

DIGR Voucher Program – Industry Contribution Guidance

The Defence Industry Growth & Resilience (DIGR) Voucher Program will provide \$1 for every \$3 of industry contribution, to a maximum of 25% of the project/activity cost. That is, for every \$1 of cash provided by Defence Trailblazer, we require a minimum contribution from industry of \$3 cash and/or in-kind.

The purpose of this document is to outline the eligibility of industry cash expenditure and/or in-kind contributions that need to be outlined in your DIGR application.

Cash expenditure

Definition: Any item where the industry partner will be contributing cash to the project.

Where it is proposed to include cash expenditure within your budget, a quote or other supporting evidence may be required. Supporting documentation can be added to the application.

In-kind contribution

Defence Trailblazer requires that in-kind contribution values must be calculated based on the most likely actual cost. This includes using:

- current market rates
- preferred provider rates
- internal provider valuations, rentals, or charges.

In-kind contribution to consider:

- labour/personnel time to the project (including indirect costs of labour/overheads)
- access to existing workspaces, facilities, equipment and databases
- contribution of goods, services or materials.

See further examples on page 2 of this document.

In-kind contributions must be:

- within the scope as defined in the project/activity proposal
- proportionate to the contribution to the project/activity

All in-kind contribution calculations should be provided to the Defence Trailblazer management team as the Department of Education may request to review the calculations.

Relevance of in-kind expenditure

- Industry partners may be eligible for the R&D Tax Incentive for their in-kind expenditure as a core R&D activity. More information: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/research-and-development-tax-incentive>

Reporting of Industry Contribution

- Once the project has commenced, Defence Trailblazer will contact industry partners in May and November (2025) requesting actual in-kind expenditure of the project for the relevant reporting period (January – June and/or July – December)
- Project/activity closure report will include final industry contribution reporting.

Examples of in-kind contribution

Below is a list of examples of in-kind contributions. This is not intended to be exhaustive. If you have any questions, contact your Defence Trailblazer Project Manager or programs@dtb.solutions.

Example	Suggested calculation
Salary	
<p>May include an industry employee salary who is working on the proposed DIGR project including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> total remuneration package on costs such as Long Service Leave provisions, Superannuation, Payroll Tax and Workers Compensation indirect costs such as office space, utilities, general office supplies and equipment. 	<p>Proportionate to an employee's time spent on the Defence Trailblazer DIGR project/activity.</p> <p>Option 1: total salary package (inc. any oncosts and indirect costs) multiplied by the full-time equivalent time commitment to the Defence Trailblazer DIGR project/activity. (e.g. \$100,000 x 0.05FTE = \$5,000)</p> <p>Option 2: hourly rate (inc. any on-costs and indirect costs) multiplied by the number of hours worked on the Defence Trailblazer DIGR project/activity. (e.g. \$300 per hour x 20 hrs = \$6,000)</p>
Non-salary	
Travel including airfares, accommodation, and ground travel (taxi/rail/etc)	Total cost incurred for the activity
Datasets	Commercial list price
Analytical services	Proportional cost of providing service
Consumables	Commercial list price
Software and licenses	Commercial list price
Access to facilities (office space and specialised lab and IT facilities)	<p>The commercial per square metre dollar value multiplied by the time period multiplied by the number of square metres being accessed. (e.g. \$1000 per square metre x 2 years x 25 square metres = \$50,000)</p>
Access to existing equipment, including items such as computers or manufacturing machinery	<p>Must be valued proportionally to the usage by the Defence Trailblazer DIGR project/activity and based on the running costs and depreciation of the capital item.</p> <p>Depreciation value multiplied by the percentage use of the resource's capacity for Defence Trailblazer DIGR project/activity purposes. (e.g. \$100,000 x 10% of resource capacity = \$10,000)</p>