

Advanced Research and Commercialization Program  
c/o MNP LLP  
Suite 2200, MNP Tower  
1021 West Hastings Street  
Vancouver, BC V6E 0C3  
Attention: Jessica Lunn



# Clean Energy Vehicle Advanced Research and Commercialization (ARC) Program

## ARC-2018-1 RFEOI

### Question and Answer Series No. 1

Issued October 4, 2018

---

The following questions and answers are issued in response to the questions of prospective applicants:

**Question 1: Regarding the minimum 10% contribution required from project proponents, could you explain how that would work?**

Proponents must contribute a minimum of 10% of project costs (may be in-kind) and must not request more than 50% of total project costs from BC Government sources (including ARC Program funding). The remaining 40% of project costs may be provided by the proponent, other private sources, or through federal or municipal funding opportunities.

The minimum 10% of project costs that must come from proponents may include in-kind support or direct financial contributions in support of the project.

**Question 2: Regarding the requirement to secure at least 50% of external funding, can that funding come from private sources?**

Yes, as long as the total BC Government contribution including ARC Program funding does not exceed 50%, and the project proponent commits to contributing at least 10% of project costs. The remaining funding may come from private sources and/or federal or municipal government sources.

**Question 3: Under eligible costs for commercialization, could proponents include work in progress, such as investments in machinery required to develop prototypes?**

Commercialization of a BC-based clean energy vehicle product, service or technology is an eligible activity, and this can include investments in manufacturing facilities or processes. For projects that involve work-in-progress, the proposed project must demonstrate incremental activity (i.e. over and above expenditures already made or committed to) by the proponent that requires additional funding. That is, the proponent must demonstrate the need for additional funding to further enhance or expand the work

that is currently in progress. The ARC Program will only provide funding for incremental costs associated with the project, and is not intended to provide funding for any costs incurred or committed to date.

**Question 4: Is the Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP) and Aboriginal Business Development Program considered federal funding?**

Both programs are considered federal funding.

**Question 5: Are operations or service-based activities eligible for funding?**

The eligibility of such activities may depend on their nature and intended outcomes. For example, operations or service-based activities that demonstrate a new or innovative BC-based product or service within the clean energy vehicle sector would be eligible. Proponents are encouraged to describe activities in further detail in an email to [admin@arcbc.ca](mailto:admin@arcbc.ca) to verify eligibility.

**Question 6: Could you please speak some more to the in-kind contributions by project proponents?**

In-kind contributions could take a number of forms, including equipment that project proponents would leverage for the project, or salary costs for project managers or other key personnel.

**Question 7: If the total amount requested by project applicants exceeds the \$675,000 of funding available under the first funding call, what will happen?**

Since this is a two-stage Request for Expression of Interest (RFEI) and Request for Proposals (RFP) process, applicants may be invited to revise the scope of their project application to fit within the funds allocated. Alternatively, project proponents that submit a favourable application, but whose project could not be funded under the first call, may be invited to apply again under the second funding call.

**Question 8: In the ARC instructions, it is not mentioned that universities are eligible to apply for this fund. Please advise.**

The ARC Program funding is intended to provide support to companies and organizations that are operating in the clean energy vehicle sector. While universities are not excluded from funding eligibility, we would encourage you to consider a consortium bid with a project partner that sees value in the academic research.

**Question 9: Do all funds disbursed under this program have to wait for final approval or can some be already spent by that time?**

The ARC Program will only fund project costs that are incurred after the project receives final approval.

**Question 10: Are projects consisting in research and development of renewable diesel, gasoline or jet fuel production processes through sustainable means, i.e. utilizing biogenic sources, eligible for funding?**

Unfortunately, these types of projects are not eligible for funding under the current funding call.