The following details the most significant changes to the LP13 Funding Rules but is not intended to be comprehensive. Prospective applicants should familiarise themselves with the complete Funding Rules, FAQs and all other Linkage Project documentation prior to commencing and while drafting their application.

### Selection criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>LP12</th>
<th>LP13</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selection criteria</td>
<td>Selection Criteria retain most of the major criteria and weightings but there are important additions to all criteria and nuances, mostly related to the involvement of the PO (and PI) in the project and end-user benefits; for examples: Investigator(s): potential to engage in collaborative research with end-users has been added. Proposed Project: will the Project benefit Partner Organisation(s) and other relevant end-users has been added. Research Environment: both Admin Org and Parter Organisation will be assessed. Note that Commitment from Partner Organisation(s) replaces Nature of the alliance and commitment from a PO and is worth 30%’.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>$30,000 - $500,000pa</td>
<td>$50,000 - $300,000pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length of project</td>
<td>2-5 years</td>
<td>2-3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellowships</td>
<td>APDI and LIF</td>
<td>No Fellowships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD stipends</td>
<td>Min. $27,651 pa</td>
<td>No minimum specified; no special case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partner Organisations(s)</td>
<td>At least 1 PO</td>
<td>At least 1 Australian PO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO(s) eligibility</td>
<td>PO eligibility rules have been simplified and are more inclusive. However there have been significant changes to the rules regarding contributions especially from Commonwealth and State agencies that could impact on PO eligibility. See below for details on PO Contributions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO(s) cash (total combined)</td>
<td>At least 20% of request</td>
<td>At least 25% of request (with the exemption of charities, Not-For-Profit, start-ups and museums. See below for details on Partner Organisation Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO(s) in-kind</td>
<td>Unchanged. See below for details on Partner Organisation Contributions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigators</td>
<td>At least 1 CI (no APDIs)</td>
<td>At least 1 CI plus at least 1 PI from each Partner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>See below</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Partner Organisation Contribution Requirements

The Proposal must demonstrate that the combined Partner Organisation(s) eligible contributions for a Proposal (i.e. the total of the cash and in-kind eligible contributions of all Partner Organisations) must at least match the total funding requested from the ARC. This is as per previous rounds.

The combined Partner Organisation(s) eligible Cash Contribution must be at least **25 per cent of the total funding requested from the ARC.** This is an increase from 20% in previous rounds.

Cash Contributions cannot be sourced from funds awarded to a Partner Organisation by the Commonwealth or by an Australian State or Territory Government for the purposes of research or from funds previously used to leverage government research funding.

Partners predominantly funded by Commonwealth, State or Territory Government sources for the purposes of research may now be eligible, but their collective contributions (cash and/or in-kind) can only be used to satisfy a maximum of 25% of the required matching commitment from Partner(s). More is permitted, but any extra will not count towards satisfying the required matching commitment. This maximum of 25% is the.
combined eligible contribution from Partner Organisations of this type, and is not the maximum per individual Partner Organisation of this type.

The following types of Partner Organisation(s) are exempt from the Cash Contribution requirements:
- registered charities
- not-for-profit community organisations
- start-up companies
- museums or herbaria

Small business enterprise has been removed as an exempt category.

Proposals in which all Partner Organisations are exempt from the Cash Contribution requirements do not have to meet the overall Cash Contribution requirement specified above.

A Proposal submitted in RMS must include a letter of support (of no more than two A4 pages) from each Partner Organisation on its letterhead signed by the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, including a brief profile of the organisation and details of the Cash and In-kind Contributions.

Each Partner Organisation’s letter of support must:
- certify that no part of its Cash Contribution is drawn from funds previously appropriated or awarded from Commonwealth or Australian State or Territory sources for the purposes of research
- demonstrate the state the source of its Cash Contribution
- certify that it will meet the requirements outlined in a standard Funding Agreement, including the requirement to enter into arrangements regarding intellectual property.

The Partner Organisation Cash Contribution must not be a contribution to salaries for CIs and PIs on the Project.

At least one PI must be listed within the proposal from each Partner Organisation.

Budget

APDIs have been removed as personnel, as has LIF. However salary support for research associates and assistants at an appropriate salary level for the Administering Organisation is acceptable; this could include, for example, un-named research fellows (BRF or CSRF) but the role described in the Project Description must be consistent with that defined in UniSA’s Enterprise Agreement.

PhD stipends are not precluded, however the level must be appropriate for the Administering Organisation or industry and no minimum stipend is specified. [It is assumed that the 2013 APA rate will be acceptable.]

Domestic and international travel costs (economy) for Chief Investigators (CIs) and Partner Investigators (PIs), must now not exceed $50,000 over the life of the Project. Previously no limit applied. Note: Costs related to carrying out field research are not considered to be travel, except for the flights to and from the research site. The $50,000 limit does apply to these flights, as well as to travel and accommodation that is not related to field research. However, accommodation and living costs for research support teams in the field would be considered field research costs and as such, do not fall within the $50,000 limit.

Teaching relief for CIs has been capped to a total value of up to $40,000 per year (ie for all eligible CIs). Previously the allowance was $34,879 per six months for up to two CIs over the life of the project.

Whilst specialised computer equipment and software essential to the Project, has been added to the list of budget items supported, the requirement of the Administering Organisation to provide basic computer facilities has been expanded to include desktop computers, portable computer devices, printers, word processing and other standard software. Web hosting is now also identified as something the Administering Organisation must provide.

New budget items not supported include:
- ‘bench fees’ or similar laboratory access fees levied by the institution
- costs not directly related to research, for example, professional membership fees, fees for patent application and holding, visas, relocation costs, insurance, and mobile phones (purchase or call charges).