

2012 Innovation in Dairy Manufacturing Award

Background

The innovation in Dairy Manufacturing Award is a Dairy Australia initiative that aims to foster a culture of excellence and innovation in the Australian dairy manufacturing sector.

This award provides \$20,000 Innovation Grant and an Award Certificate. The grant may be used to initiate or progress an innovation activity, for the benefit of the Australian dairy manufacturing sector.

Confidential projects are also welcome - see details below.

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be an Australian Citizen or permanent resident of Australia
- Be 18 years or older
- Be currently working in the dairy manufacturing or associated sector
- Have the ability to take the necessary time off work to undertake the project and meet award commitments
- Be able to demonstrate a specific funding need aimed at initiating or advancing either a product or process innovation in dairy manufacturing. Potential areas of innovation could include (but are not limited to):
 - Quality improvement
 - Productivity improvement
 - Product development
 - Business Knowledge Management
 - Training

Applicants should:

- Supply a Curriculum Vitae
- Supply a detailed description of the proposed innovation project and budget – see online application form
- Supply details of two referees willing to be contacted as part of assessment of the application
- Be available to attend the 2012 Australian Grand Dairy Awards ceremony in Melbourne on 14 March 2012
- Be able to complete all proposed Innovation activities by the end of 2012

Confidential Projects

If part or all of the project is confidential, the applicant can apply to keep the relevant information confidential for up to two years. The applicant would generally be expected to share the generic and non confidential information with the industry through various communication channels.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed on the following criteria:

- Industry need for the proposed innovation
- Potential benefits to industry from the proposed innovation
- Originality, scientific and technical merit of the proposed innovation
- Skills and experience of applicant
- Communication plan and budget – relevance and value

Selection Panel

The selection panel will include representatives from Dairy Australia, Dairy Innovation Australia Ltd and the Australian dairy manufacturing sector.

Award Conditions

The following conditions apply to the Award:

- Each applicant shall provide all the details requested in the application form.
- The successful applicant's employer will provide necessary support to the applicant to complete the commitments of the Award.
- All information provided by applicants or by others in connection with the application will be treated as confidential.
- Dairy Australia shall not be liable for any expenses incurred through accident or illness.
- Applicants will generally be expected to share the learnings from the project with the industry. However, if the project is confidential, applicants can apply to keep the company specific aspects of the project confidential for up to two years. Applicants will however be expected to share the generic learnings and non confidential information with the industry.

- On completion of the project, the applicant must provide a written report within one month and make relevant presentations at mutually convenient Australian dairy industry meetings within one year
- The decision of the selection committee shall be final.
- Applications close at 5.00pm on 31 January 2012. The winner of the Award will be announced at the Australian Grand Dairy Awards event in March, 2012.
- All the activities associated with the award should be completed by the end of 2012.

The Award application Form and the Award Conditions are available from the Dairy Australia website at www.dairyaustralia.com.au/dairy-manufacturing-award
Applications close 5.00pm, 31 January 2012.

More information:

For more information contact Jaclyn Walsh on 03 9694 3812 or email jwalsh@dairyaustralia.com.au or Dr Mani Iyer on 03 9694 3787 or email miyer@dairyaustralia.com.au

