

## Checking Project Limits for ARC Schemes

Re: Eligibility to apply for schemes under the ARC Discovery & Linkage Programs

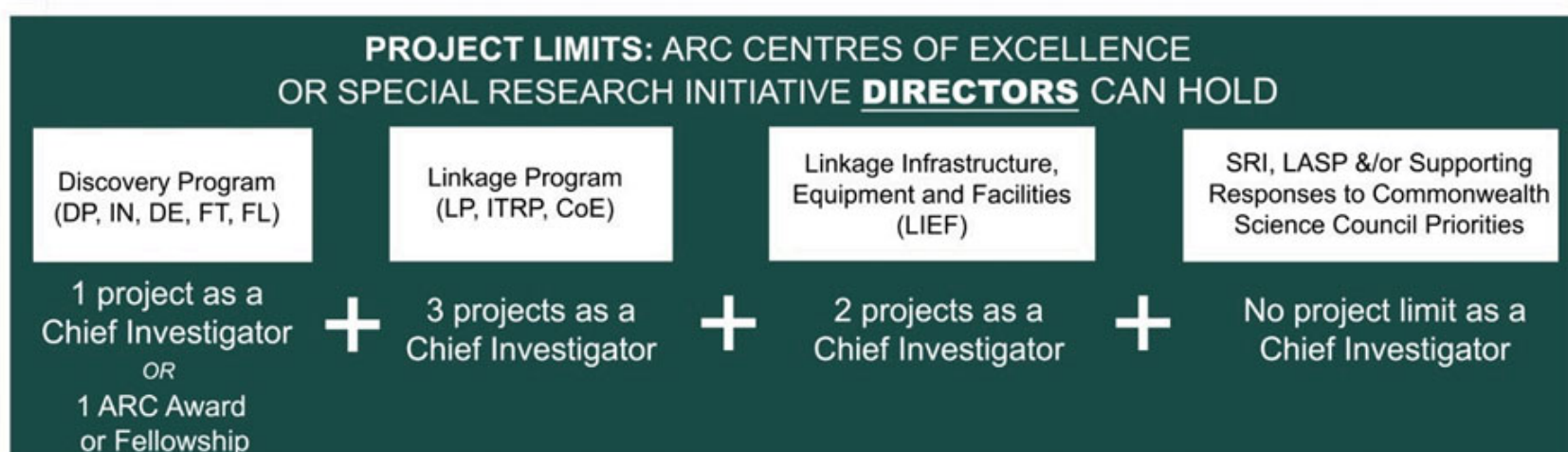
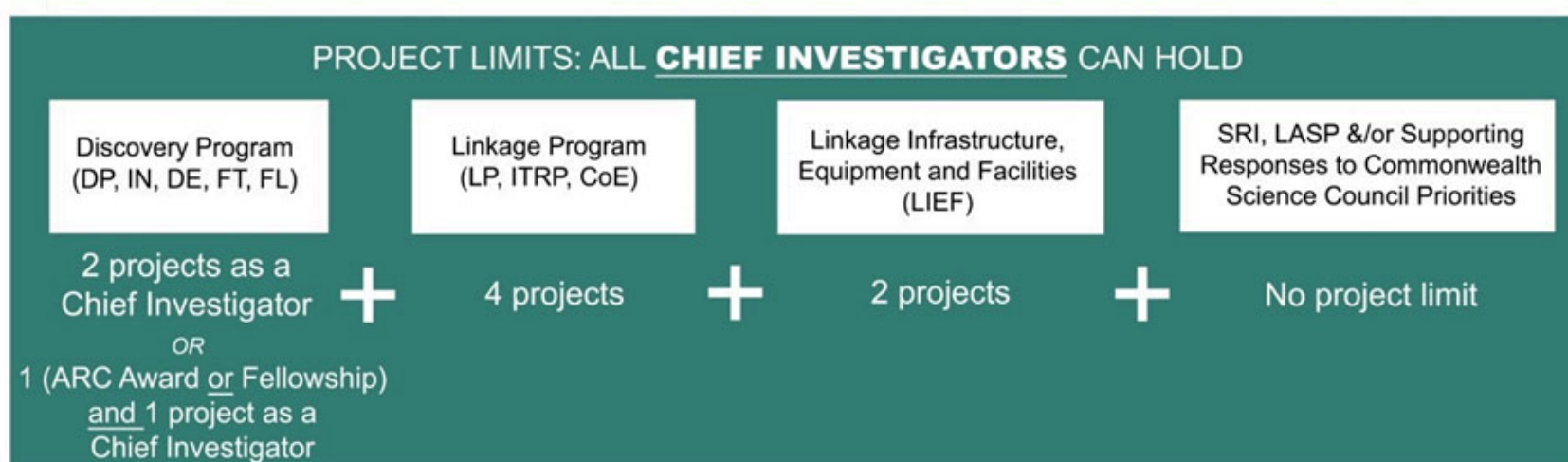
*The MRO advises all those interested in applying for an open ARC Scheme Round to check their Project Limits before creating a new application in RMS.*

Each scheme under the National Competitive Grant Program (NCGP) has defined project limits, which assists in determining whether a researcher is eligible to be named on a grant. Project limits are designed to ensure that named participants in ARC funded research projects have the capacity to undertake their proposed and active project(s).

It is the responsibility of the applicant to maintain their eligibility for the duration of their Project, as holding an already funded project may affect your eligibility to apply for new ARC grant opportunities. RMS has built-in software that will block applications from being submitted by the MRO when an applicant exceeds or meets their Application limitations or Project limitations.

### How many projects can a Chief Investigator or Director hold under the NCGP?

The diagram below is from the [ARC website](#), and shows the maximum number of active projects that can be held concurrently across the schemes and programs of the NCGP. Please note, you may only hold one Director role.



When thinking about applying, you must consider how many active projects you will be named on at the active project assessment date (**including both Monash-led and Non-Monash led bids**), and whether your other active projects or submitted applications under assessment will count towards the project limits of the scheme you are applying for.

## **Application Limitations vs Project Limitations**

There are some schemes under the Discovery Program which have **application limitations**, these are different (but connected) to **project limitations**.

If you have submitted an application for a scheme under the Discovery Program that is **currently under assessment by the ARC**, this will count towards your limits.

### **Example of Application Limitations**

The *Discovery Early Career Researcher Award* (DECRA) section of the *Discovery Program Grant Guidelines* (Part C) states that an individual who has been nominated for a DECRA on two previous occasions, over the period in which the candidate is eligible, is not eligible to apply for another DECRA. This includes applications that were withdrawn after the grant opportunity closing date and applications that We deemed ineligible.

This is an example of an application limitation for a scheme, which is not directly related to the amount of projects the applicant holds.

### **Examples of Application Limitations as they relate to Project Limitations**

#### **Example 1 - Discovery Program Limits**

The active project assessment date for **Discovery Projects (DP)** for funding commencing in 2026 is 1 July 2026:

- If you have two active DP projects which have an “End Date” listed in RMS as being **after** 1 July 2026, you will not be able to submit a DP26 EOI.
- If you have one active DP which has an “End Date” that falls **after** the active project assessment date, then you will be able to submit 2x **applications** to other Discovery Program schemes, but only **hold** one (if both are successful). As such, you will be **required to nominate which project you plan to relinquish** if both applications are successful, so that you only **hold** 2x active projects under the Discovery Program.

- If you have one active DP, where the End Date falls after the project assessment date **and** you have submitted an application to another scheme under the Discovery Program that is currently under assessment, **the application under assessment will also be counted as an “Active Project”**. This means you will only be able to submit 1x DP EOI and will need to nominate which Project you will relinquish if both applications are successful. This ensures that you will only **hold** 2x active projects under the Discovery Program.

### Example 2 - Linkage Program Limits

The active project assessment date for **Linkage Projects** for funding applied for in 2024 Round 2 applications is 1 January 2026:

- If you have 4x active Linkage grants (including LP, ITRP, CoE) which have an “End Date” listed in RMS as being **after** the active project assessment date, you will be blocked in RMS from submitting another application to a scheme under the Linkage Program
- If you have 2x active linkage grants (including LP, ITRP, CoE) which have an “End Date” listed in RMS as being after the active project assessment date, you will be able to submit another application to a scheme under the Linkage Program.

In all cases (Discovery and Linkage), if your active project’s End date falls before the scheme’s Active Project Assessment date, it will not be counted towards your limits.

### **How to check the “End Date” of currently active ARC applications in RMS**

You can see the list of all current ARC Projects on which you are a named CI (Chief Investigator) in RMS.

To find this list, go to the Person Profile section of RMS and click the link to Current ARC Projects.

#### Person Profile ▾

Personal Details

Expertise and Fields of Research

Qualifications

Employment

Availability

**Current ARC Projects**

Research Outputs

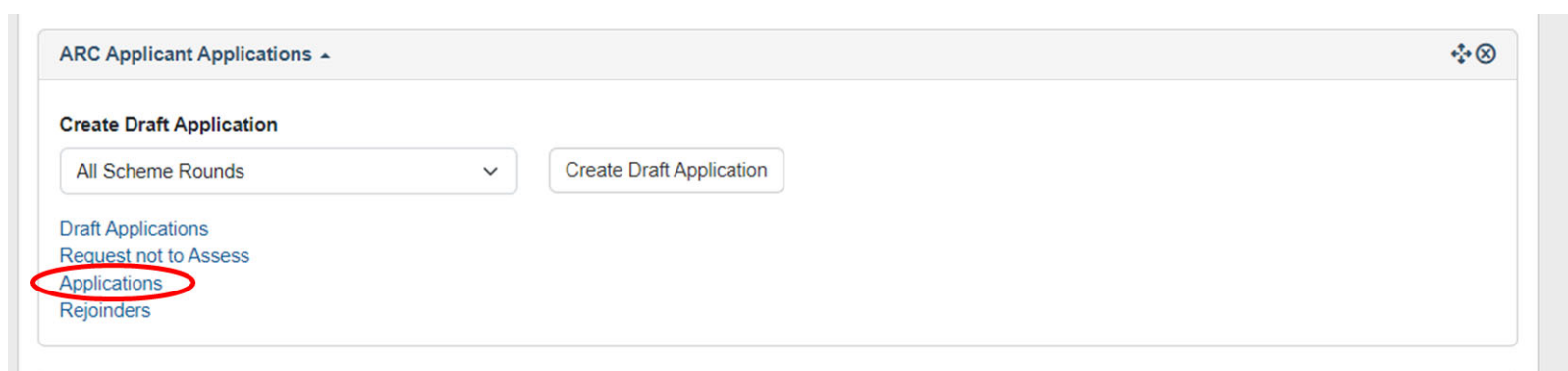
All of your Active ARC Projects will appear in a list, like the example below:

Identifier	Investigators	Admin Organisation	Project Title	Funding	End Date	Final Report Due Date	Final Report Status
DP21XXXXXXX	A/Prof Example Example	The University of X	Example Project Title 1	\$379,400	08/01/2024	08/01/2025	Draft
DP23XXXXXXX	A/Prof Example Example	The University of X	Example Project Title 2	\$419,122	24/01/2026	31/12/2026	Draft
FT17XXXXXXX	A/Prof Example Example	The University of X	Example Project Title 3	\$684,422	28/02/2022	28/02/2023	Submitted to ARC

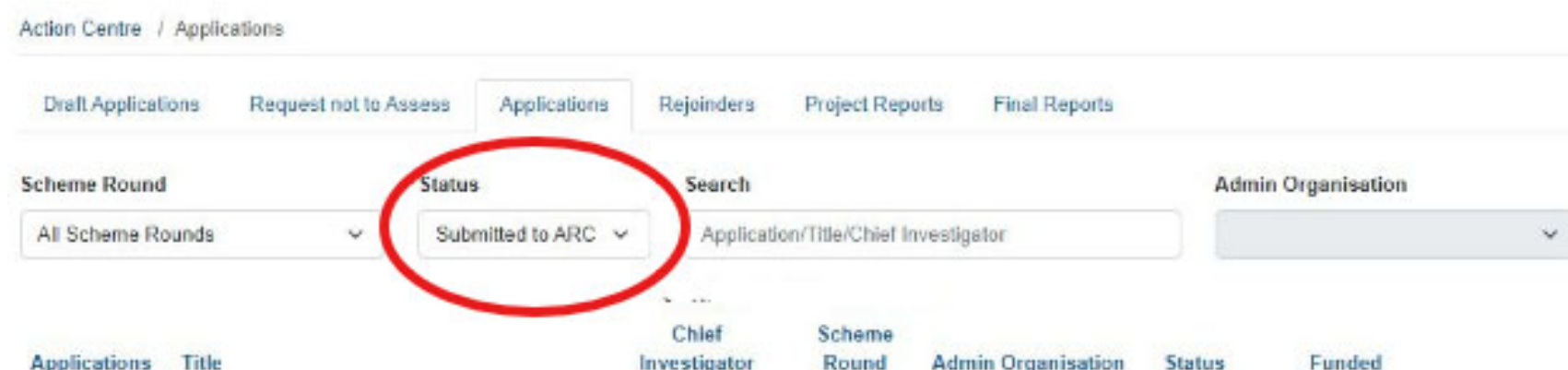
This above table shows the “End Date” and “Final Report Due Date” of your active projects. The “End Date” is used to determine your active projects when applying for another scheme. You should not have any outstanding Final Reports at the time of submitting another application, as this may affect your CI eligibility.

## Checking all Submitted applications (Active projects and applications under assessment)

You can view all of your submitted applications to the ARC (funded, not funded, and currently under assessment) in RMS by clicking on the “Applications” tab. See image below:



You can then select “Submitted to ARC’ in the ‘Status’ drop down, as per the screenshot below



Project ID	Project Title	Chief Investigator	Scheme Round	Admin Organisation	Status	Outcome/Funded
LP23xxxx	Example project title 1	A/Prof Example Example	LP23 Rd 1	Uni of A	Submitted to ARC	Funded
FT23xxxx	Example project title 2	A/Prof Example Example	FT23 Rd 1	Uni of A	Submitted to ARC	Not Funded
DP22xxx	Example project title 3	(PCI listed) A/Prof Example Example	DP22 Rd1	Uni of A	Submitted to ARC	Funded
DP25xxx	Example project title 4	(PCI listed) A/Prof Example Example	DP25 Rd 1	Uni of B	Submitted to ARC	

*In this example, the DP25 is “Currently Under Assessment” and means that they could submit **one** application for the DP26 EOI, and would need to nominate which DP would be relinquished if both are successful.*

**The application without an outcome indicates that it is currently under assessment by the ARC.** For Discovery Program schemes, an application that is under assessment will also be counted towards project limits at the grant opportunity closing date.

*Please note the Chief Investigator column in the above table only lists the Lead Chief Investigator of the Project (not all Chief Investigators). Even though your name may not appear in the Chief Investigator column, if you are involved with that project as a CI, it will appear in your list and give you a snapshot of all the projects you are participating in.*

### Important Notes for Monash applicants

- Please check your limits for the scheme you wish to apply for, before commencing your application.
- The Monash Research Office (MRO) only has visibility of your Monash-led applications and awarded projects. MRO does not have visibility of any Applications or Awarded Projects that you are associated with which are led by another University, but these will still count towards your limits.
- The ARC have advised that there is a turnaround time of **up to 60 days** for requests to change the End Date of an existing project. In addition, the MRO Awards team requires adequate time to process your request. As such, we recommend checking your limits and making any requests to change the End Dates of an existing project as soon as possible, to ensure adequate processing time before the submission deadline of the scheme you would like to apply for. Please note that any request to expedite changes to End Dates are at the ARC’s discretion.
- If you have any further queries regarding your eligibility, please take a screenshot of your “Submitted to ARC” list from RMS and email it with your question to [mro-applications@monash.edu](mailto:mro-applications@monash.edu)

## Definitions

Grant Commencement Date	The date on which grant funding may commence, as determined by the ARC
Start Date	The date your awarded grant started, as listed in RMS. This may be different to the “Grant Commencement Date” if there were delays to the commencement of your awarded project.
End Date	The date the ARC recognises as when your awarded grant ends, as listed in RMS (this may have been modified from the initial end date if you have successfully submitted a post-award variation).
Active Project Assessment Date	The date on which active project eligibility will be considered for project and application limits per named participant.
Important Dates	The Important Dates which relate to the scheme you are applying for. These can be found here: <a href="#">“Important Dates for ARC Grant Application Process”</a>