



This tool will help you work out what stage your business is at in its journey, and whether our **Business Start-Up Grant** or **Business Growth Grant** is the right fit for you.

Every business goes through stages; from a bright idea to becoming an established and sustainable business.

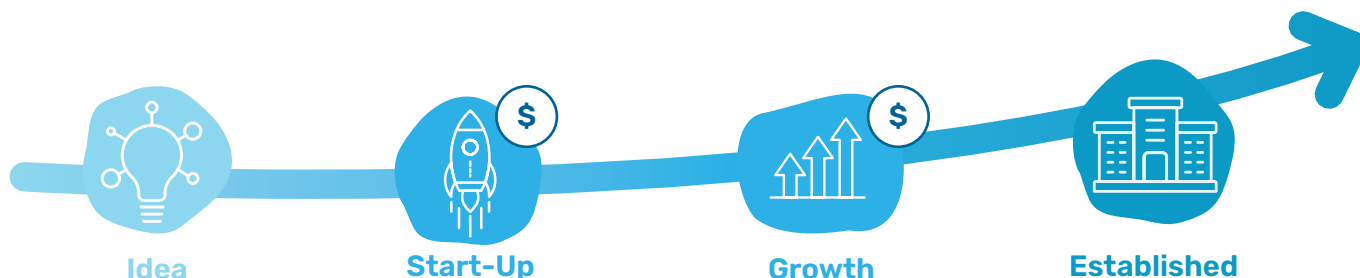
Aboriginal Investment NT was established under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976*. Under that Act, grant funding provided through this program must be for the benefit of Aboriginal people living in the Northern Territory.

## Our Business Grants

Aboriginal Investment NT offers two types of business grants for Aboriginal Territorians:

-  **Business Start-Up Grant**  
- up to \$100,000 (GST exclusive)
-  **Business Growth Grant**  
- up to \$150,000 (GST exclusive)

## Business Development Journey



## What stage is my business at?

Use this checklist to see which stage your business is in and if one of our grants is the right fit for you.

### Idea



- You have an idea for a new business
- You are doing research and planning for your business idea
- You have begun the process of registering or organising your business, but there's still more work to do
- Your business has not started trading (spending and making money) yet
- Your business does not have insurances and licences in place

If you ticked **TWO OR MORE** of these boxes, your business is likely in the **Idea** stage and not ready to apply for this grant program.



## Start-Up



- You have set up your business (for example, you have an ABN or ACN)
- Your business has started trading (spending and making money), or you are ready to start trading
- Your business has been trading for less than two years
- You know how your business will make money – what you sell or provide
- You know who your customers are and who will buy your products or services
- You are setting up simple systems to run your business day-to-day, like tracking income and expenses (your money story)
- You know what insurances and licences you need to operate your business and are in the process of getting them or have them in place
- Your business has legal access to the land it needs to operate
- Your business has not received grant funding with a total value of \$100,000 (GST Ex) or more from Aboriginal Investment NT or the Aboriginal Benefits Accounts

If you ticked ALL of these boxes, your business is likely in the **Start-Up** stage

## Growth



- Your business has been trading (spending and making money) for at least one year
- Your business is growing by adding new or different ways to make money, such as creating and selling a new product or service or reaching more customers
- Your business has enough money and assets (for example equipment, vehicles) to cover its debts (money you owe other people)
- Your business has financial systems (for example accounting software) in place to manage your business
- Your business has the insurances, licences, registrations and access to land it needs in place to run your business legally
- Your business has not received grant funding with a total value of \$250,000 (GST Ex) or more from Aboriginal Investment NT or the Aboriginal Benefits Accounts in the previous 3 years

If you **ALL** of these boxes, your business is likely in the **Growth** stage



## Established



A business is considered established if it meets **TWO or more** of the following criteria. Please tick all boxes that apply to your business.

- Your business has been trading for more than 5 years
- Your business has an annual turnover greater than \$1 million
- Your business employs 5 or more employees
- Your business net assets are greater than \$500,000

If you ticked **TWO OR MORE** boxes, **you are not eligible** for this Grant program.

## Next steps

### If your business is in the Start-Up or Growth stage

If the checklist shows that your business is at the Start-Up or Growth stage, you MAY be eligible for our Business Grants.

#### Next Steps

1. Check your [eligibility](#)
2. Prepare your [Supporting documents](#) – gather all the supporting documents you'll need for your application
3. Read the [Guidelines](#) before you apply
4. Start your [Eligibility Application](#)

### If your business is in the Idea stage

If you are in the Idea stage, our Business Grants might not be the right fit for you right now. Please talk with our Engagement Officers about how they may be able to support you.

### If your business is in the Established stage

If your business is in the Established stage and seeking opportunities to grow your business, please reach out to our Investment Team at [investments@aboriginalinvestment.org.au](mailto:investments@aboriginalinvestment.org.au) who may be able to support you further.