

## Comparison of existing TDA Program and the new ASIC Program

The table below summarises the differences between the two available Advanced Innovation Fund (AIF) programs:

Category	Existing TDA Program	Accelerating Sovereign Industrial Capabilities (ASIC) (New Program)
Funding leverage	50c : \$1.00 (AIF funding : industry funding). Leverage arrangements only applicable to industry cash contributions.	Matched cash funding. \$1.00 : \$1.00 (AIF cash funding : industry cash funding). Leverage arrangements only applicable to industry cash contributions.
Theme/Areas of focus	5 x research themes (related to AUKUS Pillar 2)	7 SDIPs
Partner type	Prime and SMEs	Preferential weighting will be given to SME led and multi-party projects. Primes can also apply.
Number of parties involved	Normally one industry partner and either UoA or UNSW. Multi industry partners and/or both universities are permitted.	Multi-party projects are encouraged.
What can the funding be used for?	Funding can be used for labour, equipment, facilities. Funding can be expended at university and/or industry (in-house). Department of Education approval is required for asset purchases greater than \$50,000.	Funding for R&D activities based at the university (University of Adelaide or UNSW). Department of Education approval is required for asset purchases greater than \$50,000 and must be retained at the university.
Desired TRL	Ideally TRL 6-8.	The focus is on prototyping/demonstrator.
IP Arrangements	Variable	The default position will be industry owned.
Contract negotiations	Template terms and conditions discussed as part of project negotiations.	Template terms and conditions sent out as part of the application process.
Potential Linkages with other DTB offerings	Potential to include/incorporate all Defence Trailblazer offerings.	Inclusion of other DTB offerings, including staff mobility, student placements and projects and proto-lab network will be highly regarded.
In-Kind Arrangements	In-kind contribution not considered in evaluation criteria.	In-kind contribution will be considered in evaluation criteria assessment. Prospective partners will be encouraged to contribute significant in-kind. In-kind can include but not limited to software licenses, equipment, facilities, labour etc.
Submission deadlines	Open ended noting that all projects will need to be completed by December 2026.	Fixed deadline. Once projects have been selected there will be a maximum of 6 weeks by which time an RPA must have been executed or the arrangements may be terminated.



### Further Information and Support

For more information about the programs visit our website:  
[dtb.solutions](https://dtb.solutions)

If you would like to discuss your project, please contact the Defence Trailblazer Partnerships team: [partnerships@dtb.solutions](mailto:partnerships@dtb.solutions)

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