



Innovating in the defence industry

Could your ideas contribute to Australia’s defence capability? Defence innovation programs are supporting concepts and technologies across the industry and research sectors. Find out how you can get involved.

The opportunity to innovate

The Australian Government is investing \$270 billion over the next decade to modernise Australia’s defence capability.

Australia’s businesses, research institutions and academics have a track record of producing some of the world’s most innovative technologies. Defence innovation programs make it easier for industry and Defence to innovate together.

With the increasing pace of geopolitical, economic and technological change, it’s critical that Defence can access the best innovation Australia has to offer.

Investment in innovation helps Defence to:

- remain resilient to emerging threats, including the possible use of disruptive technologies by adversaries
- take advantage of new or developing areas of technology that have the potential to provide a capability edge for Australia’s relatively small force

Defence innovation programs

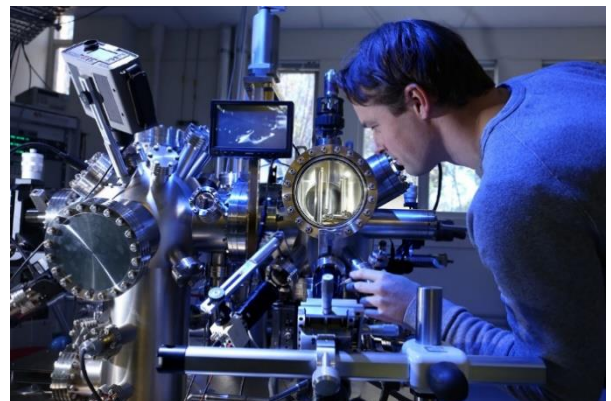
Defence innovation is built around two signature programs, these are:

- Defence Innovation Hub, with funding of around \$800 million to 2030
- Next Generation Technologies Fund, with funding of \$730 million to 2026

These two programs have been designed to support the research and development aspects of innovation.

The Defence Innovation Hub is focused on developing and maturing technology into a commercialised product, and acquisition.

The focus of the Next Generation Technologies Fund is on research and emerging technologies, including those that are expected to deliver on a time horizon greater than ten years.



How the CDIC can help

The CDIC connects Defence and Australian industry, academia and research organisations. Our national network of Defence Industry Facilitators and Defence Business Advisers work closely with Defence, prime contractors, researchers and other government bodies, building a network of knowledge and relationships across the defence industry.

If your business is preparing an innovation proposal to the Defence Innovation Hub or Next Generation Technologies Fund, our Defence Industry Facilitators and Defence Business Advisers can help you:

- develop your proposal to align your commercial proposition to Defence's innovation priorities
- understand the Defence innovation intellectual property and contract framework

If your business is successful in gaining Defence innovation funding, we can provide you with specialist defence business and commercialisation advice, and possible diversification opportunities in adjacent industries.

We can also facilitate:

- connections to other businesses and potential markets through Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources programs
- access to international innovation programs, including those in the United States of America and the United Kingdom

Applying

The CDIC is the gateway to Defence innovation programs. Find opportunities and information about applying on our website at www.business.gov.au/cdic

The majority of funding opportunities are published as special notices. These describe a specific requirement you may be able to respond to.

In addition, the Defence Innovation Hub accepts unsolicited proposals, especially proposals that meet an identified Defence innovation priority including:

- intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, electronic warfare, space and cyber
- key enablers
- land combat and amphibious warfare
- strike and air combat
- maritime and anti-submarine warfare
- air and sea lift

True innovation calls for 'blue sky thinking'. Defence welcomes any idea related to defence capability.

If you feel your idea would be of value to Defence, you can submit a proposal. If in doubt, our CDIC Defence Industry Facilitators and Defence Business Advisers are happy to chat to you about your idea and advise you on next steps.

Where a technology is identified as having a Defence application, Defence is able to work with the company, business or organisation through the Defence Innovation Hub, and provide funding, so that the technology can be matured in a collaborative way.

Next steps

Visit us at www.business.gov.au/cdic

The [CDIC website](#) has information about Defence innovation programs and priorities, opportunities, and how the CDIC can help with your proposal.

Talk to one of our Defence Business Advisers

When you're ready to take things further, apply for our [advisory and facilitation services](#). We can advise you on opportunities, capability improvement and funding.

Subscribe to the Defence Industry and Innovation newsletter

Subscribe to the [CDIC's monthly newsletter](#) and stay up-to-date with the latest defence industry information and events happening in your region.

Attend industry events

Find out about [upcoming industry events](#).

Network with others in the defence industry

[Defence industry associations](#) and the [defence industry office](#) in your state or territory are a good starting point for finding networking opportunities.