● PLANNED

Funding for Eligible ERC Applications - Application by Invitation Only

Financial scheme: Researcher Project

Application deadline: 4 June 2025, 13:00 CEST

Relevant thematic areas for this call:
Ground-breaking research

Target groups: Research organisations

Funding scale: NOK 10 000 000-40 000 000

Amount of funding presumed available for this call for proposals:
NOK 60 000 000

Project duration: 48-60 months

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Download all files ⌄

Important dates

23 Apr 2025: Open for applications

04 Jun 2025: Application deadline

September 2025: Expected response to the application

01 Oct 2025: Earliest permitted project start

01 Feb 2026: Latest permitted project start

31 Jan 2031: Latest permitted project completion date

Purpose

The purpose of this call is to stimulate more world-leading research groups and to increase the number of Norwegian applications to the ERC.

The call is only open for applicants who have been invited to apply. Researchers who submitted an application to ERC-2024-StG or ERC-2024-CoG and who received the score A in the second stage of the evaluation process without receiving funding from the ERC, are invited to apply.

About the call for proposals

The Research Council's main arenas for ground-breaking research – FRIPRO and Centres of Excellence – have clear common features with the European Research Council (ERC) and their calls. They are arenas for free, curiosity-driven research. At the same time, the schemes are complementary and cover an overall need for funding for free, basic and applied research.

The ERC receives far more top-rated applications than they have the funds to finance. As an additional incentive to Norwegian research communities to apply for the ERC, we will grant two ERC applications per year – one Starting Grant and one Consolidator Grant in a three-year pilot scheme.

In this year's call, researchers who submitted an application to ERC-2024-StG or ERC-2024-CoG are eligible to apply for funding from the Research Council. The application must have received the score A in the second evaluation stage and the ERC rejected the application. Applications from other applicants will be rejected.

The call is available in both Norwegian and English. The text of the Norwegian call for proposals is legally binding.

Who is eligible to apply?

Only approved Norwegian research organisations are eligible to apply. See the list of approved research organisations.

Who can participate in the project?

Requirements relating to the Project Owner

The research organisation listed as the Project Owner in the application form must have approved the submission of the application.

Requirements relating to the project manager and the ERC application

- You must have submitted an application to ERC-2024-StG or ERC-2024-CoG as a Principal Investigator and received an A score in stage 2.
- The application has not received funding from the ERC.
- The application was sent to the ERC with a Norwegian host institution.

The project manager must be employed by the Project Owner.

Requirements relating to partners

Approved Norwegian research organisations and similar foreign organisations may participate as partners in the project and receive funding.

What can you seek funding for?

Scope of the funding

You can apply for up to the same amount as your application to the ERC. When converting from euro to Norwegian kroner, you should use the Euro exchange rate that you can find on the European Central Bank for the day of the deadline for your ERC application, 22 October 2023 for StG 2024 and 12 December 2023 for CoG 2024.

The Project Owner must provide the same amount of own financing as in the ERC application.

Filling in the budget tables

You must adjust the budget that you had in your ERC application so that it fits into the Research Council's budget tables. You must specify the expenses in the application form, in addition to attaching a copy of the budget you submitted to the ERC.

We require that you break down the project budget into the following cost types in your application:

- Payroll and indirect expenses. Costs related to researcher time (including research fellowships and the position of the project manager) at the research organisations participating in the project. For doctoral research fellowships, support is limited to a maximum of three years full-time equivalents. For postdoctoral fellowships, duration of the support is limited to a minimum of three years and a maximum of four years. See our website about post-doctoral research fellowship positions and doctoral research fellowship positions.
- Other operating expenses. Costs related to other activities necessary to carry out the project's R&D activities. Any purchases from subcontractors must be entered here. All costs entered as "Other operating expenses" must be specified in the application.
- Equipment. This includes operating and depreciation costs for scientific equipment necessary to carry out the project.

The cost type **Procurement of R&D services** cannot be used.

If doctoral and postdoctoral research fellows are included in the project and there are specific plans for them to stay abroad, this may be included in the application.

You can find detailed and important information about [what to enter in the project budget](#) on the website.

Conditions for funding

The project will be carried out as described in the application submitted to the ERC.

The project must start between 1 October 2025 and 1 February 2026. The latest permitted project completion date is 31 January 2031.

In addition, you must be aware of the following if you should receive funding from us:

- The Research Council's conditions for funding can also be found in our general terms and conditions for R&D projects on the information page [What the contract involves](#).
- The project manager and the Project Owner must have assessed and handled the consideration of research security in the project. [Research security](#) refers to risks associated with unwanted transfer of knowledge and technology, impact on research and innovation, or breaches of research ethics/integrity where knowledge and technology are used to undermine key societal values.
- Grant recipients in research organisations and the public sector (Project Owners and partners) must have [action plans for gender equality (GEPs)](#) available on their websites. This must be in place before the contract is signed for projects with grants from us. The requirement does not apply to the private sector, interest groups or the voluntary sector.
- The Research Council requires full and immediate open access for scientific articles, see [Plan S - open access to publications](#).
- For all projects that handle data, the Project Owner must prepare a data management plan in connection with the revised application, where [you will find more information about the requirements for data management plans in projects that receive funding from us.](#)
- For medical and health studies involving humans, the Research Council sets [special requirements and guidelines for prospective registration of studies and publication of results.](#)

Overlapping funding

In an attachment to the application, you must state whether you have submitted a new ERC application with the same content to a 2025 call. If your application is awarded funding under this call, and you are also awarded funding from the ERC for a similar application, the Research Council will require you to choose between funding from the ERC and the Research Council. We will follow up on this when the results from the ERC are published in August (ERC-2025-StG) and December (ERC-2025-CoG) 2025.

If you have received funding from the Research Council during 2024 or 2025 for an application that overlaps with the content of your ERC application from 2024, the amount you may be awarded under this call will be reduced.

Relevant thematic areas for this call

The call covers all subjects and research areas.

Ground-breaking research

Practical information

Requirements for this funding scheme

You can change and submit the application several times until the application deadline. We recommend that you submit your application as soon as you have completed the application form and uploaded the mandatory attachments. When the application deadline expires, it is the version of the application that was submitted most recently that we process.

- The application and all attachments must be written in English.
- All attachments must be in PDF format.

Mandatory attachments

- Project description. This must consist of the B1 and B2 parts of the application to the ERC, collected in one PDF document.
- CV for the project manager. You can either use the Research Council's template or use the CV+ Track Record that you submitted to the ERC.
- PDF copy of part "3 – Budget", from Part A of the submitted ERC application.
- Response letter from the ERC to the application, with the panel's and peers' assessments.
- Attachments stating whether you have submitted a new application to the ERC for a 2025 call or whether you have received funding from the Research Council for parts of the content of the ERC application.

Applications that do not meet the requirements above will be rejected.

It is not necessary to submit documentation of a PhD degree, documentation of deductions for academic age or a letter from the host institution.

All attachments to the application must be submitted with the application. We do not accept attachments submitted after the application deadline unless we have requested additional documentation.

We will not consider documents and websites linked to in the application, or attachments other than those specified above. Be careful to upload the correct

attachment type, as there are no technical restrictions on what kind of templates it is possible to upload in the application form.

Administrative procedures

Applications are processed administratively, as the applications have been assessed by the ERC panels in the relevant call. The Research Council will carry out an administrative assessment of the budget in the application.

The ERC does not rank applications that have received an A in stage 2, but which have not received funding because the budget has been exhausted. We will therefore use randomised selection among those who submit applications for this call.

The Research Council may reject applications where the Project Owner or partner has materially breached its obligations in other projects funded by the Research Council in the two years prior to the submission of the application.

The application may be rejected if the project manager has been appointed to the Joint Integrity Committee or the Investigation Committee in the last two years prior to the submission of the application.

We expect to publish which applications will be awarded in September 2025.

Download templates

Template for CV researchers.docx

No global messages displayed at time of print.