

• COMPLETED

Industrial PhD Scheme – Doctoral Projects in Industry 2025

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Financial scheme: Innovation Project

Application deadline: 12 March 2025, 13:00 CET

Relevant thematic areas for this call: Innovation

Target groups: Industry

Amount of funding presumed available for this call for proposals:

NOK 123 000 000

Project duration: 36-48 months

Contact for the call: Industrial Ph.D. Scheme |
naeringsphd@forskningsradet.no

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Important dates

22 Jan 2025: Open for applications

12 Mar 2025: Application deadline

04 Jun 2025: Latest date for feedback on the application processing

11 Aug 2025: Earliest permitted project start

05 Jan 2026: Latest permitted project start

04 Jan 2030: Latest permitted project completion date

Last updates

28 FEB
2025

- We have updated the General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects. These new terms and conditions apply to applications received by the Research Council of Norway from 1 March 2025. Please see [What the contract involves](#).



Purpose

The Research Council has established the Industrial PhD Scheme to boost research efforts and long-term competence-building for Norwegian trade and industry through the recruitment of doctoral candidates.

The scheme is also intended to promote closer cooperation between industry and research organisations as a necessary step in promoting knowledge transfer from researchers to society at large.

The target group is companies. The Industrial PhD Scheme provides companies with an opportunity to enhance their research knowledge and expertise without having to participate in a more extensive R&D project.

SHORTCUTS

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About the call for proposals

We are announcing funding for Industrial PhD projects starting in the academic year 2025/26 with the latest permitted project start date 5 January 2026.

Under this call, funding will be provided for up to 57 Industrial PhD projects. Of these, funding will be awarded to:

- up to three projects of relevance to Transport (see below)
- up to three projects of relevance to Maritime (see below)
- 15 projects within the field of Artificial Intelligence (see below)
 - up to one of the AI projects will be allocated to an ICT security and cryptology project
- up to four projects within climate and nature risk (see below)

There are no thematic restrictions for the remaining 32 projects.

The Industrial PhD Scheme is not a competitive arena. This means that funding is not allocated based on competition between grant applications, but on

whether all the requirements set out in the call for proposals have been met.

Applications received by the deadline will be sorted through randomisation. Processing of the applications will then proceed in the order determined by the outcome of the randomisation until all available funds are allocated.

An Industrial PhD project involves collaboration between a company and a degree-conferring institution. The doctoral project must be based on an issue of relevance to the company, but must be planned and carried out in close cooperation between the company and the degree-conferring institution. Other actors may be partners in the project under certain circumstances. More information about this is presented in the section below, "Who can participate in the project?".

The doctoral project must have a duration of 36 months and can be completed over three or four years. Candidates pursuing three-year projects are to work on the project full time. Doctoral candidates involved in four-year projects are to dedicate 75 per cent of a full-time position to the project and 25 per cent to other tasks.

In this call for proposals, we support projects starting within the academic year 2025/26. Projects may begin as early as the start of the fall semester on 11 August 2025, and no later than the start of the spring semester on 5 January 2026.

Please note, however, that any project activities begun before the contract with the Research Council has been signed are undertaken at the project partners' own risk.

All projects awarded funding under the scheme are subject to the Research Council's General Terms and Conditions for R&D Projects. More information is available on our website: [What the contract involves](#).

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

State aid

This call for proposals constitutes a funding scheme that is notified to the EFTA Surveillance Authority. Funding awarded under this scheme is granted in accordance with Article 25 of the General Block Exemption Regulation for state aid (Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014). In addition, the common provisions set out in Chapter 1 of the regulation must also apply. [See the regulations here](#).

This funding scheme is to be practiced in compliance with the EEA state aid rules. This means that conditions and concepts are to be interpreted in keeping with corresponding conditions and concepts in the state aid rules. In the event of conflict between the text of the call and the state aid rules, the latter will have precedence. The text of the call may be adjusted for this same reason.

State aid may not be given to an undertaking which is subject to an outstanding recovery order following a formal decision by the EFTA Surveillance Authority or the European Commission that state aid received is illegal and incompatible with the internal market. State aid cannot be given to an undertaking in difficulties, as defined by the EEA legal framework.

The call for proposals has been approved as an aid scheme by The EFTA Surveillance Authority (ESA) with the reference: GBER 86/2024/R&D&I.

Funding subject to special requirements

Under this year's call for proposals, funding is available for 32 Industrial PhD projects with no thematic restrictions. In addition, funding is available for up to 25 projects that fulfil the following special requirements:

- We will fund up to three PhD projects relevant to **transport** research within green transition and the use of artificial intelligence (AI). The project must align with user objective three in the [Portfolio plan for Energy and Transport](#)
- Up to three PhD projects relevant to **maritime** research, as described in the maritime section of the [Portfolio plan for Oceans research](#), will be funded.
- We will fund up to 15 PhD projects in **Artificial Intelligence (AI)** research that are relevant to the government's multi-billion investment in artificial intelligence. This includes the consequences of AI, technology development, and innovation. The PhD candidates should be linked to established AI research environments. Examples of this include research environments participating in research centers (SFI and SFF) and larger AI research projects funded by the Research Council or the EU. The candidate should be integrated into the PhD community and research related to larger projects and have an academic supervisor within the AI environment. It is expected that the candidate will participate in the national PhD school for artificial intelligence [NORA.Research.School - NORA - Norwegian Artificial Intelligence Research Consortium](#).
 - Up to one of the AI projects will be allocated to an ICT security and cryptology project for individuals who have security clearance. Funding earmarked for ICT security and cryptology is to be allocated to projects in which the doctoral candidate has already been granted security clearance. Accordingly, the following additional guideline has been established for these projects:
 - The candidate must have been granted security clearance and authorisation for clearance level Secret or higher required for access to classified material. Security clearance must be in place prior to submission of the grant application to the Research Council. Please note that results from PhD projects, including those in ICT security and cryptology, must be published publicly.
- We will fund up to four PhD projects that contribute to reducing **climate and nature risk**. The goal is to enhance knowledge and competence regarding how businesses impact and depend on nature and climate. Initiatives could include understanding and assessing physical and transitional risks in management and decision-making, as well as supporting the transition to circular business models with reduced footprints. Applicants must be companies in industries requiring research to manage climate and nature risks, such as construction, finance, or tourism.

Projects that do not fulfil the special requirements specified above may be allocated funding under the general Industrial PhD Scheme as long as funding remains available.

Applications submitted for project funding with special requirements must fulfil all

requirements and guidelines relating to Industrial PhD projects. These applications will also be assessed in relation to the thematic guidelines under the appropriate programme as well as the special requirements listed above.

Who is eligible to apply?

The applicant (Project Owner) must be an undertaking (company) that has been issued an enterprise number under the Norwegian Register of Business Enterprises and that carries out economic activity in Norway. With economic activity, we mean offering goods or services in a market.

Companies and public enterprises that run activities of an industrial or commercial nature can apply if the enterprise is not financed with more than 60 per cent from public funding.

The Project Owner must have at least two employees in full-time positions at the time of application. The doctoral candidate cannot be one of these two employees.

The following are not eligible to apply for funding under the Industrial PhD Scheme:

- enterprises that are financed with more than 60 per cent from public funding
- enterprises not carrying out or not planning to carry out economic activity
- clubs and associations, including labour unions
- research institutes, health trusts and [organisations that are defined as research organisations by the Research Council](#);
- sole proprietorships and enterprises with fewer than two full-time employees at the time of application
- enterprises that fall within the target group for the [Public Sector PhD Scheme](#)
- enterprises that at the time of application submission, are considered an "undertaking in difficulties"

The Research Council will only provide support to doctoral candidates who have not previously completed a doctoral degree/PhD. The Scheme does not support the completion of ongoing PhD projects.

Who can participate in the project?

The Project Owner (the applicant) must be a company (as defined above). The degree-conferring institution must be a partner in the Industrial PhD project.

The Research Council stipulates the following requirements for the project and project participants:

Requirements relating to the Project Owner

- The company must be listed as the Project Owner and must fall within the target group for the Scheme. Please note that the Research Council may request additional documentation to assess whether this requirement is met. If you are uncertain as to whether the public entity is within the target group, please contact the Research Council's contact points for the Public Sector PhD Scheme before submitting your application.

- The doctoral project must be of clear relevance to the Project Owner's activity and its long-term needs for expertise.
- The Project Owner must demonstrate the financial ability to carry out the project. This means that the company must be able to secure funding for the entire duration of the project, also in the case of delays, and must be able to confirm that funding for the project will also be available in the case of postponements. Please note that we may request additional documentation during the application phase to assess whether this requirement is met.
- The Project Owner must appoint a dedicated supervisor/mentor for the project and must set aside sufficient time and resources to follow up the doctoral project. The role of the internal supervisor must be filled by an individual with expertise of relevance to the thematic orientation of the project. If the supervisor does not have a doctoral degree, he or she will be defined as a "mentor". A supervisor/mentor may be contracted from an external actor if the company does not have the relevant expertise.
- If the Project Owner has two or more full-time employees, the candidate does not need to be employed at the time of application.
- The candidate must be employed by the Project Owner for the entire project duration, and the employment contract should account for potential delays. The doctoral candidate is to be employed in a full-time position for a period of three years for three-year projects, and at least 75 per cent of a full-time position for four-year projects. The terms of the candidate's employment contract and working conditions must be in compliance with Norwegian regulations.

Requirements relating to the degree-conferring institution

- The degree-conferring institution has the responsibility for ensuring that the doctoral project maintains an adequately high scientific standard. Under the Scheme, the doctoral project must meet the same requirements for scientific quality set out for other doctoral projects undertaken at the institution and must follow the institution's regulations for doctoral degree education with regard to admissions, implementation and evaluation. Please note: the Research Council does not conduct any scientific assessment or quality assurance of the project, but assumes that this will have been carried out by the degree-conferring institution.
- The admission process must be underway at the time of application. The candidate must have been granted admission to the doctoral degree programme at the degree-conferring institution. The documents confirming admission must be forwarded when they are completed. The Research Council will not enter a contractual agreement with the Project Owner until the documentation has been submitted.
- If the degree-conferring institution is outside Norway, applicants must submit documentation that the degree from the institution abroad is on a par with a doctoral degree obtained from a Norwegian university.
- To ensure the necessary independence and integrity in the research, the main supervisor at the degree-conferring institution must not have financial interests or ownership stakes in the applicant company, in accordance with the university's guidelines for objectivity and impartiality.

Requirements relating to cooperation and project organisation

- The project is to be implemented in accordance with the definition of “effective collaboration” in the state aid rules. Effective collaboration is defined as follows:

Collaboration between at least two independent parties to exchange knowledge or technology, or to achieve a common objective based on the division of labour where the parties jointly define the scope of the collaborative project, contribute to its implementation and share its risks, as well as its results. One or several parties may bear the full costs of the project and thus relieve other parties of its financial risks. Contract research and provision of research services are not considered forms of collaboration.

- The Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution must enter into a written collaboration agreement. The process of writing a collaboration agreement must be underway, but not necessarily completed, by the time of grant application submission. The agreement must satisfy the Industrial PhD Scheme's requirements for collaboration agreements (see separate section below). The signed collaboration agreement is to be attached to the contract between the Research Council and the Project Owner. The Research Council will not enter into a contract with the Project Owner until the collaboration agreement has been signed by all parties.
- The Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution must jointly be able to provide the candidate with a satisfactory professional and scientific environment and adequate support and supervision for completing the doctoral project.

This means that the candidate should be part of and receive support from the academic environment at the degree-conferring institution, while also engaging with and receiving strong support from the Project Owner to complete the PhD. A well-functioning academic environment should thus provide the candidate with an opportunity to combine theoretical knowledge and practical experience to achieve successful completion of the doctoral project.

- The Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution must hold at least one project meeting per semester. The main supervisor from the degree-conferring institution, the candidate, project manager and internal mentor/supervisor from the company must attend the project meetings. The meeting minutes must be uploaded along with the annual progress report.
- The doctoral candidate participating in the project must be designated at the time of application. Funding will not be granted to projects that do not specify a candidate's name.
- The candidate is required to spend at least one year at the degree-conferring institution and at least one year at the company during the project period. This also applies if the degree-conferring institution is located outside Norway. The stay does not need to be continuous; it can be divided into several shorter stays throughout the project period.

Requirements relating to the collaboration agreement

The Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution must enter into a written collaboration agreement that follows our general requirements for R&D projects. The Industrial PhD Scheme imposes the following requirements for the collaboration agreement:

- The collaboration agreement is to apply for the entire project period. The project period is to be specified in the text of the agreement.
- The ownership of results and issues pertaining to intellectual property rights must be adequately clarified. The parties are to regulate the ownership and user rights of project results that have been produced by several parties in a collaborative effort. This must be regulated in a manner that ensures that the companies taking part in the consortium do not receive indirect state aid from participating research organisations. The regulation of ownership and user rights must therefore be in accordance with [the EFTA Surveillance Authority's guidelines for state aid for research and development and innovation Section 29](#).
- The names, roles and employers of the supervisors from both the company and the degree-conferring institution are to be specified.
- The agreement must not prevent the candidate from publishing the results of his/her research and presenting them in his/her dissertation. This is to be specified in the agreement.
- The agreement must specify that the candidate is to spend at least one year at the company (Project Owner) and at least one year at the degree-conferring institution. The time may be distributed in a manner that is most beneficial for the project.
- It must be specified that the parties are required to conduct a collaboration meeting at least once per semester.
- The agreement must clarify requirements relating to the work duties on the part of the doctoral candidate. This item may also be incorporated into a separate employment agreement between the candidate and the Project Owner. In the case of four-year projects, the site where the candidate is to carry out his or her work duties must be specified.
- Project funding and the distribution of project costs for each partner participating in the doctoral project must be provided.

More information about [collaboration agreements](#) is available on the Research Council's website.

Requirements relating to collaboration with other actors

The Industrial PhD Scheme primarily targets individual companies working in collaboration with a degree-awarding institution. However, the scheme also allows for multiple actors to collaborate on an Industrial PhD project, provided that the collaboration complies with the requirements for the collaboration agreement (see above). In an Industrial PhD project where several companies participate as partners, the following additional requirements must be met, in addition to the other requirements in the call:

- If other partners than the Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution are to contribute funding, the following applies: the Project Owner must contribute the largest proportion of project funding, excluding the degree-conferring institution. This means that the portion of the project costs not covered by the degree-conferring institution can be distributed among several partners, but the Project Owner must contribute the largest share.
- A binding collaboration agreement must be signed between all project partners. The agreement must clarify all relevant matters, including intellectual property rights (IPR), distribution of results, and financial matters.

The Research Council requires that a single joint agreement be signed if there are multiple participating partners in addition to the Project Owner and the degree-conferring institution.

The Project Owner must be able to present a plan for how the project can be completed in the event that other partners withdraw during the project.

What can you seek funding for?

The Research Council can provide funding to cover eligible project costs directly related to completion of the doctoral project. Other related or overall R&D activities at the institution may not be incorporated into the budget. Approved costs include:

- salary and personnel costs for the candidate
- salary and personnel costs for internal supervisor
- costs incurred by the degree-conferring institution (such as supervision and office space)
- other operating costs (laboratory experiments, purchase of literature, conference-related travel, etc.).

Funding under the Industrial PhD Scheme will only be provided for project activity that is defined as “industrial research” and “fundamental research” under the state aid rules (see [Articles for state aid from the Research Council of Norway](#)).

‘Industrial research’ *means the planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or aimed at bringing about a significant improvement in existing products, processes or services, including digital products, processes or services, in any area, technology, industry or sector (including, but not limited to, digital industries and technologies, such as super-computing, quantum technologies, block chain technologies, artificial intelligence, cyber security, big data and cloud technologies).*

Industrial research comprises the creation of components parts of complex systems, and may include the construction of prototypes in a laboratory environment or in an environment with simulated interfaces to existing systems as well as of pilot lines, when necessary for the industrial research and notably for generic technology validation.

‘Fundamental research’ *means experimental or theoretical work undertaken primarily to acquire new knowledge of the underlying foundations of phenomena and observable facts, without any direct commercial application or use in view.*

Costs related to other activities and measures to exploit R&D results, such as patenting, market research and marketing, testing, and finalising new products and services, are not approved for funding. General R&D activities in the company that do not directly contribute to the progress of the project's research, academic goals, and the production of the final dissertation should not be included in the budget.

The Project Owner must set up a realistic budget in the grant application form showing all costs directly related to carrying out the doctoral project. The Research Council requires you to break down the project budget into the

following cost categories:

- Payroll and indirect expenses. This is salary and personnel costs for the company's staff, including the candidate and internal supervisor, and salary and personnel costs for the degree-conferring institution. These costs are to be calculated based on hourly rates for each individual participating in the project. The basis used to calculate costs, i.e., the costs included in the hourly rate, is to be described in the application (in the specification field under the budget tables). Different rules apply for the calculation of hourly rates for company's personnel and for staff at the degree-conferring institution. Please read the guidelines carefully and follow the examples of calculating hourly costs and indirect costs for the company:
 - [Calculating payroll and indirect expenses for companies](#)
 - [Calculating payroll and indirect expenses for the university and university college sector](#)
- Procurement of R&D services. These are costs related to the procurement of R&D services such as laboratory activity, analyses, etc., from an R&D supplier. See the [guidelines for "Procurement of R&D Services"](#) for more information.
- Equipment. Please note that there are restrictions on which equipment costs may be included in the budget. It is important to read the guidelines carefully. [See information relating to equipment here.](#)
- Other operating expenses. These are costs related to purchase of literature, conference-related travel, other operating costs such as laboratory experiments, external advisers, etc. [See information relating to other operating expenses here.](#)

For definitions and other details relating to procurement of R&D services, equipment and other operating expenses, please see [What to enter in the project budget](#).

The Research Council encourages applicants to consult the payroll or finance department at their institution for help in drawing up a project budget.

Calculating support

The table below shows the maximum funding amount from the Research Council per year for three-year and four-year Industrial PhD projects. Funding is calculated on a monthly basis from the start date:

| | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 | 2028 | 2029 | 2030 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Three-year projects | 686 000 | 715 000 | 742 000 | 768 000 | 795 000 | 823 000 |
| Support per month | 57 000 | 60 000 | 62 000 | 64 000 | 66 000 | 69 000 |
| Four-year projects | 514 000 | 536 000 | 556 000 | 576 000 | 596 000 | 617 000 |
| Support per month | 43 000 | 45 000 | 46 000 | 48 000 | 50 000 | 51 000 |

Funding will not be disbursed as a lump sum allocation, but will be adjusted to reflect costs entered in the accounts. Funding cannot exceed 50 per cent of total, approved project costs. This means that if the costs recorded in the project accounts are lower than budgeted, the Research Council's disbursement will be reduced so that it will not exceed 50 per cent of the project costs.

This funding is intended to contribute to covering payroll costs, non-wage labour costs and indirect costs for the research fellow and internal supervisor/mentor, costs at the degree-conferring institution as well as other operating costs in the project.

Funding from the Research Council is disbursed as project support to the Project Owner, and not as a personal grant to the candidate.

Ethics

The Research Council requires a high standard of research ethics in the projects we fund, and ethics is included in the assessment criterion for Research Quality. In the template for the project description, there is a separate section that deals with this. The description of ethics is first and foremost an assurance to the peers that there is a plan in place to deal with the most important ethical dilemmas in the project. If you need to describe this in more detail, this can be done elsewhere in the project description, for example under method selection, or you can do so in the data management plan(s) (see below).

The responsibility for compliance with the research ethics standard lies with the individual researcher and research institution (cf. The Act on the Organisation of Research Ethics).

The panel's assessment and the Research Council's decision on funding do not entail any research ethics approval.

If your application is awarded funding, you should also note that:

- The project manager and the Project Owner must have assessed and managed any issue of research security in the project. [Research security](#) refers to the risks related to undesirable transfer of knowledge and technology, malign influence on research and innovation or violations of research ethics or integrity, where knowledge and technology are used to undermine key societal values.
- The Research Council requires full and immediate open access to scientific publications; [see Plan S – open access to publications](#).
- For all projects that manage research data, the Project Owner must ensure that a data management plan is drawn up and uploaded when the grant application is being revised. [You will find more information about what the data management plan must contain here](#).

Tax deduction for R&D projects under SkatteFUNN

Companies within all sectors and industries can apply to SkatteFUNN and with an approval get 19 per cent of the project costs as a tax deduction through the tax settlement. See the [SkatteFUNN website](#) for more information. It is possible to combine NPHD with SkatteFUNN. [Read more about Incentive effect and combination of instruments \(in Norwegian\)](#).

Funding for Research Stays Abroad

Companies that are awarded funding under the Industrial PhD Scheme have also been able to apply for funding for international stays for their doctoral candidates provided that the candidate is associated with a degree-conferring institution in Norway. This call is temporarily closed for new applications. Please refer to updated information on the Research Council's call for proposals [Funding for Research Stays Abroad for Doctoral and Postdoctoral Fellows](#).

Condition for support for Stays Abroad: The company will receive the support as "de minimis aid." This means that the company can receive a maximum of EUR 300,000 over a three-year period. The Research Council must, as an attachment to the application, receive a written confirmation and an overview of all other de minimis aid the company has received during the last three fiscal years. For companies that are part of a group, the maximum limit generally applies to the group as a whole. For further details, please refer to [the EU regulation on de minimis aid \(Commission Regulation \(EU\) No. 1407/2013\)](#).

Relevant thematic areas for this call

The call for proposals is open for projects within all industrial sectors, but we encourage applicants to relate their applications to one or more of the thematic areas listed below:

Thematic Area: Innovation

Topics:

- Industry throughout the country
- Transport
- Maritime
- ICT security and cryptology
- Artificial Intelligence
- Nature and climate

Innovation

TRADE AND INDUSTRY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TRANSPORT MARITIME SECTOR
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ICT SECURITY AND CRYPTOLOGY
NATURE AND THE CLIMATE

Practical information

Requirements for this funding scheme

The application form

- The formal roles of **project administrator** and **project manager** are to be held by employees of the Project Owner and not by the doctoral candidate.
- The project administrator must be authorised to represent and sign on behalf of the Project Owner in connection with the Industrial PhD project. The Project Administrator must approve the application prior to submission and must sign documents such as reports and the contract.
- The project manager is responsible for reporting to the Research Council and is the primary contact person for the PhD project. The project leader is also responsible for the project's
- Collaborating partners: Remember to list the degree-conferring institution and any other participating companies or institutions as partners. The applicant (Project Owner) and the Research Council are not to be listed as partners.
- Main activities and milestones in the project period must include:
 - mandatory and elective courses to be taken at the degree-conferring institution and any other university/university college
 - a midterm evaluation at the degree-conferring institution
 - milestones for the planned scientific articles
 - the submission of the doctoral dissertation is to be listed as the final milestone. The completion of the doctoral dissertation is considered to be completion of the project. The Research Council does not wait for the applicant's dissertation defense, since this may take longer time.
- In the specification field of the Cost plan, you have to describe how you have determined the hourly rate for the project staff and how many hours per year you have estimated for each project staff member. If you have used the maximum hourly rate (1100 NOK), you must provide a clarification for this.
- To ensure a consistent and thorough follow-up, it is mandatory to conduct two progress meetings annually. These meetings are expected to include representatives from the Project Owner (project manager and/or project administrator and internal supervisor), the degree-conferring institution (main supervisor), and the PhD candidate. The meeting minutes should be uploaded along with the annual progress report. The meetings are designed to evaluate the project's development, address any challenges at an early stage, and ensure continuous communication with the Research Council regarding the project's progress.

You can edit and submit the application multiple times until the application deadline. We recommend submitting the application as soon as you have completed the application form and uploaded the required attachments. When the application deadline expires, we will process the version of the application that was submitted last.

The application and all attachments may be submitted in Norwegian or English.

Attachments to the grant application

The project description and other mandatory attachments must be completed using the designated templates. You will find all templates at the bottom of this call for proposals. All attachments must be submitted in PDF format.

Parts of the application process are automated. For this reason, it is important

that you use the templates below and that the header text is kept intact.

Mandatory attachments when submitting the application form

1. Project description of a maximum of 10 pages (use the standard template provided below)
2. Information about the applicant and partners (use the standard template provided below)
3. Confirmation of participation in a doctoral project (upload under the attachment type "Other") (use the standard template provided below)
4. CV for the candidate. In the Public Sector PhD, we do not have a specific template for CVs, so please use the "common" CV format. Only the candidate's CV should be uploaded
5. Declaration form for undertaking (to be uploaded under "Other items") (use the standard template provided below)

Other attachments

6. For applications for ICT security and cryptology only: confirmation of security clearance and authorisation (to be uploaded under the attachment type "Other").

Applications that do not meet the requirements will be rejected.

Applications that have not included mandatory attachments will be rejected.

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

Please do not attach any documents other than those requested. Links in the application form or project description to websites and documents, as well as other attachments than those specified above, will not be included in the application review process.

There is no technical validation of the content of the attachments you upload, so please make sure that you upload the correct file for the selected type of attachment.

Administrative procedures

Applications for this call are administratively processed by the Research Council. Due to the limited budget, we expect more applications than there are available funds. Processing of applications will therefore take place through the following steps:

- You can apply until 12 March 13:00 CET, after which it will be closed for applications.
- The sequence in which applications are processed is decided by means of randomisation.
- The applications will then be processed in the order of the draw until the available budget has been allocated.

Within eight weeks after the deadline (12 March), the Project Owner will receive feedback regarding either a conditional approval of funding or rejection.

Processing may take longer during holiday periods or if a very large number of applications have been received. Applicants will be notified via "My RCN web".

















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

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


If the application is conditionally approved, applicants will receive a letter requesting additional information or require revision of the grant application. The applicant will be asked to submit a revised grant application with a popular science summary presentation of the project as well as provide any clarifications or updates required. Usually, the deadline for submitting the revised application is three weeks. Applicants may request an extension of this if necessary.

When requested additional information and application revisions has been approved for funding, we will issue a contract that can be accessed via "My RCN web". The signed collaboration agreement with the degree-conferring institution and, if applicable, other partners must be uploaded as attachments to the contract. The contract becomes valid after we have finally approved the submitted contract and attachment.

Download templates

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  | Mal for prosjektbeskrivelse.docx |  |
|  | Template for project description.docx |  |
|  | Partneropplysninger for bedrifter.docx |  |
|  | Information about the applicant and partners.docx |  |
|  | Bekreftelse på deltakelse i doktorgradsprosjekt.docx |  |
|  | Confirmation of participation in a doctoral project.docx |  |
|  | Egenerklaringsskjema om foretak.docx |  |
|  | Declaration form for undertaking.docx |  |

* MANDATORY ATTACHMENT

Download all templates 

No global messages displayed at time of print.