

Small Business Boost

Supporting small businesses for the future

\$5,000 to help your business get ready for what's next

Local businesses keep the Gove Peninsula running. As bauxite mining winds down, change is happening, and many are already looking ahead. In our recent Local Voices Pulse Survey, you told us supporting local businesses to grow and thrive is important to our community.

That's why we've launched the Small Business Boost. This grant program offers seed funding of \$5,000 for eligible local businesses to invest in skills, systems and improvements that will help build stronger foundations for the future.

Is my business eligible?

To apply for funding, your business needs to tick the following boxes:

- ☐ Primary business address in Nhulunbuy, Yirrkala or Gunyangara
- ☐ Valid Australian Business Number (ABN) and registered for GST if required
- ☐ Annual turnover of more than \$75,000 but less than \$10 million
- ☐ At least one and no more than 25 full-time equivalent employees

What can funding be used for?

The funding is for projects that will make your business more sustainable:

Skills, training and capability development

This could include initiatives focused on the development of your people, based on your current or future offerings.

Business improvement and technology

Examples could be digital technology or website upgrades. This could also cover equipment for day-to-day operations.

Professional advice and transition readiness

This focuses on external support, such as financial advisors, business coaches and marketing providers.

Apply now – it's simple



Download and complete the Rio Tinto Gove Small Business Boost application form.



Email the form plus a bank-issued document showing your BSB, account number and account name to govecommunities@riotinto.com.

Applications close Monday, 30 November 2026.



Scan to access the application form. (scroll down to Gove downloads)

Reach out if you have any questions.



1800 996 508



govecommunities@riotinto.com

Key dates to remember

Saturday, 24 October 2026	Applications open
Monday, 30 November 2026	Applications close
Early December 2026	Businesses notified

Handy things to know

- Limited grants are available. Applications will be assessed against the funding criteria, with priority given to businesses that make a contribution to economic development, essential services and local jobs.
- The grants can be used to contribute to larger projects that align with our funding criteria, either matched through your business or supported by access to other available grants (if eligible).

More business initiatives in the region

The Small Business Boost is one part of Rio Tinto’s overall commitment to the region’s future. Along with our Gove Peninsula Futures Reference Group partners, we’re working together to support the long-term resilience of the region and manage our closure in a responsible and proactive way.

Business Foundations workshops

We’re backing Business Foundations, a program that builds the capability and skills of the people who support businesses across the Gove Peninsula. Through a series of workshops that started in August 2026, providers such as local business case managers at the Northern Territory Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations (DTBAR) and Developing East Arnhem Limited (DEAL) are gaining practical tools to help businesses identify opportunities and navigate change.

What this means for businesses:

- Local providers who understand the challenges and possibilities for the region
- Access to continued quality advice and assistance close to home – now and into the future

Investing in future skills

We commissioned a Charles Darwin University study into Yolŋu workforce development opportunities on the Gove Peninsula. The findings of the *Future Skills Study* are being put into action through the following initiatives:

- A pathway map showing how to develop employee skills from entry level, matched to regional industry and services
- Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation – expansion and upgrades to the Barawun Centre to help more people find jobs

What this means for businesses:

- Training and development that matches the industries and jobs of the future
- Stronger pool of skilled people to hire and retain in the post-mining economy

Language of Birds feature film

We sponsored the production of *Language of Birds*, a feature film made in East Arnhem Land that will showcase Yolŋu culture on an international stage. The filming period in 2026 delivered a multimillion-dollar economic boost to the local community.

What this means for businesses:

- Increased trade for service providers (eg transport, accommodation)
- Development of an alternative, diversified local economy
- Higher profile of East Arnhem Land that could attract visitors and investment

Additional support is available

Business Development Officers from DEAL and Territory Business Advisors from DTBAR can point you to grants and programs to help support and develop your business.



Scan to visit the DEAL website.



Scan to visit the DTBAR website.

developingeastarnhem.com.au

dtbar.nt.gov.au

Which support is right for you?

If you’re a...	Look at...
Local small business	• Rio Tinto Gove Small Business Boost • Business support through DEAL and DTBAR
Not-for-profit organisation	• Rio Tinto Community Giving Program • 22% concession on electricity and water charges