

The Whole of Victorian Government (WoVG) ICT expenditure approval process for expenditure greater than \$250 000

What is it and Why?

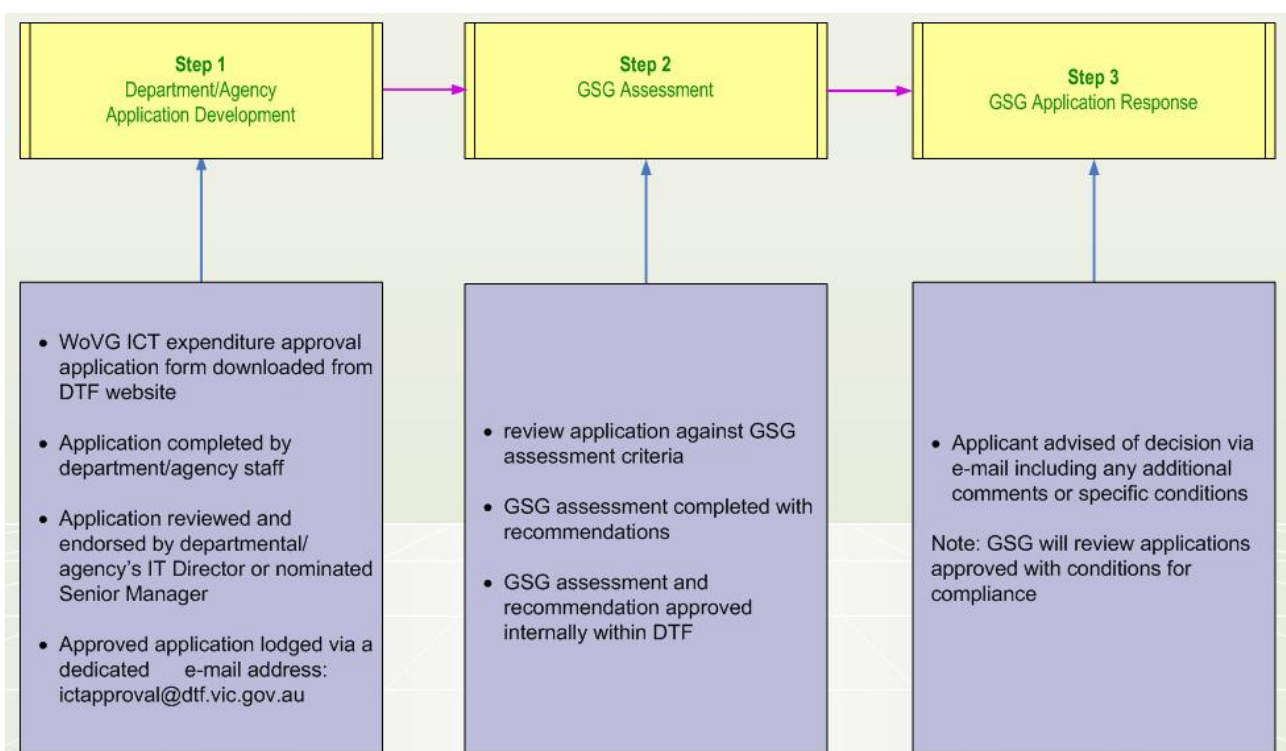
The Victorian Government is moving towards one consolidated core ICT services across government through the delivery of the Efficient Technology Services (ETS) program.

The key elements of ETS are:

- one secure core desktop environment based on common applications, interfaces and work environment (e.g. email, web browsers);
- a common trusted network based on consolidation of local and wide area network systems (e.g. routers, switches);
- simplified login access using a common directory;
- a common hosting service based on consolidating back-office infrastructure (e.g. servers, databases); and
- standardised ICT support and management services (e.g. incident management, service desk).

As part of this program, the Government has mandated that ETS-related ICT expenditure (including GST) greater than \$250 000 is approved by the Department of Treasury and Finance (DTF), effective from 1 July 2008.

DTF has designed a central approval process which is managed by the Government Services Group (GSG) to support ETS, which is described below:



government services group

What are the benefits?

This approval process helps inner budget departments and agencies to:

- ensure their ICT investments are aligned with the delivery of ETS; and
- easily identify ICT investments that are carried out by other departments and agencies.

What are the approval criteria?

Proposed ETS ICT investments are assessed in the context of the Shared Services Implementation Strategy and the WoVG ICT architecture framework.

The assessment of ETS-related ICT expenditure will consider the following factors:

- the alignment with ETS projects and WoVG standards;
- the expected lifespan of the proposed ICT investment;
- whether any specific approval conditions are required; and
- critical business continuity, risk management and cost advantages.

GSG's role

GSG is responsible for assessing and approving departmental and agency's ETS-related ICT expenditure proposals that are greater than \$250 000. It will seek to make use of existing departmental governance processes to minimise the amount of work resulting from these new arrangements.

The general turnaround time for assessments will be 5 working days. However, additional assessment time may be required for complex proposals.

Important: Please note that in some cases DTF may either: not grant expenditure approval; or may grant approval with conditions that could have an impact on technical, functional and specification requirements. To avoid unnecessary wastage in resources, time and costs, departments and agencies are strongly encouraged to seek ICT approval **prior** to formally approaching the market.

Department/Agency's role

Departmental and agency's IT Directors are required to review and validate their department's / agency's ETS-related ICT expenditure requests before seeking DTF's approval.

Further Information

The application form and guideline are available at:

<http://www.gsgiconline.dtf.vic.gov.au/CA257310001D7FC4/pages/ict-investment-advisory-services-ict-expenditure-approval-process>

For further information, please email ictapproval@dtf.vic.gov.au.