, the scale of facility value is between $150,000 and $2,000,000.

Requests for support can be made by researchers in any discipline, with the exception of [Medical and Dental Research](http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-medical-research-policy) which is explicitly not supported through ARC funding.

Proposals involving government research organisations and industry partners are also encouraged.

If you are interested in submitting a LIEF proposal for funding in 2017, please get in contact with [Rachel Ramsdale](mailto:rachel.ramsdale@unimelb.edu.au), Major Initiatives as soon as possible.

**Funding**

The minimum grant size is $150,000 per year. A project may be awarded funding for one year, or, up to five years for subscription and/or membership costs for coordinated access to major national and/or international facilities or consortia. The ARC will fund up to a maximum of 75 per cent of the direct costs of purchasing the equipment or creating the facility, with collaborating institutions contributing at least 25 per cent. Applications submitted by major universities such as the University of Melbourne would typically involve participant contributions of 35-50 per cent of the direct cost. A Chief Investigator (CI) or Partner Investigator (PI) must not be nominated on more than two LIEF proposals in the same funding round. A CI or PI receiving funding under the LIEF scheme may only be named on a maximum of two concurrent LIEF projects.

All eligible organisations on a Proposal must make a cash contribution.

1. Expression of Interest (EoI)
   * Complete the online Expression of Interest (EOI) form via the [LIEF EOI portal](https://linkage.vulabs.net/) by **5pm on 8 February 2016**.

All lead and non-lead EOIs should be submitted through the portal. Applicants need to [register for an account](https://linkage.vulabs.net/) before submitting an EOI.

For any advise on EoIs, you can contact [Rachel Ramsdale](mailto:rachel.ramsdale@unimelb.edu.au) for assistance.

* + All EOIs will be evaluated at a university and state level between 8 - 19 February 2016.
  + Communication to proceed with the application development will be provided to the applicant by **19 February 2016**.

1. Confirmation of Funding (CoF)
   * Applicant to submit the completed Confirmation of Funding (COF) form to their faculty by the due date captured in this **table**. with evidence of email confirmation of authorisation (or signature) from the relevant signatory (e.g. Head of Department/Dean or delegate).
   * Relevant faculty to submit completed COF form to RIC via [arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au) to request DVCR contribution by the **4th March 2015** with evidence of departmental/faculty authorisation.
   * All commitments will be captured in the DVCR memo outlining support, and a single faculty-level authorisation of the memo should be returned to RIC.
   * Read the [UoM ARC LIEF Central Contributions Policy](http://cms.unimelb.edu.au/controlled-environment/research/assets/documents/20151215-ARC_LIEF-DVCR-Contribution-Policy_2017funding.docx.pdf) for guidance on support requests.
2. Review funding documents

Review the LIEF 2017 [Funding Rules](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/Linkage_Programme_Funding_Rules_LIEF_2017.pdf), [Changes to Funding Rules](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/LE16_to_LE17_Funding_Rules_changes.pdf), Instructions to Applicants (not yet available, please see [here](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/LE16_Instructions_to_Applicants.pdf) for copies from previous years) and FAQs (not yet available, please see [here](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/Linkage-Program-FAQs_23.09.2015.pdf) for copies from previous years).

1. Update RMS 2.0 profile and CV

Each CI and PI is required to have access to [RMS 2.0](https://rms.arc.gov.au) and update profile information (see [RMS information](http://www.arc.gov.au/rms-information))

Instructions to Applicants are yet to be released by the ARC.

1. Submit 'Review ready' application to RIC

Prepare the application and submit the following to RIC via email at [arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au) by **date to be confirmed pending release of ARC round dates** (lead only):

* + An electronic version of the ‘review ready’\* draft application. Note: A hard copy of the application is not required.
  + [Internal UOM Authority to Submit and Certification form](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_lief_2017_internal_authority_to_submit.docx) (please note that external/partner organisations are not required to sign this form)
  + [External/Partner Authority to Submit and Certification form](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_lief_2017_external_certification_and_authority_to_submit_form.docx), which should be completed for each organisation named in the proposal (excluding the Administering Organisation)

(For non-lead applications, the Certification form template that the Administering Organisation provides may be used and should be forwarded to RIC for signature via [arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au), together with a copy of the application. RIC will organise for this form to be signed)

1. Submit Request Not to Assess

If applicable, a Request Not to Assess form needs to be submitted to [arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au) by **with date to be confirmed pending release of ARC round dates** if CIs would like to request the exclusion of a potential assessor.

1. Application review

Two RIC staff will review the application and provide CIA with a single set of feedback via email.

1. Complete application

Complete the application after taking feedback into consideration.

1. Submit final application

By **Date to be confirmed pending release of ARC due date**, CIA must:

* + Submit the finalised application by clicking ‘Submit to Research Office’ [RMS](https://rms.arc.gov.au)
  + Email RIC ([arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au)) a copy of the final application, along with both the Internal and External Authority to Submit and Certification forms

Please note that applications without these signed documents will not be submitted to the ARC.

1. RIC will submit the application

RIC will submit the application to the ARC before the external deadline.

**Close**

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| **FACULTY** | **CONTACT** | **DUE DATE** |
| ABP | [Gen Ford](mailto:gford@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Refer to Faculty |
| Arts | [Katrin Steinack](mailto:katrins@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Refer to Faculty |
| Education | [Alice Boland](mailto:aliceb@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Refer to Faculty |
| Engineering | [Lyle Daymond](mailto:l.daymond@unimelb.edu.au?subject=Engineering%20LIEF%20Confirmation%20of%20Funding) | Monday 22 February 2016 |
| FBE | [Elise Grosser](mailto:elise.grosser@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Refer to Faculty |
| Law | [Mas Generis](mailto:generism@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Friday 26 February 2016 |
| MDHS | [Bryony Wakefield](mailto:mdhs-grants@unimelb.edu.au?subject=LIEF%202016) | Refer to Faculty |
| Science | [Sandra McClelland](mailto:sandra.mcclelland@unimelb.edu.au?subject=Science%20LIEF%20Confirmation%20of%20Funding) | Refer to Faculty |
| VCA & MCM | [Lucy O’Brien](mailto:lucy.o'brien@unimelb.edu.au) | Refer to Faculty |
| FVAS | [Stephanie Morrison-Duff](mailto:smd@unimelb.edu.au) | Monday 29 February 2016 |

**Supporting documents**

**RIC Documents**

* [UoM ARC LIEF Central Contributions Policy](http://cms.unimelb.edu.au/controlled-environment/research/interim-private-files/20151215-ARC_LIEF-DVCR-Contribution-Policy_2017funding.docx.pdf)
* [2016 CoF form](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/LIEF-2017-CoF-form.docx) (docx. 23kb)
* [Research Budgets](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/budgets/index.html)
* [UoM Salary Scales](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/2017-LIEF-UoM-Salary-scales.xlsx)
* [Internal (UoM) Authority to Submit and Certification Form](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_lief_2017_internal_authority_to_submit.docx) (docx. 27kb)
* [External/Partner Authority to Submit and Certification Form](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_lief_2017_external_certification_and_authority_to_submit_form.docx)  (docx. 35kb)
* [Part A8.2 template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_a8.2_template_.5_cm_margins_a4.docx)
* [Part A9.2 template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_a9.2_template_.5_cm_margins_a4.docx)
* [Part C1 template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_part_c_template_0.5cm_margins_a4.doc)
* [Part E1 Template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_e1_template_.5cm_margins_a4.docx)
* [Part E2 Template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_e2_template_.5cm_margins_a4.doc)
* [Part E3 Template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_e3_template_.5cm_margins_a4.docx.doc)
* [Part E4 Template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_e4_template_.5cm_margins_a4.docx)
* [Part G Template](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/arc_le16_table_g_template_.5cm_margins_a4.docx)

**ARC Documents**

* [ARC LIEF website](http://www.arc.gov.au/linkage-infrastructure-equipment-and-facilities)
* [ARC LIEF 2017 Funding Rules](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/Linkage_Programme_Funding_Rules_LIEF_2017.pdf)
* [LIEF 2017 ARC Summary of Major Changes to Funding Rules](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/LE16_to_LE17_Funding_Rules_changes.pdf)
* ARC LIEF 2016 [Instructions to Applicants](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/LE16_Instructions_to_Applicants.pdf) and [FAQs](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/funding/docs/Linkage-Program-FAQs_23.09.2015.pdf)
* [LIEF 2016 Sample Application Form](http://www.arc.gov.au/sample-application-form)
* [RMS website](https://rms.arc.gov.au)
* [ARC Request not to Assess](http://www.arc.gov.au/request-not-assess)
* [ARC Research Opportunity and Performance Evidence (ROPE) Statement](http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-research-opportunity-and-performance-evidence-rope-statement)
* [ARC Medical Research Policy](http://www.arc.gov.au/arc-medical-research-policy)

LIEF questions and primary email [arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:arc-lief@unimelb.edu.au)

**Key contacts**

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| [Rachel Ramsdale](mailto:rachel.ramsdale@unimelb.edu.au) | for pre-award administration including EoIs and application process | 9035 3636 |

* [Staff Intranet](https://staff.unimelb.edu.au/research)
* [Contact us](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/contact-us.html)
* [Find an expert](http://findanexpert.unimelb.edu.au/)

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* [Partner with us](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/)
  + [Research engagement](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/partner/research-engagement.html)
  + [Technology licensing & IP](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/partner/technology-licensing.html)
  + [Customised programs](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/partner/programs.html)
* [Work with us](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/)
  + [Working at Melbourne](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/index.html#work)
  + [Funding and support](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/how-we-support.html)
* [Contact us](http://research.unimelb.edu.au/contact-us.html)