FACT SHEET

THE SOVEREIGN INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITY PRIORITY GRANTS

What are the Sovereign Industrial Capability Priority Grants?

The Sovereign Industrial Capability Priority Grants, announced in the 2018 Defence Industrial Capability Plan, is a dedicated annual grants program of up to $17 million supporting eligible Australian small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The grants program will help SMEs to invest in projects that build capabilities aligned to one of the initial ten Defence Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities.

The Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities are (in no particular order):

- Collins Class submarine maintenance and technology upgrade
- Continuous shipbuilding program (including rolling submarine acquisition)
- Land combat vehicle and technology upgrade
- Enhanced active and passive phased array radar capability
- Combat clothing survivability and signature reduction technologies
- Advanced signal processing capability in electronic warfare, cyber and information security, and signature management technologies and operations
- Surveillance and intelligence data collection, analysis, dissemination and complex systems integration
- Test, evaluation, certification and systems assurance
- Munitions and small arms research, design, development and manufacture
- Aerospace platform deep maintenance.

What type of activities will this grant fund?

Eligible activities must directly relate to the project and may include:

- Buying, constructing, installing or commissioning of capital equipment - including specialist software to enhance cyber security
- Design, engineering and commissioning activities
- Workforce training and accreditation.

What are the funding conditions?

Grants ranging from $50,000 to $1 million are available to fund the acquisition of capital equipment that enables the SME to contribute to at least one of the Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities. Successful grant applications are subject to the requirements of 50:50 matched funding.

While there is no limit on the number of grants a business can apply for and receive over the life of the program, this dedicated grants program is capped at $3 million over a three year period per business.
What is the purpose of the Sovereign Industrial Capability Priority Grants?

The 2018 Defence Industrial Capability Plan identified that Australia’s industry base is mostly composed of SMEs. The grants program reflects the Government’s commitment to grow a robust and resilient Australian SME industrial base capable of providing a significant contribution to Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities.

What is the eligibility criteria?

To be eligible to apply for a grant you must:

- be an SME with less than 200 employees
- have an Australian Business Number, and be one of the following entities:
  - a company, incorporated in Australia
  - an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust.

How will the applications be assessed?

Applications will be assessed against the following merit criteria:

- The extent to which the project will help contribute to Defence Sovereign Industrial Capability Priorities
- The SME’s capacity, capability and resources to deliver the project
- Expected impact of the grant funding.

How will the Sovereign Industrial Capability Priority Grants be administered?

Grants will be funded by Defence and delivered through the Centre for Defence Industry Capability.

Alternative defence industry funding options

SMEs seeking funding or grants for broader defence industry applications, may be able to access alternate funding avenues such as the Defence Innovation Hub, the Next Generation Technologies Fund, the Capability Improvement Grants and the Defence Global Competitiveness Grants.

Before applying

SMEs considering applying should read the grant guidelines and refer to other resources on www.business.gov.au/cdic, or email cdic@business.gov.au, or call 13 28 46.

More information