# **Centre of Excellence 2021/2022**

# **Financial Hardship Form**

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| **Applicant Name:** |  |
| **Project Name:** |  |
| **Project ID (generated in SmartyGrants when project was registered):** |  |

Applicants seeking to make a case for financial hardship (with regards to the co-contribution requirement) need to complete this Financial Hardship Form and submit it online via SmartyGrants along with the business case and any other supporting documentation.

1. **Outline why you cannot provide the minimum 50 per cent financial co-contribution of the estimated total project cost.**

Financial co-contributions are defined as cash or other committed funding sources.

Financial co-contributions can come from council, partner organisations or other external funding sources such as other government funding programs. Committed funding from other government funding programs must be for separate components of the project than requested under the Centre of Excellence Fund.

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**2.** **Outline your case for exemption from the minimum financial co-contribution**

An exemption from the minimum 50 per cent financial co-contribution may be granted where a project is located in a disadvantaged area of NSW. The starting point for measuring disadvantage for this fund is the [Socio-Economic Index for Areas](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/2033.0.55.0012016?OpenDocument) (SEIFA), published by the ABS.

Other considerations may be:

* impact of significant industry decline or business closure
* recovery from a significant natural disaster or pandemic e.g. COVID-19
* significant recent change in population or community demographics
* other exceptional circumstances.

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1. **Advise the amount of your minimum financial co-contribution.**

Financial co-contributions can come from council, partner organisations or other external funding sources such as other government funding programs and bank loans. List the cash amount being provided from each source.

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**4. Outline in-kind contributions to the project**

Please outline in-kind contributions to the project, such as land, lease of land, or maintenance of an asset across the whole of life cycle. Evidence of the value of these contributions (e.g. land valuation) should be attached.

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