1. Short-form editorial (150-200 words)

(Heading) Join Australian industry partners to solve complex challenges using quantum technology

(Subheading) The Australian Government is offering up to AUD$5.5 million in grant funding for collaborative projects with the Australian quantum community through the Critical Technologies Challenge Program.

(Body)

The Critical Technologies Challenge Program is an exciting opportunity for the quantum industry to accelerate the worldwide adoption of quantum technologies.

Applicants must form consortia to apply. Partners from your country are welcome to participate as part of a consortium, together with an Australian lead applicant.

Applicants can apply to solve one of four innovation-based challenges of national significance using quantum technology.

The challenges are:

* Challenge 1: Optimise the performance, sustainability, and security of energy networks.
* Challenge 2: Improve medical imaging and medical sensors to support diagnosis, treatment of disease and monitoring activities inside the human body.
* Challenge 3: Enhance communication with autonomous systems in varying environments.
* Challenge 4: Optimise and reduce the impact of resource exploration, extraction, and mineral processing.

**How to get involved**

It’s time to put your quantum solutions to the test! We strongly encourage you to reach out to your Australian contacts to start collaborating. You can also list your details on the CTCP Contacts Directory to connect with other potential applicants. Find the directory at [industry.gov.au/CTCPdirectory](https://consult.industry.gov.au/critical-technologies-challenge-program-contacts-directory).

For further details, including the grant opportunity guidelines and eligibility requirements, visit business.gov.au/ctcp.

1. Long-form editorial (500-600 words)

(Heading) Join Australian industry partners to solve complex challenges using quantum technology

(Subheading) The Australian Government is offering up to AUD$5.5 million in grant funding for collaborative projects with the Australian quantum community through the Critical Technologies Challenge Program.

(Body)

The Australian Government has officially announced its Critical Technologies Challenge Program and applications are now open.

The program is an exciting opportunity for the global quantum industry to test and develop quantum technology solutions.

This grant funding initiative will run from 2024 through to 2027, split across two rounds.

**What are the challenges?**

Applicants will be tasked with solving one of four innovation-based challenges of national significance, using quantum technology.

The challenges are:

* Challenge 1: Optimise the performance, sustainability, and security of energy networks.
* Challenge 2: Improve medical imaging and medical sensors to support diagnosis, treatment of disease and monitoring activities inside the human body.
* Challenge 3: Enhance communication with autonomous systems in varying environments.
* Challenge 4: Optimise and reduce the impact of resource exploration, extraction, and mineral processing.

**Up to AUD$36 million in funding is available**

The Critical Technologies Challenge Program is split into two funding rounds. Within each round, there are two stages: the first stage focuses on feasibility studies, while the second is the technology demonstrator stage.

During the feasibility stage, successful applicants will receive grants of up to AUD$500,000 to propose a quantum technology solution, or component, in a detailed feasibility project that will test and demonstrate the technical viability of that solution.

Following completion of stage 1 feasibility projects, applicants may be invited to apply for a stage 2 demonstrator grant of up to $5 million to build on their feasibility project and produce working prototypes or demonstrations.

(INSERT IMAGE)

**Joining a consortium**

A key focus of the Critical Technologies Challenge Program is testing quantum solutions that can be fast-tracked for commercialisation, both in Australia and abroad.

As a result, applications must be on behalf of a consortium that draws on the knowledge and expertise of various sectors.

Each consortium must include an Australian lead applicant and at least two project participants (inclusive of the lead applicant). At a minimum the consortia must include a research organisation and an industry partner.

A consortium may comprise:

* Academics (research organisations)
* Businesses
* Industry
* Start-ups
* Other interested entities and technology users
* International partners (note that international partners cannot be the lead applicant).

By prioritising collaboration between researchers and industry, the Australian Government is focussing on commercialisation pathways for the quantum industry.

Consortia can apply for multiple challenges by submitting a separate application for each, however grant funding can only be received for one challenge.

**How to get involved**

There has never been a better time to get involved in quantum.

Quantum technology is of high priority for governments, investors, and forward-thinking businesses, who understand how transformative these technologies will be.

You could hold the answers to the next quantum solution that transforms society and leaves a legacy for generations to come.

We encourage you to reach out to your Australian networks to start collaborating and brainstorming ideas. You can also list your details on the CTCP Contacts Directory to connect with other potential applicants. Find the directory at [industry.gov.au/CTCPdirectory](https://consult.industry.gov.au/critical-technologies-challenge-program-contacts-directory).

For further details, including the application guidelines and eligibility requirements, visit [business.gov.au/ctcp](https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/critical-technologies-challenge-program)