

[Estonia] – [Estonian Research Council] [ETAG]

a) National/Regional information and eligibility criteria

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Funding commitment	150 000 300 000 for a coordinator
Anticipated number of projects to be funded	1
Maximum funding per awarded project/per partner	150 000 300 000 for a coordinator
Eligible types of organisations	Large enterprises, medium enterprises, small enterprises, universities, public research organisations, public authorities, associations without economic activities, NGOs
Eligible Call Modules	All topics
Eligible types of RDI and TRL	Basic research, industrial/applied research, TRL 1-6
Submission of proposal /documentation at national/regional level	No
Additional eligibility criteria	N/A

<p>Eligible costs</p>	<p>Budget</p> <p>1 Research expenses consist of direct costs (personnel costs, travel costs and other direct costs) and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.</p> <p>2 Direct costs</p> <p>2.1 Personnel costs are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.</p> <p>2.2 Travel costs may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance.</p> <p>3 Other direct costs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consumables and minor equipment related to the project; - publication and dissemination of project results; - organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering); - fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project; - patent costs; - all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and comply with the eligible costs. <p>4 Subcontracting costs should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs.</p> <p>5 Indirect costs are overhead from the personnel costs only, which may not exceed 15% and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.</p> <p>6. Double funding of activities is not acceptable.</p>
<p>Information available at</p>	<p>https://etag.ee/en/cooperation/horizon-europe/eu-partnerships/era-nets/</p>

Other

State Aid

EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council (ETAg).

Support is not considered to be State aid for research and development, if the project has ties to the non-economic activities of the Research (or Host) Institution, as long as the research and development activities and the related costs, funding and revenue can be clearly separated, thus avoiding the cross subsidization of economic activity.

The criteria defined in Clauses 17-22 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01) forms the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking who is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives support.

When an entity applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it has to fill in the **State aid form**. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.

If State aid and de minimis aid are given, the documents related to giving the support must be kept for 10 years as of the date when the agreement was entered into.

State aid pursuant to the Block Exemption Regulation

If the support is considered to be State aid, then support is given on the basis of Article 25, 25a or 25c of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ L 187, 26.6.2014, p. 1–78) (hereinafter the Block Exemption Regulation), and the provisions of the Commission Regulation and Section 34² of the Estonian Competition Act apply.

State aid is not given in cases specified under Articles 1(2) to (5) of the Block Exemption Regulation.

If State aid is given on the basis of Article 25, the eligible costs of the project activities must comply with the requirements specified under Article 25(3) of the Block Exemption Regulation (except clause (c)), and the maximum aid intensity must comply with Articles 25(5) and (6). For State aid given on the basis of Articles 25a or 25c, see rules laid down in mentioned Articles accordingly.

If the support applied for can be considered to be State aid, the application must include the information specified in Article 6(2) of the Block Exemption Regulation, and the application has to be submitted before the start of the activities.

If State aid is given, then the costs of the activities carried out before application submission will not be eligible for aid.

De minimis aid

If support is considered de minimis aid, then giving support is subject to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 1–8) (hereinafter the De Minimis Aid Regulation), and the provisions of the Regulation and Section 33 of the Estonian Competition Act apply.

De minimis aid is not given in cases specified under Article 1(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.

In case of de minimis aid, the maximum aid intensity must comply with Article 3 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.

De minimis aid given to the Host Institution together with de minimis aid applied for as support cannot exceed 200,000 euros during the current financial year and the two previous financial years.

	<p>Article 5 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation applies to cumulating de minimis aid. A single undertaking is an undertaking specified in Article 2(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>Grant Agreement If a positive funding decision is made, the Estonian Research Council enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed. The Consortium Agreement should be signed at the latest six months after the grant agreement has been signed. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out.</p> <p>Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.</p> <p>Nagoya Protocol By applying for funding by the Estonian Research Council, the applicants agree to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.</p>
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b) Funding rates

Maximum funding percentages:

	Basic research	Industrial/Applied Research	Experimental development/innovation
Large Enterprises	100%	100%	N/A
Medium Enterprises	100%	100%	N/A
Small Enterprises	100%	100%	N/A
Universities, public research organisations	100%	100%	N/A
Public authorities	100%	100%	N/A
Associations without economic activities, NGOs	100%	100%	N/A