



Intellectual Property Policy

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The Australian Research Council

The Australian Research Council (ARC) is a non-corporate Commonwealth entity established under the *Australian Research Council Act 2001* (ARC Act). The ARC is responsible for administering the National Competitive Grants Program (NCGP), assessing the quality, engagement, and impact of research, overseeing the Australian research ethics and integrity framework, and providing advice and support on research matters.

The ARC is focused on driving world-class research and innovation for the advancement of Australian society. The ARC plays a critical role in providing ongoing investment in university research and encouraging the adoption and translation of that knowledge, to increase its impact and achieve greater national benefit for Australia.

Purpose and Principles

The ARC is committed to maximising the benefits to Australia from ARC funded research through the effective management and use of intellectual property (IP) arising from ARC funded research. This policy supports this commitment and sets out the IP requirements for the NCGP.

This policy is designed to facilitate an adaptable research and innovation environment, in which ARC funded research can be used widely and the benefits can be realised for Australia.

The ARC does not seek to own, or benefit from, IP created from ARC funded research. IP arising from ARC funded research will vest as agreed between the organisations collaborating on the research.

The ARC has adopted a flexible approach to IP with a focus on:

- supporting a collaborative research sector encompassing the Australian and international higher education sectors, industry, business and government;
- enabling access for business and industry, as major investors in research and innovation, to IP arising from ARC funded research;
- implementing mechanisms to ensure ARC funded research can be best utilised through IP sharing; and
- supporting the protection of IP.

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, IP rights means all copyright, patents, registered and unregistered trademarks (including service marks), registered designs, and other rights resulting from intellectual activity (other than moral rights under the Copyright Act 1968).

Implementation

National Competitive Grants Program

All ARC grants must comply with the IP requirements detailed in the applicable ARC Funding Rules/Grant Guidelines and Funding/Grant Agreements, the *National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research*, and the *Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research*.

The Funding/Grant Agreement requires that Administering Organisations adhere to an IP policy that maximises the benefits to Australia arising from the research.

Specific IP requirements for Participating Organisations are also detailed in the Funding/Grant Agreement.

Relevant Documents

Documents relevant to the ARC *Intellectual Property Policy* can be located at the links below.

NCGP:

- [ARC Funding Rules/Grant Guidelines](#)
- [ARC Funding/Grant Agreements](#)
- [National Principles of Intellectual Property Management for Publicly Funded Research](#)
- [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#)

Contact details

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Document control

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