

## Expression of Interest EOI

### **Part 1 – General Details**

<b>EOI ID</b>	998
<b>EOI Title</b>	ACSA Cotton Fundamentals Course Scholarship
<b>Type of Research</b>	Capacity and education
<b>Expected Start Date</b>	16/03/2026
<b>Expected End Date</b>	20/03/2026
<b>CRDC Pillar</b>	2. People
<b>CRDC Theme</b>	2.2 Leadership and Capacity
<b>CRDC Outcome</b>	2.2.1 By 2028, the industry has access to the right skills and capacity to support research and development
<b>EOI Close Date</b>	02/02/2026

### **Part 2 – Expression of Interest Requirements**

#### **Issue to be addressed and project description:**

CRDC is offering two competitive scholarships to support participation in the ACSA Cotton Fundamentals Course.

The ACSA Cotton Fundamentals Course aligns closely with CRDC's Strategic Plan by fostering industry knowledge, innovation, and sustainability. By equipping participants with a strong understanding of cotton production systems, supply chain processes, and best practices, the course supports CRDC's goal of driving continuous improvement and building a skilled workforce to meet future challenges in cotton production.

Each scholarship provides \$1,500 reimbursement towards course costs.

This competitive process will be assessed based on applicant's ability to demonstrate a commitment to applying knowledge gained from the course to benefit the sector.

Please note - registration into the ACSA Cotton Fundamentals Course should be directly through ACSA and completed before applying to the scholarship. To register please contact Tracey Byrne-Morrison [secretariat@austcottonshippers.com.au](mailto:secretariat@austcottonshippers.com.au)

#### **Expected project outputs and outcomes:**

This initiative aims to build capability and knowledge within the cotton industry by supporting individuals

committed to professional development.

**Project Investment:**

Year	2025/26	TOTAL
Indicative budget (up to)	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

**Additional guidance:**

This competitive process will be assessed based on applicant's ability to demonstrate a commitment to applying knowledge gained from the course to benefit the sector.

In the proposed travel purpose/outcome - Please include information on how you will provide benefit to the Australian cotton industry as a result of participating in course.

15/1/2026 Update: EOI close date extended to 2 February 2026.

### **Part 3 – Selection Criteria**

The following selection criteria will be used by the CRDC to assess the full research proposals (FRPs) received for each Expression of Interest.

#### **The rationale of the project, how it will support CRDC's Strategic Plan and the potential impacts for the Australian cotton industry and the Australian community.**

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness of the proposal's understanding of the issues, and the extent to which the project outcomes will address the issues and support CRDC to achieve its measures of success.

#### **Project methodology.**

This criterion will be assessed on the soundness and clarity of the proposed R&D methods to achieve project deliverables and outcomes.

#### **The skills and capacity of the research team to undertake the project.**

This criterion will be assessed on the track record, technical knowledge and experience of all key personnel in the research area and the demonstrated capacity of the nominated researcher/s to provide project coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation for the timely delivery of high quality outputs.

#### **The proposed 'Pathway to Impact'.**

This criterion will be assessed on the appropriateness of the proposed 'Pathway to Impact' and the demonstrated capacity of the project personnel to effectively translate research/project outcomes to on ground actions. Please include the target audience and process for extension/ communication/ commercialisation (as appropriate), as well as any collaboration partners and potential risks. Note that successful FRPs may be requested to develop specific milestones for delivery of project outcomes in collaboration with CottonInfo or CRDC Commercialisation Manager at the outset of the project.

#### **Proposed collaborations for the project and / or the collaborative networks of the project team.**

This criterion will be assessed on the demonstrated ability of the project personnel to form productive networks to build on national and international research already undertaken in related areas.

#### **How this project is cost effective for the Australian cotton industry, including details of the resources being brought to the project.**

This criterion will be assessed on the cost effectiveness of this project including cash and in-kind commitments from the applicants and leverage through domestic or international linkages. Budget including descriptive text will also be assessed as part of this criterion.

To apply, [follow this process](#). For further information, contact the CRDC Innovation Administration team on 02 6792 4088 or via [research@crdc.com.au](mailto:research@crdc.com.au).

This EOI is not a guarantee of funding.