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Appendix D – Government assistance programs relevant to the services sector

Scheme	Administered by	Industries	Type of assistance	Aim of program
Australian Education International (AEI)	DEST	Education	Predominantly promotion. Quality assurance frameworks, language training for international students.	Grow a sustainable future for Australia's international education industry.
Australian Tourism Development Program (ATDP)	AusIndustry	Tourism	Grants	Promote tourism development in rural Australia
Axiss	Axiss	Global financial services firms and education	Grants, advisory services and data provision	Position Australia as a global financial services centre in the Asian time zone
Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business (BESB)	AusIndustry	Small Business	Indirect assistance (training and mentoring, field officers etc)	Encouraging entrepreneurship by supporting improvement to Australia's small business operating skills
Business Entry Point (business.gov.au)	DITR	All	Indirect (information)	To bring all government requirements and assistance programs together in one place
Business Ready Program for Indigenous Tourism	AusIndustry	Tourism	Indirect (business mentors)	Address key barriers to Indigenous tourism businesses - management, business and strategic planning skills

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Scheme	Administered by	Industries	Type of assistance	Aim of program
Export Market Development Grants (EMDG)	Austrade	All SMEs	Grants (up to 50% of promotion expenses)	Encourage SMEs to develop export markets
Indigenous Capital Assistance Scheme (ICAS)	DEWR	All Indigenous businesses	Access to financial support and subsidises interest rates and bank fees	Increases employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians by providing access to commercial finance and culturally appropriate support services
Indigenous Self Employment Programme (ISEP)	DEWR	All indigenous small businesses	Start up for small businesses, indirect (advice and support), training and loans.	Assist Indigenous Australians to establish their own small business
Indigenous Self Employment Programmes (ISEP)	DEWR	All indigenous small businesses	Indirect (advice and support), training and loans	Assist Indigenous Australians to establish their own small businesses
Indigenous Small Business Fund (ISBF)	DEWR	All indigenous small businesses	Grants (funding for the development and expansion of Indigenous businesses and enterprises)	Assist Indigenous people to learn about business, develop good business skills and expand their business
Industry Cooperative Innovation Program (ICIP)	AusIndustry	Requires a consortium of at least three businesses, any industry	Grants	Foster innovation projects that enhance the productivity, growth and international competitiveness of Australian industries. Focuses on meeting strategic industry needs
Information Technology Online (ITOL) Program	DCITA	All businesses, particularly SMEs	Grants	To accelerate the national adoption of collaborative e- business, especially by SMEs
Innovation Investment Fund (IIF)	AusIndustry	Venture capital fund managers	Grants	Develop venture capital funding industry
Pooled Development Funds (PDF) Program	AusIndustry	Small and medium- sized enterprises	Tax benefits for funds and shareholders. Indirect assistance to SMEs by providing incentives for investment	Grow SMEs by increasing the supply of equity capital
Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund (RRIF)	AusIndustry	Local government (with benefit to small and home-based businesses)	Grants to local governments, indirect assistance to small business	Reduce regulatory compliance burdens for SMEs

Scheme	Administered by	Industries	Type of assistance	Aim of program
Small Business Field Officers Program (SBFO)	AusIndustry	Small business	Indirect assistance (referral and general advisory services)	Foster the growth of small businesses
Tourism Australia	Tourism Australia	Tourism businesses	Promotion	Foster a sustainable tourism industry in Australia and increase economic benefits from tourism
Tourism and Conservation Initiative	DITR	Tourism businesses	Grants	Boost nature-based tourism while increasing capacity to protect and conserve the environment.