

2026 SDTech_AB Project Intake

Context

Space-Defence Technologies Alberta (SDTech_AB) is a pan-Alberta innovation ecosystem that supports the development and delivery of space and defence technologies. SDTech_AB aims to identify disruptive, next generation technologies and accelerate them towards tangential outcomes for Alberta's societal and economic benefit.

SDTech_AB is calling for proposals through a second project intake round. To be selected for funding, proposals must offer transformative, high-impact technology/solution-focused projects with the potential for significant impact. Projects should be articulated around the Major Innovation Fund's [performance metrics](#). While projects must be researcher-led, partnerships with industry and end-users are highly encouraged. There will be approximately 30 projects selected for funding under SDTech_AB's 2026 Project Intake. Each successful project will be awarded up to \$100,000 funding from SDTech_AB, with an additional \$10k available for commercialization costs as appropriate.

Eligibility

- The lead Principal Investigator (Project Lead) must be from one of the institutional partners on the SDTech_AB MIF (University of Calgary, University of Alberta, University of Lethbridge, Athabasca University, Northern Alberta Institution of Technology)
- Project leads may submit up to 2 project proposals under this round of project intakes
- Projects must end (i.e. have spent all SDTech_AB funds) by March 31, 2027 at the latest
- Projects must be at least 6 months in duration
- Projects are strongly encouraged to include Alberta-based industry
- Projects are strongly encouraged to include federal or international government partners
- Projects are strongly encouraged to bring matching funds (cash and/or in-kind contributions)
- Eligible projects must clearly demonstrate pathways to advance technology readiness
- Eligible expenses are restricted to those incurred by SDTech_AB partner institutions. Funds cannot be transferred to industry partners and/or outside of the SDTech_AB network. Funds will be transferred to the lead partner institution's Research Services Office for funding of selected projects.

General Instructions

Do not alter the template text.

One (1) page of figures/graphics may be submitted with the proposal.

Please submit your application as a single PDF document via email to sdtechab@ucalgary.ca by **noon (12pm MDT) on June 19, 2026**.

Project Proposal



1. Administrative Information

A. SDTech_AB Project Type:

New

Continuation of existing SDTech_AB project

B. Lead Post-Secondary Institution:

C. Project Lead:

D. Project Lead Contact Information:

2. Project Partners

A. Academic Collaborators/Partners:

Name	Institution	Contribution (cash, engineering time, consultation/guidance, personnel, etc.)

B. Industry/Government/Other Partners:

Name	Organization	Contribution (cash, engineering time, consultation/guidance, etc.)	Is the organization Alberta-based, or does it have a branch in Alberta, or will it be establishing a space in Alberta? (Yes/No)

3. Project Description

A. Project Title:

B. Anticipated Project Start Date:

C. Anticipated Project End Date:

- iii. Projected end-state TRL of the proposed solution at project end:

- iv. Provide a high-level explanation with details to justify how the anticipated TRL at the project end-state will be achieved. *(Maximum 3000 characters).*

F. Project Overview *(provide a project overview of the project's technical merit, novelty and innovation, impact, feasibility and approach). Maximum 3000 characters.*

G. Alignment

a. **Alignment with SDTech_AB Pillars:** Select all SDTech_AB pillars that are relevant to the project.

Space Domain Solutions Sub-Orbital Technologies Joint Domain Intelligence

b. **Alignment with SDTech_AB Themes:** Select all SDTech_AB themes that are relevant to the project.

Emerging Technologies Sensing Our Environment
Situational Awareness Threat Detection and Intelligent Response

c. **Alignment Description:** Describe how the proposed solution aligns with the selected pillar(s) and theme(s). (*Maximum 2000 characters*).

H. **Scientific and/or Technical Merit of the Proposed Solution** (*describe how the proposed solution is scientifically and/or technically sound and based on state-of-the-art thinking and practice within the methodological field of the challenge*). *Maximum 3000 characters.*

Project Proposal



I. **Novel and Innovative Solution** *(describe how the proposed solution is novel and innovative over existing solutions). Maximum 3000 characters.*

J. **Impact of Proposed Solution** *(describe how the solution will help solve a gap/critical barrier; how it will enhance development of scientific/technical capability, and how it will mature relevant concepts/methods/technologies). Maximum 3000 characters.*

- K. **Feasibility and Approach of the Proposed Solution** *(describe how the proposed solution could be accomplished by the project partners and how the approach is adequately developed, well-reasoned, and appropriate. Identify risks and provide mitigation plans to address them or any uncertainties that may impact the feasibility of the work plan). Maximum 3000 characters.*

4. Work Plan and Deliverables

Each row of Table 1 below must contain specific activities and deliverables (work). Rows can be added as needed. Proposed work should be distributed into two (2) milestone stages of approximately equal length. A vector check will be held after the completion of Milestone 1 to review project performance, assess solution potential, and provide advisory capacity for future applications. The cost proposal for Milestone 1 must be no greater than 50% of the total cost for the proposed solution. After successful completion of a vector check disbursement of the remaining funds will occur.

Milestone 1 Work Activities	
Activity	Description of Deliverable
Anticipated Vector Check date: _____ (MM/YYYY)	
Milestone 2 Work Activities	
Activity	Description of Deliverable
Anticipated project end date: _____ (MM/YYYY)	

5. Anticipated Project Indicators

A. Metrics: Please complete the table below with the expected outcomes from the overall project.

**Note: The table includes dates that have passed to align with provincial reporting requirements and may apply to you if your project is ongoing and contributed matching funds. If it does not apply to you, please leave the field blank.*

	Indicators	Target Yr	Target Yr	Target Yr	Target Yr	Target Yr	Total
		1	2	3	4	5	
		2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	
DISCOVER	Training of Highlight Qualified People (HQP, #)						
	Publication in prestigious academic journals (#)						
	Leveraged funds by source (industry, venture capital, other) (\$) (F= Federal \$, O= Other international agency \$)						
	HQP attracted to Alberta (#)						
	Retention of HQP (#)						
	Industry investment in research and development (\$) (<i>industry in-kind contributions to SDTech_AB projects</i>)						
	Publication citations (#)						
DEVELOP	Patents licensed by industry, within Alberta and outside (#)						
	Research results progressing to the translational research/development stage (%)						
	Events/collisions/activities between the research team and end-users (e.g., industry;						

Project Proposal



	relevant agencies, entrepreneurs, SMEs) (#)						
USE	Partnerships with industry (#)						
	Patent citations (#)						
	Prototype or other results ready for use as products, policies, and practices (#)						
	Start-up companies (#) (within Alberta # and outside #)						

6. Project Budget

A. **MIF Funds:** Please provide yearly breakdowns and totals for expected project expenditures using SDTech_AB funds. The maximum amount of funding that can be requested here is \$100,000.

Category	Description	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Total
		2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	
Students		-					
Personnel		-					
Research Operating		-					
Knowledge Mobilization		-					
Other		-					
Total		\$0					

B. **Commercialization Top-Up:** If your solution is at a point of maturity that requires commercialization activities, you may claim up to an additional \$10,000 towards these expenses. This could include expenses related to pitching, patenting, licensing, use of Alberta-based NATO Test Centre, DEFENDS, etc.. Please check the following box if you would like this project to be considered for a Commercialization Top-Up:

Project Proposal



- a. If you would like this project to be considered for a Commercialization Top-Up, please briefly describe the commercialization activities that would be completed:

C. Matching Funds Allocation *(Please provide details on the project's matching funds in the table below, if applicable. While not required, matching funds will be considered during project selection. Note that matching funds will need to be confirmed via account number with your institution if the project is selected to receive SDTech_AB funding).*

Category	Description	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Overall Total
		2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	
Students		-					
Personnel		-					
Research Operating		-					
Knowledge Mobilization		-					
Other		-					
Total		\$0					

D. Other Sources of Funding *(Describe the matching funds and their relevance to the SDTech_AB project and deliverables):*

Project Proposal



7. Signature

Project Lead Name:

Date:

Signature: