Defence Export Controls: A focus on small-to-medium enterprises – Responses to Questions
4 December 2025

These responses are designed to assist you in understanding Defence Export Control's regulatory framework. It is not legal advice nor intended to be legal advice and it may therefore include some generalisations about the law. Some provisions of the law referred to have exceptions or prerequisites, not all of which may be described here. Defence does not guarantee the accuracy, currency or completeness of any information contained in this document. Your particular circumstances and activities must be taken into account when determining how the law applies to you. These responses are therefore not a substitute for obtaining your own legal advice and does not imply that other regulatory obligations would not be applicable to certain activities

Question: I have an application that has not had an update in some time. How can I find out further information on the status of my application?

Response: Please call 1800 DEFENCE to speak to the DEC Customer Support team.

Question: I have had applications referred to ASD. Is there a guideline on when an application would be referred to an external agency?

Response: Defence are bound by legislation to consider 12 legislative criteria when assessing each and every export application. This criteria broadly covers Australia's strategic interests and our international obligations. To respond to each criteria we sometimes need to seek whole of government advice. Further information is available online on our assessment process Legislation | Business & Industry | Defence

Question: Where can I find training materials?

Response: Online eLearning training is offered via Defence's Learn eXcel Perform (LXP) to assist in understanding when permits are required and aid regulatory compliance. Check out Outreach and training | Business & Industry | Defence

Question: Do you have information on record-keeping?

Response: We have some factsheets and guidance material on record keeping at Record keeping requirements | Business & Industry | Defence We also have some guidance e material on what a good DEC compliance program looks like: Programs and procedures | Business & Industry | Defence.