Delivering impact through process improvement

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WHY CHANGE? THE CASE FOR A NEW OS PROCESS

Objective
Evaluate current EOI process deliver a simpler, faster, and more transparent EOI process.

Improve
Efficiency for all, clarity, efficiency, reduce effort for applicants.

Feedback
Stakeholder feedback has shaped every step.

Summary of actions taken:

- Extensive consultation and engagement with industry since September 2024
- Redesign of the EOI process and workflow
- Simplify the application process
- Digital and operational capability for scalable, high-impact delivery

Efficient: move from text heavy application to a structured presentation and Q&A.

Effective: greater project insight and clarity is gained from presentation approach and direct engagement.

Aligned: Strategic Programme aligned to SME and Non-CO_2 Programme process. Strengths and challenges of implementing a robust process well understood.

User focus: implementation of the most preferred option from our applicants. Flexible and allowing complexity to be articulated.

NEW OUTLINE STAGE APPLICATION PROCESS

Current EOI process

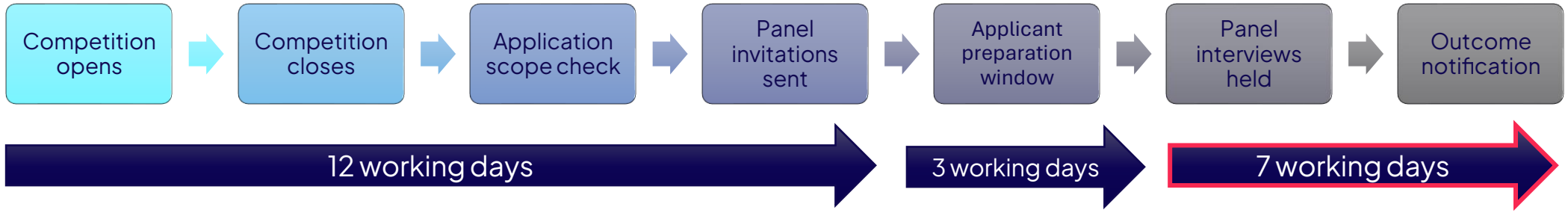
- Written application with 10 questions plus appendices
- Submissions via IFS
- 9 EOI competitions per year
- Application outcome 20 working days from the competition closing date

New OS process Jan 2026 onwards

- Panel interviews with PowerPoint presentation
- Submissions via ATI website
- 6 OS competitions per year
- Application outcome 7 working days from the day of the start of the interviews
- Targeted assessment criteria relevant to the stage of the competition (technology and market)

Key benefits

- Faster application outcome
- Reduced effort for applicants
- Direct engagement between ATI and applicants during application assessment



Application scope and criteria

TECHNOLOGY

Alignment with the ATI technology strategy and aircraft level benefits

- How the technology aligns with the ATI's technology strategy and its potential impact on UK aerospace.
- Explain the aircraft technology benefits, including how it improves cost, efficiency, reduces weight, enhances performance and/or how it supports the UK's competitiveness.

Technology ambition

- The innovation step, compare the proposed technology to current industry solutions and known competitor R&D.
- Is the project's ambition realistic and proportionate, with a scope and timeline that align with its objectives and intended outcomes.
- Outline the challenge and how it will be addressed, the start and end technology maturity, and the intended outcomes and exploitation plans.

Technology approach

- A breakdown of defined work packages, with clear, proportionate objectives and deliverables for each project partner.
- Provide clear plans, which may include, KPIs, milestones, and risk management, and highlight links to any other ATI or externally funded initiatives.

View full guidance on the ATI website: ati.org.uk

EXPLOITATION AND MARKET

Business and market opportunity

- Explain market need, with identified end users who have been engaged or consulted during project development.
- Demonstrate the technology's competitive advantage and commercial viability.

Exploitation and route to market

- Identify key exploitation opportunities, risks and barriers to market and how grant funding will help mitigate these risks and support deployment.
- Explain the route to market and how the technology strengthens the UK supply chain.

View full guidance on the ATI website: ati.org.uk

CAPITAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Pre-submission engagement with the ATI

Pre-Submission	Early engagement with the ATI is required to ensure an application is suitable and ready to be submitted to the Strategic Programme.
Funding	Seeking 100% public funding may make your project less competitive in value for money, when compared to proposals that include private capital.
Strengthening Applications	To strengthen your application and demonstrate broader commitment to the project, we encourage you to explore opportunities for additional private investment.

View full guidance on the ATI website: ati.org.uk and Innovate UK website

ATI

PowerPoint presentation criteria

PANEL PRESENTATION RULES AND GUIDANCE

PowerPoint presentation

- No specific PowerPoint template.
- Up to 15 slides. If more than 15 slides are submitted, only the first 15 slides will be assessed.
- Videos, animations and external links are considered as additional material and are not permitted.

Panel presentations

- Panels will be held online only (Microsoft Teams).
- Applicants must ensure availability during the published panel dates.
- Panel dates cannot be scheduled based on preferences.
- Up to 5 project attendees are permitted per application.
- Any demos, paperwork, hardware or props, shown is not permitted/will not be assessed.
- Recording or filming of the panel presentation is not permitted, including the use of AI transcribing or AI tools.

Panel presentation agenda

Panel item	Attendees	Duration
Welcome and introductions	All	5 mins
Project presentation	All	35 mins
Questions and answers	All	20 mins
Panel feedback and assessment	Assessors only	15 mins

Competition dates 2026

COMPETITION PROCESS AND TIMING

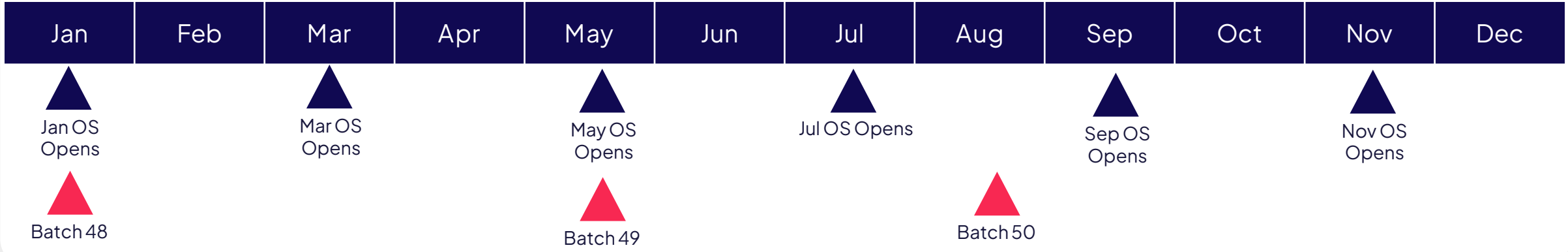
Stage 1– Outline Stage (OS)

- Outline Stage competition opens 6 times a year
- Competition will be open for 10 working days from 9am on the opening date until 11am on the closing date.
- Applications are submitted on the ATI website.
- Submission of a PowerPoint presentation only.
- Eligible applications will be invited to present their project to a Panel presentation
- At Outline Stage, applications will be assessed only by the ATI.

Stage 2– Full Stage Application (FSA)

- Submission by invitation only. Successful projects at OS stage will be invited to submit on IFS.
- Written application format
- Applications will be assessed by ATI, DBT and IUK.
- DBT assessment VfM

2026 competitions overview



AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

ATI Programme
Competition Dates

STRATEGIC PROGRAMME

OUTLINE STAGE						
	January	**March**	**May**	**July**	**September**	**November**
Opens at 09:00	Monday 5th January	Monday 2nd March	Tuesday 5th May	Monday 6th July	Monday 7th September	Monday 2nd November
Closes at 11:00	Friday 16th January	Friday 13th March	Friday 15th May	Friday 17th July	Friday 18th September	Friday 13th November
Eligibility & panel presentation notifications	Tuesday 20th January	Tuesday 17th March	Tuesday 19th May	Tuesday 21st July	Tuesday 22nd September	Tuesday 17th November
Panel presentations	Monday 26th January	Monday 23rd March	Tuesday 26th May	Monday 27th July	Monday 28th September	Monday 23rd November
	Tuesday 27th January	Tuesday 24th March	Wednesday 27th May	Tuesday 28th July	Tuesday 29th September	Tuesday 24th November
	Wednesday 28th January	Wednesday 25th March	Thursday 28th May	Wednesday 29th July	Wednesday 30th September	Wednesday 25th November
Notifications	Tuesday 3rd February	Tuesday 31st March	Tuesday 2nd June	Tuesday 4th August	Tuesday 6th October	Tuesday 1st December

FULL STAGE APPLICATION	Batch 48	Batch 49	Batch 50
Opens at 09:00	Monday 5th January	Tuesday 5th May	Monday 24th August
Closes at 11:00	Tuesday 17th February	Tuesday 16th June	Tuesday 6th October
Notifications	Thursday 30th April	Friday 21st August	Thursday 17th December

Closing time for all competitions is 11am on the day of the deadline. Dates and times are subject to change

All OS competitions close at 11am on the day of the deadline.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

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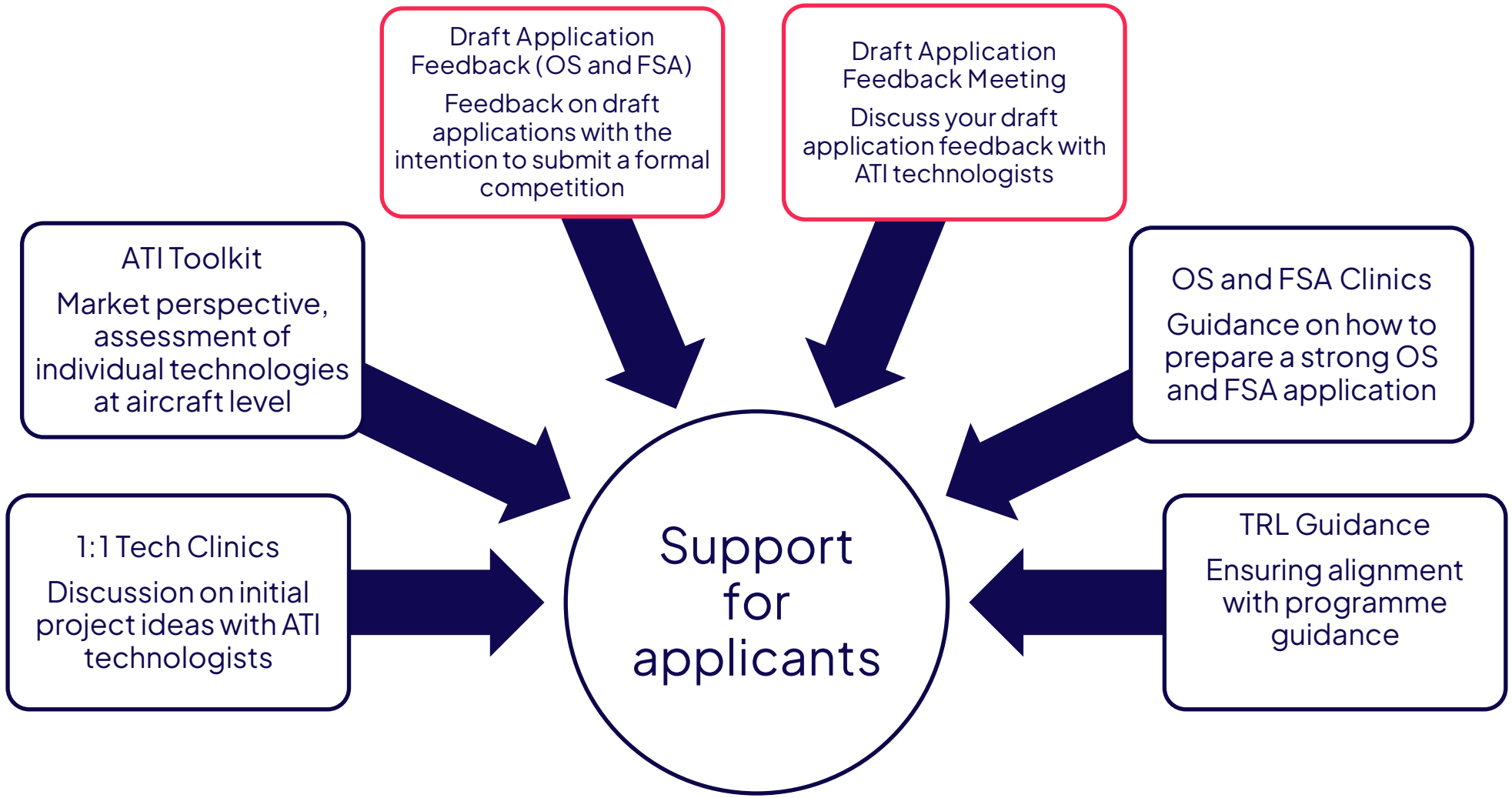
Support for applicants

SUPPORT FROM THE ATI



Links to all support including from the ATI Hub are available on the ATI website: ati.org.uk

FURTHER SUPPORT

Detailed guidance is available on the ATI website: ati.org.uk

Submit further enquiries at competitions@ati.org.uk

For urgent enquiries, call us on (+44)20 4522 8190. Lines are open Monday – Friday 09:00 – 17:00 excluding UK bank holidays.

ati.org.uk

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