

NATIONAL PARK TOURISM EXPERIENCES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WESTERN
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WALKING ON A DREAM

📍 KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK, THE PILBARA



GENERAL

Why has this program been established?

The Unique Tourist Accommodation Proposals (UTAP) program has been created as part of the broader National Park Tourism Experiences Development (NPTED) program. NPTED was established by the Western Australian Government in 2022 to facilitate the delivery of new tourism accommodation and experiences in and around the state's national parks, marine parks and conservation parks.

A key part of the NPTED program is to enable the development of unique tourist accommodation to meet gaps within the commercial short stay accommodation sector and to diversify the range of experiences across the state.

To achieve this, the UTAP program has been developed to provide access to funding to private investors/developers to progress unique tourism accommodation across Western Australia.

What does the term 'unique tourist accommodation' mean?

The term 'unique tourist accommodation' is defined as an offering that provides a distinctive or unconventional experience for overnight visitors. The offering may be unique in its design, location, or operation, providing guests with memorable experiences and a connection to place.

What support is available through the UTAP program?

Successful proponents are eligible for up to \$100,000 (ex GST) in funding to undertake studies and planning assessments required to progress their unique tourist accommodation project.

Proponents should refer to the UTAP Guidelines to confirm which projects are eligible to apply for funding.

When is the UTAP program open until?

Submissions for the UTAP program close at 5.00pm AWST on Friday, 2 May 2025. All applications will be assessed and determined after the closing date.

When will I be notified of the outcome of my application?

After the closing date, it will take approximately eight weeks to assess and determine submissions. Proponents will be advised of the outcome in writing.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

I operate an existing tourism accommodation facility and want to expand my current offering with a different type of accommodation product. Am I eligible for funding through this program?

You could be eligible, provided that the product being proposed conforms with the definition of 'unique tourist accommodation' and meets all other eligibility requirements.

If you have further questions, please contact Tourism WA via email at utap@westernaustralia.com to discuss your proposal further.

If I am successful for this program, do I have a timeframe on when I must expend the funds by?

While there is no nominal date on when the funds would have to be used by, funding from the UTAP program is required to be expended 12 months from receipt of approval of funding.



SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Why do I need to provide quotations?

Proposals must include quotations as this will indicate the anticipated costs to undertake the preliminary assessments and studies. These will also confirm the grant amount if your submission is successful.

What quotations will I be required to provide?

A minimum of two quotations from suitably qualified professionals are required for each study or assessment being sought as part of the submission.

Quotations must be current (within the last 6 months) and clearly show the extent of the work proposed (scope) and costings of all activities anticipated to be funded by UTAP (exclusive of GST).

What evidence do I need to demonstrate that I have contributed resources to the project?

There are several ways to demonstrate that you have contributed resources to the project. The preferred option is to provide evidence of paid invoices which relate to the progression and development of the project; however, any material or supporting documentation which demonstrates project expenditure can also be submitted.

Please note that any costs associated with the purchase of land (or connected with the purchase of land) is not considered a contribution.

BUSINESS ELIGIBILITY

What if I am a new business and want to apply for the program?

The UTAP program is open to existing and proposed operators and developers, although proponents are highly encouraged to demonstrate sound financial viability as an ongoing trading entity, with proven capacity and capability to deliver their proposed project.

Can I apply multiple times for the UTAP Program?

Yes, if the applications are for projects on different sites/locations. Only one application per proposal/site will be accepted.

FURTHER ASSISTANCE AND ENQUIRIES

Who can I contact for further assistance and enquiries?

You can contact Tourism WA via utap@westernaustralia.com

Tourism Western Australia

Level 10, 1 William Street, PERTH WA 6000

GPO Box X2261 PERTH WA 6847

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