



Australian Government

Department of Defence

Department of Veterans' Affairs

DEFENCE ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT

What is organisational support?

Organisational support is part of Defence's research governance requirements and aims to ensure that:

- the research proposal aligns with Defence's strategic priorities
- the research proposal is consistent with Defence policy
- there is a benefit to Defence
- duplication of research is minimised.

When do I need organisational support?

Organisational support is to be sought, and in principle approval obtained, **prior** to submission to a Defence ethical review body, for research that is:

- conducted by or on Defence personnel
- supported in any way (including funding support) by Defence.

Who provides organisational support?

Evidence of organisational support is required from the funding area, areas that provide access to data, those senior to researchers that are named in the proposal and areas with subject matter expertise relevant to the field of research. Organisational support may be required from more than one area within Defence, depending on the research proposal.

Who can give organisational support?

Organisational support should be provided by no lower than a One Star/Senior Executive Service Band 1. Approval should not be provided by someone who is listed as an investigator on the project.

Organisational support does not usually include Command Approval.

Is there a template for organisational support?

Yes. The Project Description and Application for Quality Assurance and Evaluation Activities templates do have a section for organisational support. The Departments of Defence and Veterans' Affairs Human Research Ethics Committee (DDVA HREC) will accept other forms of evidence including emails, letters, Minutes/Briefs.

Who should I contact if I need help in determining where organisational support should be requested from?

The [DDVA HREC Secretariat](#) may be able to provide advice on who researchers should contact in order to obtain organisational support.