













# Election 2019: Science and technology priorities

Key policy area	LIBERAL	Labor	THE GREENS
Science Minister in Cabinet 	Yes	Yes	Yes
Research funding as a % of GDP 	No commitment to a % of GDP (see detailed response for past funding)	3%	4%
Increasing funding in line with inflation 	No future commitment to match inflation (see detailed response for past funding)	Yes	Yes
Long-term plan for science and research 	Continued support for the 2017 National Science Statement	National (Root and Branch) Review into Research in Australia	Costed plans for funding increases
Support for national research institutions 	Previous support outlined (see detailed response)	Stop efficiency dividends and staffing caps, boost CSIRO climate funding	Restore funding to CSIRO
Industry R&D 	ongoing support for CRC program and six new industry-led Growth Centres	ongoing support for CRC program, will consider a collaboration premium for the R&D Tax Incentive	ongoing support for CRC program, will consider a collaboration premium for the R&D Tax Incentive
STEM education 	National Science & Technology Council commissioned to improve maths and science enrolments	Lift on university funding caps, \$10 million STEAM Innovations centre	\$500 million to expand teacher training in STEM education
STEM skills for the current workforce 	Delivering skills for today and tomorrow package (\$62.4 million for VET)	Commitment to rebuild VET	\$400 million annual package for VET
Infrastructure 	Commitment to ongoing funding as previously announced	Additional \$300m University Future Fund, re-established \$3.9 billion Education Investment Fund	Additional \$2.177 billion for Research Infrastructure, supporting projects outlined in the infrastructure roadmap
Research Translation Fund 	Will be considered	Dependent on National Review into Research in Australia	Dependent on review of the research system
International Collaboration 	Support for current international collaboration funds	Support for current international collaboration funds. Creation of a SMART visa for international professionals working in Australia	\$60.2 million to invest in strategic opportunities for international collaboration
Diversity and Inclusion 	Support for SAGE, Women in STEM Ambassador, the Women in STEM Decadal Plan and the Advancing Women in STEM Strategy	Support for SAGE, National Women in Science Day, and an Evaluation Framework for girls and women in STEM initiatives	\$2.5 billion to support equitable and ongoing employment, including for women in STEM and early mid career researchers

## Science Policy

Each party was asked about science and evidence-based policy.

**The Coalition** has established the National Science and Technology Council as the peak advisory body to the Prime Minister and other Ministers around issues relevant to science.

**Labor** will develop a charter with the Australian science and research community. The party has also committed to-introduce the Prime Minister's Council for Science and Innovation for issues related to science and innovation and a National Scientific Expert Panel to provide advice on topics impacting the lives of Australians now and in the future.

**The Greens** will develop a Science Integrity Charter to ensure respect for science and research across all government policy making.