

Cleantech Research and Innovation Fund



The Cleantech Research and Innovation Fund (CRIF) assists businesses, educational institutions, or Indigenous communities in the research and development of a new product, service, or process that reduces negative environmental impacts through significant energy efficiency improvements or innovation, innovative non-emitting energy generation, the sustainable use of resources, or environmental protection activities.

Who is eligible to apply?

To be an eligible applicant, the applicant must have a physical presence on Prince Edward Island and they must represent one of the following groups;

- A private business, registered and in good standing with the PEI Business Registry that export products that it manufactures, processes, or develops.
- Educational institutions conducting research and development on cleantech.
- Indigenous Communities endeavouring to reduce environmental impacts through significant energy efficiency improvements or innovation, innovative non-emitting energy generation, the sustainable use of resources, or environmental protection activities.
- Other Government Agencies.

A business that has a defaulted outstanding debt obligation on file in the province's Central Default Registry is not eligible for the Cleantech Research and Innovation Fund.

What activities and costs are supported?

Funding may be available to support costs associated with validation, refinement, diversification, and/or commercialization.

To be eligible, a business must demonstrate that the product:

- is at a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 2,3,4,5, or 6 or equivalent as per Industry Canada;
- has demonstrated potential for export market uptake; and,
- has a high likelihood of successful commercialization and a demonstrated path to market, including a detailed timeline and milestones.

Eligible costs are limited to non-recurring direct costs to the research and development of a project. The following expenses are representative and not exhaustive:

- salaries directly related to the project (maximum 30 percent of the total project cost);
- subcontracting, engineering, and consulting expenses;
- materials;
- product or process testing and refinement;
- intellectual property strategy and protection;
- beta/pilot/prototype design and development;
- Academic and environmental research costs directly related to the project.

Applicable use of funds directly related to the project not outlined in the CRIF criteria can be approved by program staff.

What level of assistance is available?

The Cleantech Research and Innovation Fund may be accessed once per product and will provide 80 percent of eligible costs to a maximum of \$500,000 in assistance per approved project. The combined project funding from all non-repayable government sources cannot exceed 90 percent of eligible costs.

Application process

To help us consider your project, please supplement your online application with an R&D Project Plan, which must include:

- A detailed technical description of the proposed cleantech project
Describes how the proposed product, process, or service will achieve CRIF project pillars. Provides necessary details to allow assessors to compare to the Technology Readiness Matrix

- Your experience in cleantech, your R&D team and your key collaborators
Include the management experience of the management team within the applicant group. Identify key members of the project team with a summary of their roles and responsibilities. Equality across all gender identifications would be considered an asset. Include any other external groups that will be assisting with this project.

- Activities to be carried out
Provide an overview of the work to be completed as a part of this program. For each activity, please specify:
 - *The objective;*
 - *The expected outcome;*
 - *The roles and responsibilities of the members involved;*
 - *The time required for each activity;*
 - *The procedures or methods to be employed; and*
 - *Where applicable, the technological uncertainties and risk mitigation strategies for each task.*

- Financial summary, summary of work created to date and budget
Financial summary, including detailed budget, all financial contributors, and total amount of CRIF funds requested. This should include summary of work completed, total investment to date, with supporting documentation, sources of funds being accessed for the project; a description of the assets, research, and equipment required for completion of the project. The budget should clearly outline how funds are to be used as outlined in the eligible cost portion of the guidelines.

Once you've gathered your R&D project plan, apply online at CleantechPEI.ca