**D1 Response to Assessment Criteria – ARC Early Career Industry Fellowships 2024**

**PROJECT TITLE**

The assessment criteria are:

* Impact (25%)
* Commitment and alignment (25%)
* Candidate capability (25%)
* Research quality and innovation (25%)

These criteria are equally weighted across the application, we recommend using all sections of the application to their fullest extent e.g. candidate capability can also be demonstrated in section E, commitment and alignment can be demonstrated in section F.

**The purple text may be deleted to use this document as a template. The headings in black all caps are compulsory.**

**PROJECT AIMS AND BACKGROUND**

Summarise the background of the research and outline the aims of your project. Provide a clear description of the significance of the industry problem/challenge/opportunity being addressed and the progress of your field of research, nationally and internationally, ensuring that the current crucial gaps that your project aims to address are clearly articulated.

* Use dot points and separate paragraphs to add clarity.
* Use subheadings to signpost different ideas.
* Be mindful that the assessors may be drawn from a wide pool of experts from different areas of expertise. It is therefore important to write in accessible language, avoiding the use of jargon and unnecessary acronyms.

A common pitfall in this section is leaving all the excitement for the impact section. Draw the reader in with your aims and background.

**CRITERION 1: IMPACT**

Highlight the significance of the industry challenges in your field of research, their relevance to your partner/s, and how these challenges are related to the research gaps that your proposal will address. Remember that significance refers to importance and necessity at a particular point in time (why are these challenges a priority and must be addressed now? what is the negative impact on the industry and for Australia if action is delayed?).

Clearly articulate the potential transformation that the research project may bring for the industry and the broader community, in terms of research outcomes, translation and/or commercialisation. Include short-, medium- and/or long-term prospects, expanding beyond the Fellowship completion.

Elaborate on the potential to build and grow sustainable relationships between industry partners and UQ. Remember that you can draw on UQ’s broad expertise on industry engagement, which includes project management and professional development initiatives and resources available via UniQuest and the Research Partnerships Office.

Describe any required governance and management plans of the proposed pathways to impact, alluding to their appropriateness, completeness and effectiveness. Include related activities that will support research translation, adoption and/or commercialisation, including strategies for IP management.

Common shortfalls identified by assessors include: the market size is unknown, the timeframe to impact is only considered in the long-term, no pathway to commercialisation is articulated, a clear connection to end-users/policy makers has not been identified, the challenge is ambiguous or already has solutions.

**CRITERION 2: COMMITMENT AND ALIGNMENT**

Articulate the genuine relationship with the Key Industry Partner, describing the two-way engagement and the mutual benefits of the knowledge exchange. Expand on any relevant aspects of the engagement, from the co-development of the proposed research and execution of the research project through to the implementation of the outcomes of the research to create impact and benefit to the industry and broader community. Speak about the desire and commitment to expand the collaboration into a longer-term relationship.

Describe with sufficient detail how you will spend significant time working in an industry setting (*at least 20% of the project period*) and how you will be supported in terms of resources, facilities, and mentorship. Demonstrate the Industry Partner/s commitment to the success of the project, highlighting the importance of the financial and/or in-kind contributions. Remember that financial and in-kind contributions will be assessed in context and provide enough information to re-assure assessors that the contributions are well-thought, significant and adequate to the project’s success.

On multiple Partner projects, clearly outline the role, need, commitment and contributions for each Industry Partner.

Where applicable, include details of past collaborations and projects with the Industry Partner/s to showcase the strength of the collaboration.

**CRITERION 3: CANDIDATE CAPABILITY**

Detail your skills and experience demonstrating how these are aligned to the project. Include information about your research and industry experience and workload, relative to opportunity and justifying your career level. Highlight your capability to lead research projects in collaboration with industry and/or other research end-user groups, including to effectively supervise and mentor more junior staff (in industry and university) and students.

Include details of the impact and benefits that the Fellowship will bring to your professional development and career, and how this might benefit Australian research and industry sectors into the future. Convince the assessors that you are the right person to strengthen collaborations with industry and drive research to deliver practicable outcomes.

Include details of opportunities, available at UQ and Industry Partners, to enhance your research translation and/or commercialisation skills. Your Key Industry Partner should support your growth and development via mentorship, project-related industry experiences and/or specific training. UQ offers a range of initiatives to support capability in industry engagement, including research commercialisation training via UniQuest and the Research Partnerships Office, post-Fellowship support via the UQ Amplify Program and industry appointment opportunities.

For example:

In addition to the cash and in-kind commitments described above, <I/Fellow’s Name> will have access to high quality training in Industry engagement through UQ’s Research Partnerships Office and support from UQ’s commercialisation arm UniQuest. UniQuest is one of the leading Research Commercialisation vehicles in Australia, generating more than 100 companies from UQ’s intellectual property and is well positioned to support the commercialisation of research from this project.

**CRITERION 4: RESEARCH QUALITY AND INNOVATION**

Clearly describe how the rationale and concepts supporting your proposal, and the subsequent project’s methodology, are novel and address the industry challenges or opportunities. What ideas have you and your industry partners developed that have never been explored before? How does the methodology support the pursuit of the project? What is new in the proposed methodology? How do the proposed concepts and methods compare to previous research in this area?

Highlight the involvement of the Key Industry Partner staff and resources in the design, method and delivery of the research. On multiple Partner projects, clearly outline the need and role on the project for each for each Industry Partner, with their associated intellectual contributions.

Provide a well-articulated statement about the feasibility, re-assuring assessors that the proposed research is appropriately designed in terms of requested and allocated budget and resources, project duration, timelines, inter-dependencies, facilities and risk management.

If preliminary data is available, outline it here.

For projects involving Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander research please ensure that you have clearly described your collaboration, engagement, relationship building and benefit sharing arrangements with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, organisations, and/or communities. Also demonstrate your project’s adherence to and alignment with the Australian Indigenous Data Sovereignty Principles, the AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research, and the NHMRC’s guidelines on Ethical Conduct in Research with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and communities.

Use separate sub-sections and paragraphs for additional clarity.

**REFERENCES** *(if required)*

Refer only to research outputs that are accessible to the national and international research communities. Preprints and comparable resources must be explicitly identified by including [PREPRINT OR COMPARABLE] after the reference. References may be in 10pt font.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** *(if required)*

Acknowledge any significant contributions to this application in terms of ideas and authorship by persons not already named in this application.