**APR.Intern – Submission Guidance (Program Partners)**

**University Research Commercialisation Scheme**

*Please see below for guidance on drafting a submission for the University Research Commercialisation Scheme.*

*Submissions (up to 1,500 words) can be emailed to the the Department of Education, Skills and Employment at* *urcs@dese.gov.au**, closing* ***11.59pm AEST Friday 9 April 2021****.*

*The consultation paper is available to download here:* [*https://www.dese.gov.au/about-us/resources/university-research-commercialisation-consultation-paper*](https://www.dese.gov.au/about-us/resources/university-research-commercialisation-consultation-paper)*.*

*Thank you supporting APR.Intern.*

**About APR.Intern**

Australian Postgraduate Research Intern (APR.Intern) is funded by the Federal Government and is Australia’s only national, not-for-profit PhD internship program. It connects businesses with Australia’s leading universities through PhD students, who apply their specialised research expertise to business challenges. PhD interns transfer their skills from theory to real-world application - a key mechanism for innovation through the translation and commercialisation of research.

APR.Intern is the front door to universities for businesses of all sizes – from start-ups through to government agencies and national corporations – linking the right PhD student to the research need and enhancing innovation capability for both industry and academia.

By placing highly skilled PhD students into 3-6 month industry research internships, the program is directly improving translation and commercialisation of research.

**Considerations for inclusion in a response:**

* Information on your partnership with APR.Intern including alignment, objectives and outcomes.
* Have the PhD internships – engaged by your members/network – helped to create jobs, advance product development and/or led to increased profits?
* Has the APR.Intern program helped bridge the recognised industry-university research gap?
* Has the program helped resolve issues around the time and financial risks associated with engaging in academic research?
* Has APR.Intern gone some way to prove that Government-administered programs have an important role to de-risk research projects in the national interest?
* How has APR.Intern helped to improve collaboration outcomes within your sector?
* How has the partnership allowed your organisation to better service its members and advance industry-university research collaboration?
	+ Benefits for your members/network could include: A cost-effective solution to tackle R&D, all IP remaining with the business, minimal administration, ability to fill a short-term skills gap with both PhD student and their Academic Mentor’s expertise.