

New support for business R&D from 1 July

TechNZ, the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology's business investment programme will be able to support more businesses from 1 July. From that date, new funding will come in to increase the range of options for businesses to get support in doing R&D.

The Foundation is currently rolling out two new R&D investment products under the TechNZ umbrella. The Technology Development Grant and the Technology Transfer Voucher were announced by the Government as part of Budget 2010. These are working titles and subject to change.

We are in the process of setting up investment processes and tools for the two new products. In the meantime we would like to keep you up-to-date so you can make an informed decision on the suitability of the new R&D products to your funding needs, and remind you of the other TechNZ products and services available.

The information below will give your business an opportunity to start collecting the information we need to make investment decisions later in the year, when the products are launched. Following the announcement by the Government, we have received many enquiries for information on the development grant and voucher. We expect that the grant will be heavily contested and not all applicants will be successful.

However, we have a range of support available to assist businesses of all sorts and sizes doing R&D - from expert advice with R&D strategy, employing student interns, through to undertaking large, high-stretch R&D projects.

If you're a current client or have previously received TechNZ funding before, talk to your Investment Manager about which product is most suitable for you.

If you're new to R&D investment, we have a network of regional partners who will tailor the investments to suit your needs. Call 0800 TechNZ to contact your nearest regional partner or visit <http://www.frst.govt.nz/funding/business/technzpartners>.

To receive the latest information on the developments in this space, you can sign up for our TechNZ email updates, by emailing TechNZ@frst.govt.nz. This is also the address for general enquiries relating to TechNZ products.