

REGIONAL MANUFACTURING CLUSTERS 2018-2020:

APPLICATION FORM

The RMC is a Victorian Government funded initiative, delivered by Ai Group, to assist regional manufacturing businesses to develop and grow profitably. Participation in the clusters is open to SME manufacturing businesses located in and around the following centres: Ballarat-Warrnambool, Bendigo-Mildura, Shepparton-Echuca, Traralgon-Morwell and Wodonga-Wangaratta. The initiative comprises two main elements, the Collaborative Business Improvement (CBI) program and the Innovation Culture (IC) program

Collaborative Business Improvement	Innovation Culture
<p>Key benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve your manufacturing processes (reduce lead times, waste and rework) through adaptation of Lean • Systematize your innovation, product development and commercialisation processes through the ‘Matrix Thinking’ System • Improve workforce skills through collaborative up-skilling • Have opportunities to collaborate with researchers and learn from successful advanced manufacturers • Explore new market growth opportunities, including export development • Explore new supply chain opportunities • Receive information about available government support 	<p>Key benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in workshops, meetings and team building events to develop the knowledge and skills to create a sustained innovative culture • Receive coaching sessions for the business leaders and supervisors • Be encouraged to foster and develop ideas sourced and driven by people across the organization • Have opportunities to collaborate with researchers and learn from successful advanced manufacturers • Receive information about available government support
Eligibility Criteria	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants for the CBI program must be small to medium sized manufacturers with 15 to 70 employees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants for the IC program must be medium to large sized manufacturers with 55 or more employees.
Co-contribution	
<p>CBI program participants will contribute \$2,500*per business per year for two years, a total of \$5,000*.</p>	<p>IC program participants will contribute a one-off \$5000*.</p>
Data Required of Participating Businesses	
<p>Each participating business commits to provide Ai Group and the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the Department) the following information (<i>these data are required so that comparisons of business performance pre- and post RMC participation may be ascertained. All data provided will be treated in the strictest confidence by the Department and Ai Group. A confidentiality form is attached</i>):</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location of headquarters • Manufacturing location(s) in Victoria • Key manufacturing sectors / activities • Number of FTE employees, by gender <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Victoria per site ○ In other Australian or international jurisdictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous three years, and for the next four years, in Victoria of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revenue ○ R&D Expenditure ○ Exports

Financial Contribution

For CBI: The first payment of \$2,500* must be paid on receipt of invoice following this application.
The second payment of \$2,500* is due on 1 July 2019.

For IC: The payment of \$5,000* must be paid on receipt of invoice following this application.

*Excluding GST

Applicant to Complete

RMC Program: CBI or IC (please circle)

Location:

The application form must be completed by an authorised representative of your business such as the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer or Chair of the Board of Directors.

On behalf of **of**.....

.....**Victoria, ABN**..... / **ACN**.....,

I am applying for the RMC CBI / IC program (**cross out which is not applicable**) and agree to fully supply the key information required to participate in the RMC program and participate within the relevant cluster.

Full Name:

Position Title:

Postal address:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Email address:

Signature: **Date:**

Forward to: Tim Farrah
The Project Manager
Regional Manufacturing Clusters
The Australian Industry Group
PO Box 7622
Melbourne, VIC 8004

Or email to: tim.farah@aigroup.com.au