



# CEEDWA

## Industry Sponsored Research Projects

## Employee Project Model

### Cooperative Education for Enterprise Development (CEED)

is a formal program that connects students with industry through applied, real-world research projects.

#### Overview

CEED Employee projects allow Honours or Masters students who are engaged with an organisation (e.g. as an employee, cadet or scholarship holder), to undertake a sponsored research project aligned with their employer's business objectives, in order to fulfil their academic research unit requirements (thesis).

The model is based on the CEED three-quarter (3/4) project, with a significantly reduced fee to reflect that the student continues to be remunerated by the client. The fee primarily contributes to academic supervision and overheads in relation to the administrative, contractual and governance requirements managed by the CEED program.

- Duration: 9-12 months
- Professional Practicum: 150hrs
- Studentship: Scholars do not receive a separate studentship.

### Eligibility

To be eligible, the student must:

- Receive remuneration from the client exceeding the standard CEED 3/4 studentship (\$7,500) over the two academic semesters of the project (excluding vacation periods).
- Undertake a project that directly relates to the client's business or operational needs.
- Complete the project as part of two research project units, and meet all academic and assessment requirements of that unit.

It is essential the scholar is allocated sufficient time within their existing work arrangements to work on their project. Where this cannot be accommodated, it is recommended that the project proceed as a "3/4" project, to compensate the scholar for their additional time.

### Project Fees and Expenses

Project fees are determined by the Intellectual Property (IP) requirement of the client.

- Shared IP (50/50 split with the University) - \$3,200
- 100% Ownership of IP by the Client - \$4,200

Project-related expenses incurred by the university (e.g. consumables, materials, workshop time, equipment or laboratory access fees) must be authorised in writing in advanced and will be passed on to the client without overhead.

### Project Delivery

Employee Projects delivered through CEED proceed under:

- The approved CEED project proposal, and
- CEED Standard Project Agreement.

Where the client-specific agreements (e.g. NDAs or variation) are required, CEED will work with the client and university Legal Services to prepare and finalise the appropriate documentation.

The client must nominate a Client Mentor, who will co-supervise the project, provide organisation context, and act as the primary liaison with the client.

CEED will assist in securing an appropriate Academic Supervisor(s). If a suitable supervisor cannot be identified, the recommendation is that the project does not proceed.

As the student has an employment relationship with the client, they are

not covered under UWA or Curtin University's Student Placement Insurance. However, Liability Insurance remains applicable due to the involvement of university staff in the project.

## Project Process – Initiation to Deliverables

**Commencement** - Once a project proposal is provided and approved, the scholar signs a Student Undertaking binding them to the agreed conditions. A project kick-off meeting is organised with the project team, and the scholar participates in a CEED Induction that covers how to manage an industry-based research project.

**Ongoing Project Work** - Scholars continue to work on the project throughout the year at the Client's premises, while maintaining regular meetings with their Supervisor and Mentor. Access to university facilities, workshops, and technical staff may be organised to support research activities. Scholars submit monthly reports to update the CEED Office and project team on progress and to flag any emerging issues.

**Assessments** - All assessments are submitted via a secure confidential portal. Any public dissemination of results requires client approval.

### Project Brief

Scholars prepare a Project Brief outlining the project's deliverables,

methodology, and resources required for successful completion. Supervisors and Mentors play a key role in supporting the student throughout this process.

**CEED Seminar** - In September, CEED Scholars present their research at the Annual CEED seminar. This public event is attended by industry professionals, university staff, and CEED alumni. Client's approval is required for public release. The seminar also provides an excellent networking and marketing opportunity.

**Completion** - At the conclusion of the project, scholars submit the agreed deliverables to the client.

## Why Choose CEED?

CEED provides a simpler, faster, and more robust pathway than managing an industry research project outside the program. Specifically, delivering an Employee Project through CEED:

- Streamlines contracting and confidentiality
- Reduces administrative burden on supervisors and clients
- Ensures compliance with university policy
- Provides structured academic and professional support to students
- Significantly reduces risk and lead time

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