

Clean Energy Transition Partnership



Joint Transnational Call 2025

Research Ireland: Guidance & Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ document is specific to applicants based in Ireland and should be read in addition to the full [Joint Call 2025](#) information.

1. There is more than one Irish funding agency participating in this call. Who should I apply to?

Both Research Ireland and the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) are participating as Irish funding agencies in the Joint Call 2025. Applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with the differing eligibility and budgetary requirements across each agency to determine the most suitable funder for their proposal.

Research Ireland is only participating in Call Modules 02, 03A, 04 and 05. Only academic researchers based in an eligible Irish Host Research body may apply for Research Ireland funding under the specified call modules.

Please refer to the CETP Joint Call 2025 [funding agencies table](#) and the Joint Call Text 2025 (Annex B – National/regional requirements) for further details.

2. How do I apply through Research Ireland?

Please give a brief notification of your intent to submit a pre-proposal through email to eu-cofund@researchireland.ie before the submission deadline. Within the notification, please include the following information:

- List of project partners
- Irish Host institution*
- Total budget request to Research Ireland
- Whether you intend to apply as a coordinating or non-coordinating partner

Please note it is also the responsibility of the applicant to notify the Research Office of their Host Institution of their intention to submit a pre-proposal.

The completed pre-proposal must be submitted directly on the CET Partnership submission platform.

3. Can I apply to more than one Irish funding agency with the same research proposal?

No, Ireland-based applicants must select and submit their proposal to only one agency, even if they meet the eligibility criteria to more than one funder. If the same proposal is submitted to more than one Irish funding agency it will be deemed ineligible.

4. Can I submit more than one proposal to Research Ireland?

Research Ireland will only accept one application per applicant.

5. Can I apply to more than one Irish funding agency with a different research proposal?

It is permitted for an applicant to apply to different Irish funding agencies with different proposals, if the respective requirements for each agency are met.

6. What is the minimum number of partners required in a consortium?

As per the [Joint Call 2025 eligibility conditions](#), each consortium must involve at least three partners from three different countries participating in the chosen Call Module. Each of these partners must be eligible and request funding from their respective funding organisation. Of these three Beneficiary Partners, at least two must be from EU Member States or Horizon Europe Associated Countries (Joint Call Text Section 3.2)

7. Can more than one partner from Ireland be included in the same proposal?

Yes, more than one partner from Ireland can apply once the CETP consortium criteria are met (see above). If two or more Ireland-based applicants are partners on the same pre-proposal planning to carry out distinct work, funding may be requested separately by each partner to different participating agencies, adhering to each agency's own rules and requirements. Please note Research Ireland will fund only one partner per proposal. Please contact both agencies directly for confirmation ahead of proposal preparations and submission.

8. What is the maximum budget for the Irish partner requesting funding with Research Ireland?

For academic applicants based in Ireland, Research Ireland will provide the following funding for projects:

- Up to a maximum of €330,000 direct costs* per award for Irish applicants as Partner on transnational proposals.
- Up to a maximum of €405,000 direct costs* per award for Irish applicants as Coordinator on transnational proposals.

*The maximum total award, including overhead contribution, will be €430,000, for a partner and €530,000 for applicants who take on the role of coordinator.

9. What are the eligible costs associated with CETP Joint Call 2025?

- Salary-related costs for research personnel. Please use current Research Ireland Team Member Salary Scales. **The Irish partner cannot request their own salary.**
- Equipment costs up to a maximum value of €50K
- Travel costs with consideration for [Research Ireland's Guidance for Sustainable Travel Policy](#)
- Direct running costs (materials and consumables)
- Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs
- Subcontracting costs are considered an eligible budget category however strong justification for subcontracting must be provided and pre-approved directly with Research Ireland in advance of proposal submission.
- Overheads should be calculated as 30% of the direct costs, but excluding therefrom the cost of all equipment identified in the application.

Unless otherwise stated, all rules regarding eligible and ineligible costs apply as defined within [Research Ireland's Grant Budget Policy](#).

10. Can PhDs be funded through this call?

As detailed in the Call Text document for [CETP Joint Call 2025](#), the maximum duration of projects is three years. As per [Research Ireland's Grant Budget Policy](#), research teams should include four years' funding for all PhD students, where 3 years funding (covering both the stipend and fees) will be supported directly through the grant and the last year funding (covering both stipend and fees) will be covered by the host institution.

Where applications for funding advance from the pre-proposal to full-proposal stage of the review process, applicants will be required to provide a letter of commitment from the host institution confirming that the financial support required for a fourth year of PhD funding (including stipend + fees), will be covered by said institution. Please refer to our Grant Budget Policy concerning its current contribution to postgraduate student stipends. Furthermore, the PhD supervisor must submit a final scientific report at the end of the three-year funding period, even if the PhD extends beyond the term of the grant.

11. Can equipment be funded through this call?

Items of equipment not exceeding €50,000 can be included in the budget. Only equipment purchases that are directly required for the research and are deemed not to be easily accessible elsewhere in Ireland are appropriate. All costs must be inclusive of VAT, where applicable. Please refer to Research Ireland's grant budget policy for further details on eligible equipment costs and national procurement rules.

12. Can access charges be included in as eligible costs?

Access charges may be sought for use of infrastructure where Research Ireland pre-approved access charge plans are in place. A listing of key contacts for access charge plans is available on the Research Ireland's website. In addition, requests may be included for accessing international databases and facilities or for the commissioning of experiments in international facilities/research labs where appropriately detailed justification is provided and where the required infrastructure is not available in Ireland. Costs must be listed as a separate line item and full details should be provided in the budget justification².

13. What considerations should be taken if the project consortium includes a private, for-profit partner?

Applicants are advised that funding awarded by Research Ireland under the Clean Energy Transition Partnership (CETP) Programme will be subject to, and must comply with, [State aid rules](#) and the conditions of the EU Commission General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER). Funding will be awarded to successful applicants under Article 25, in respect of aid for research and development projects. For further details please consult: [Taighde Éireann-Research Ireland Research and Innovation Scheme 2021-2026](#)

If you have further queries, please contact:

Dr Emma McGrath, EU Programmes Officer
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General mailbox
eu-cofund@researchireland.ie

¹ <https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/>

² <https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/Approved-SFI-Access-Charge-Plans-260722.pdf>