TICT Emissions Reduction Initiative terms and conditions

TICT Emissions Reduction Initiative	2
1. Eligibility Criteria	. 2
1.1 Ineligible applicants	. 3
2. Assessment criteria	3
3. Timeframes	3
4. Discontinuation of program	4
5. Program 2: Net Zero Advanced payments	4
6. Administration and contact details	5
7. Confidentiality	5
8. Personal information protection	5

TICT Emissions Reduction Initiative

The Tasmanian Government's 2030 Visitor Economy Strategy Key Direction 1 outlines the tourism industry's commitment to becoming a leading destination for climate conscious travel.

To support this, the Tasmanian Government through the Department of State Growth has allocated funding to support a Tourism Industry Council Tasmania (TICT) Emissions Reduction Initiative ("the initiative").

The initiative will be administered by TICT, and will involve TICT matching eligible tourism operators with one of two programs over 2023 and 2024:

Program 1: Net Zero Activation (for smaller operators)

A five-stage program that helps businesses to develop an emissions reduction plan and build habit in the key action areas to progress towards net zero.

This program will provide businesses with 12-months access to My ERC– a digital tool that can be used to estimate business's carbon footprint and then guide them through the development of a customised emissions reduction plan.

The emissions reduction plan will contain simple, achievable actions and a timeframe for reducing the business's carbon emissions. This may include reducing business travel, for example, or installing LED lights.

Cost is fully covered by TICT for the first year (12 months). Participants are encouraged to continue using MyERC upon completion of the program. Subscription is \$158/ year.

For more information about My ERC visit the ERC Australia website.

Program 2: Net Zero Advanced (for larger or more complex operators)

Guides first-time businesses through the process of carbon accounting. This program includes access to specialist software and free training for accountants/bookkeepers/consultants with no carbon accounting experience through Tasmanian firm, Sumday

TICT is offering a \$700 contribution for this program, and businesses may need to contribute an additional \$100 - \$5,000 to fully cover the costs associated with undertaking carbon accounting, depending on business size.

For more information about Sumday visit the Sumday website.

1. Eligibility Criteria

Businesses that are not a Quality Tourism Accredited Business (Level 2 Sustainable) are ineligible to apply.

For tourism businesses who are not eligible for this initiative but would like to learn more about carbon auditing and emissions reduction activities, please contact TICT's Carbon Action Advisor Lauren Cameron or (03) 6231 2244 or lauren.cameron@tict,com.au

If you wish to become accredited as a QTAB (Level 2 Sustainable) business, contact the TICT at info@tict.com.au or on (03) 6231 2244.

Applicants may be asked to supply documentation to support their eligibility claims, as part of the application process, or as part of an audit process. Information supplied by applicants may be subject to authenticity checks using third party software.

To be eligible for the Initiative applicants must also meet the following eligibility criteria:

- (a) Be registered for tax purposes with an active Australian Business Number (ABN) on or before 1 July 2023. If the Applicant is a Trust, the Trustee as the proper Applicant must meet this requirement.
- (b) Be an established business currently operating in Tasmania in the tourism and hospitality sectors at the time of submitting the application.
- (c) If accepted into Program 2, applicants must be willing to contribute the additional funds that may be required to undertake carbon accounting.

1.1 Ineligible applicants

Applications will not be accepted from:

- Any business that is trading insolvent, under external administration or bankruptcy.
- Businesses that are not currently operating within Tasmania at the time of submitting an application.
- Businesses without a physical presence in Tasmania.
- Local, state or Australian Government entities.
- Businesses that are not tourism/hospitality businesses.

2. Assessment criteria

This is a non-competitive Initiative.

Applications will be assessed in order of receipt against the eligibility and assessment criteria.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application.

3. Timeframes

Description	Date/time
Program opens for registrations	18 August 2023
Registration period closes	1 September 2023
Applicants notified of success or otherwise (estimated date)	From September 1, 2023
Program 1 duration	From onboarding for a period of 12 months

ogram 2 duration	From onboarding for a period of 6 months
------------------	--

During the assessment process TICT may, at its discretion, request further information to support or clarify an application.

This information must be provided within five working days, unless otherwise advised. Failure to provide further requested information within the timeframe may result in the application being unsuccessful.

4. Discontinuation of program

Program 1: Net Zero Activation

If within 60 days of being provided with account details, Program 1 participants have not completed Stage 2 (Reduce) of the MyERC program, which involves developing an emissions reduction plan for your business, TICT has the right to offer your place to an unsuccessful applicant to the program.

Program 2: Net Zero Advanced

If a program recipient:

- does not complete the activities or tasks required under by the TICT and Sumday, or
- the recipient's situation changes in a way that prevents completion of the agreed project, the recipient will be required to return the initial instalment of \$350 to the TICT.
- If that money has already been spent on carbon accounting services, the recipient will not be required to return this.

5. Program 2: Net Zero Advanced payments

For Program 2, you will receive a \$700 rebate to cover the costs of engaging an external carbon accountant (this can be your existing accountant or a new carbon accountant in Tasmania). Please note the cost to complete a carbon emissions assessment for your business may exceed \$700 and you will need to contribute the remainder.

The \$700 contribution will be paid to Program2: Net Zero Advanced participants in two instalments: the first upon confirming participation in the program and nominating their chosen accountant/bookkeeper/consultant, and the second instalment upon completion of the program.

To receive the first instalment of 50% (\$350) you must provide a copy of an invoice which includes a deliverable to provide a carbon emissions report which covers your total scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions and your emissions per \$ of revenue for the most recent financial year, which is a standard carbon metric. An example of what this report needs to include is here.

Businesses will need to provide evidence of having completed the program (i.e. their final report, which contains their Sumday emissions factor) before receiving the final instalment. You will need to complete this process within 6 months unless otherwise agreed with TICT.

NB: Providing incorrect bank account details may result in funds being paid to an incorrect account. These funds will need to be returned to us before we attempt another grant payment. This process may result in significant delays in funding being received.

Additionally, we cannot guarantee that funds paid to an incorrect bank account will be returned to us.

6. Administration and contact details

The program will be administered by TICT, under its Carbon Action Advisor Lauren Cameron. You can contact Lauren via <u>lauren.cameron@tict.com.au</u> or at (03) 6231 2244

7. Confidentiality

The TICT may use and disclose the information provided by applicants for the purposes of the program and related uses, including promotional material or showcasing case studies and success stories.

8. Personal information protection

Personal information will be managed in accordance with the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.