

# Factsheet: Enterprise Compute initiative (ECI)

## 1. Structure of the ECI

At Budget 2025, MOF announced that it set aside up to \$150 million for the Enterprise Compute Initiative (ECI), as announced during Budget 2025. The ECI is designed to support Singapore-based companies in advancing their AI transformation by availing (i) cloud credits and related tools and (ii) consultancy services. The desired outcomes are to develop a Minimum Viable Product (MVP) and eventual change management processes from use-cases submitted by the companies. Overall, the ECI is a shortterm programme meant to catalyse the value creation of AI across the economy. It contributes to the broader goal stated in the National AI Strategy 2.0 of anchoring AI teams across Singapore.

Eligible companies will partner one of the major Cloud Service Providers (CSPs) such as Google, Microsoft and Amazon Web Services to access cutting-edge AI tools and cloud credits, training and certification. Government will support the cost of consultancy services which contribute towards the MVP and change management. The consultancy services will be provided by Consultant Partners who are familiar with the CSPs' tools.

#### **Cloud Service Providers (CSPs)**

Provide Cloud Credits to Participating Companies to access its Cloud Platform and tools

#### **Consultant Partners/System Integrators**

Support Participating companies in developing an AI roadmap and change management / MVP development

#### **Participating Companies**

Singapore-based enterprises with the ambition to leverage AI to grow their businesses in Singapore and beyond



Digital Industry Singapore (DISG)	DISG will administer the programme. This includes working with CSPs on tailoring their offerings, aligning with Partners on the scope of work needed, and assessing interested companies for acceptance into the programme.
Cloud Service Providers (CSPs)	The CSPs will provide participating companies with access to compute, its cloud platform, and tech tools. CSPs will also have tailored ECI programmes to onboard companies to their platform. CSPs will connect approved companies with their nominated consultant partners, who will provide guidance and consulting support throughout the programme.
Consultant Partners ("Partners")	Partners are nominated by CSPs for their expertise in the CSP's platform and in supporting customers. Partners will work with participating companies to develop an AI roadmap, outlining how to implement their use cases, optimise them in alignment with the broader goals of their organisation, and to support change management/MVP development.

# 2. Timeline

The programme will run from FY2025-2026, with multiple cohorts launched by various CSPs on a rolling basis. Done well, these companies will be well-placed to grow AI teams within their organisations.

# 3. Eligibility and Selection Process

<u>Eligibility criteria</u>: Companies registered or incorporated and are physically present in Singapore are eligible for this programme, subject to meeting the following criteria:

- i. <u>Baseline Criteria<sup>1</sup></u>
  - a) A business entity registered or incorporated and is physically present in Singapore
  - b) CEO or equivalent-level sponsorship
  - c) Total organisation headcount based in Singapore should be at least 10 pax

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Companies will apply through their Corp Pass



- d) Software/AI & data capabilities: The organisation should have a tech team of 2 or more pax. The Tech team can comprise of software engineers, AI engineers, and/or data scientists roles.
- e) Organisation has experience in building a custom AI solution for a proof of concept and/or wider deployment.
- f) Organisation has accessible data sets to be worked on for the use case
- g) Financial ability to ensure project completion (e.g. typical EDB and Enterprise SG request for information on financial health of the company)
- ii. <u>Use Case Assessment<sup>2</sup></u>
  - a) Type of use case: The proposed use case should focus on leveraging AI to achieve at least of one of the following objectives: (i) process improvement; (ii) new product development; (iii) research and development and/or (iv) contribution to the broader ecosystem.
  - b) Impact: The proposed use case must demonstrate impact to the company and/or industry and lead to the establishment of AI team(s) within the company.

## 4. Details of the Programme

Each company can receive up to S\$555,000 of support in the form of cloud compute credits and consulting services. This comprises of **CSPs** that will provide access to cloud credits/computing power, training and tech tools and **System Integrators (SIs)** that will provide services for strategy consulting and technical implementation. This segment is largely funded by the Government.

The maximum consulting cost is capped at S\$150,000. As such, Companies are expected to commit 30% of the overall consulting cost, up to S\$45,000. Details on the co-funding component are as follows:

	Share of costs for successful project* (%)	Share of costs for unsuccessful project (%)
Government	70 (capped at \$105,000 per company)	50 (capped at \$75,000 per company)
Consultant Partner/SI	0	20
Company	30	30

\* Defined as a project that results in a Minimum Viable Product (MVP), as assessed by DISG with participating company's inputs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Applications will be assessed based on the impact of use case (business value, impact to ecosystem if applicable), as well as organisational and infrastructure readiness.



## 5. Expectation of the selected companies

Selected companies are expected to:

- i. Fully commit manpower and technical resources to this project for the full duration (up to 6 months)
- ii. Deliver on the outcome which is the MVP and change management processes

For companies that are ready to progress quickly, it is possible to complete the programme earlier. Thereafter, if DISG assesses the company to be ready for broader and longer-term AI plans, DISG will have a separate discussion with the company on support options.

#### 6. Application Process

#### Step 1: Application

Interested companies will apply to the programme through the ECI website using Corppass <insert website>. As part of the application process, companies can review the offerings from each CSP and select which CSP they would prefer to work with. The CSP selected at this stage is final and cannot be changed.

#### Step 2: Acceptance

The application will be reviewed by DISG. If accepted, companies will receive an acceptance email and be directed to the CSP of their choice to be onboarded to the programme and allocated to a partner.

#### Step 3: Onboarding

The allocated partner will introduce themselves to the participating company and provide an overview of the timeline of the programme, and next steps.



# 7. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

## A. Eligibility

## 1. Is the programme open to companies from all sectors?

Yes. Companies from all sectors (except for companies in the gambling and betting industry) may apply for the programme as long as the eligibility criteria is met.

## 2. How will my application be assessed?

Applications will be assessed based on the company meeting the baseline criteria, and the potential impact of the proposed use case to the company and the broader industry.

3. Am I eligible for ECI if I am currently or have received grants for AI-related projects?

Yes, you are eligible if your company meets the criteria for ECI and the proposed use case is differentiated from the other projects that have received government support.

#### **B.** Programme offerings

## 4. What consultancy services does the programme support?

This includes consultancy services aimed at developing an AI roadmap based on the submitted use-case, and eventual change management execution plans. The consultancy services rendered must go beyond strategy consulting and focus on technical implementations.

## 5. Which Cloud Service Providers can I choose from?

There are currently three participating Cloud Service Providers (CSPs) offering the ECI programme: Google Cloud, Microsoft and Amazon Web Services. Please refer to the CSPs' websites for details on their cloud credit offering and training programme.

## C. Application

## 6. How and when can I apply for ECI?

Companies may apply for ECI through <insert website name>. The launch dates of each cohort will be announced by DISG and the respective CSPs from Q2 2025.

7. What is the processing time for applications? What milestones can I expect after application?

Applicants will be notified on the status of their application within 4 weeks. Successful applicants will also be notified of their assigned CSP, which will



subsequently reach out with onboarding information, including programme milestones.

# 8. Is it mandatory to select a CSP that I am currently using?

No, it is not mandatory. You may select a CSP that you are not currently using.

#### 9. Can a parent entity have multiple subsidiaries as participants?

No. This is not allowed. We encourage the parent entity to join the programme to chart an AI transformation strategy for the entire company group.

10. My company has multiple use cases. Do I need to submit multiple applications?

No, please submit a single application with your main use case. Should the application be approved, your assigned CSP and partner will be happy to discuss the different use cases you have in mind and advise on a prioritisation framework and implementation roadmap as needed.

#### 11. My application was rejected previously. Can I try again?

Unsuccessful applicants are welcome to apply again with a revised or new project proposal. However, applicants should ensure that there have been meaningful modifications since the prior submission.

# 12.I have a preferred consulting partner/SI which is not on the list of partners. Can I still work with them?

No, you will need to work with a pre-qualified Consulting Partner on the ECI list. These SIs are selected based on their familiarity with the CSPs' cloud credits and tools. If your application is approved, your assigned CSP will get in touch with onboarding information including your assigned partner.

#### D. Others

## 13. What happens after the programme?

The programme will equip companies with a roadmap for AI organisational transformation, which could involve change management processes within the company.

If there are further queries, companies can reach out to Digital Industry Singapore through this <u>contact form</u>.