

6 Types of funding – KWF Funding program

The funding framework consists of four different types of funding, which can be applied for in the relevant research phase. The conditions for funding and eligibility will depend on both the project's current research phase and the type of funding being applied for.

The following types of funding are available for research in the Exploration and Development track:

1. Research Project
2. Young Investigator Grant
3. Unique High Risk Project
4. Research Consortium

Two other important programs are:

5. Infrastructure
6. Implementation

1. Research Project

A research project is a research proposal with a defined scope in terms of goal, expected results, duration, costs and research group(s). There is no limit to the requested budget and time. However, the requested budget should be supported by financial projections. If the project involves collaboration between multiple organisations, the added value of each of the separate organisations has to be substantiated.

NB. A Research Consortium proposal should be submitted in case the proposal is performed by 4 or more organisations (service providers not included), **or**; One or more for-profit organisations (companies) are involved as participating organisation and/or co-funder, **or**; The proposal is part of an ongoing collaborative project performed by 4 or more organisations, **or**; The budget exceeds 1 million euros and at least 2 organisations are involved.

Eligibility conditions for a Research Project:

- The project leader must hold a PhD at the start of the project and be employed by a Dutch institute during the term of the project.
- At least one scientific researcher (PhD-student or postdoctoral researcher/(assistant/associate) professor/resident physician /medical specialist) is required to work a minimum of 0.5 FTE per year during the term of the project.
- The guideline for the duration of a research project is 4 years. Justification has to be provided when exceeding this duration.
- The guideline for the budget of a research project is € 500.000,--. Detailed justification has to be provided when exceeding this amount.
- The cost for international internships can be included for scientific personnel.
- The main focus of the execution of the project has to be in the Netherlands. Parts of the work plan can be carried out in other countries, on the condition good reasons can be provided to explain why this is necessary for the realisation of the work plan.

2. Young Investigator Grant

KWF invests in the development of young researchers to ensure a steady influx of new research lines and excellent (clinical) researchers into the field of oncology research. Talented young researchers are offered the opportunity to submit their research proposals, which are reviewed in a separate competition known as the "Young Investigator Grant".

The Young Investigator Grant is intended for post-doctoral researchers, resident physicians, or medical specialists early in their scientific careers. The review procedure involves an interview to review whether the candidate is capable of taking on the responsibilities of a Project Leader and carrying out the project independently.

Eligibility conditions for a Young Investigator Grant:

- A proposal for a Young Investigator Grant has to be submitted within 5 years after obtaining a PhD. This period can be extended by the total amount of time spent on training to become a clinical/medical specialist after obtaining a PhD.
- The project leader (=young investigator) is required to work a minimum of 0.5 FTE per year during the entire project.
- If a candidate has a valid reason for an extension of the deadline for the submission of a project proposal (s)he can contact KWF. This is only possible for the upcoming call for proposals. The candidate must be able to substantiate the reason for the extension with official documents. If KWF considers the reason to be valid, extension is granted for the upcoming call. The maximum extension allowed is 2 years.
- The line of research should be new, not a project within an existing line of research developed by an established researcher.
- The project leader must hold a PhD at the start of the project and be employed by a Dutch institute during the term of the project.
- The guideline for the duration of a Young Investigator Grant is 4 years. Justification has to be provided when exceeding this duration
- The guideline for the budget of a Young Investigator Grant is € 500,000. Detailed justification has to be provided when exceeding this amount.
- The costs for international internships can be included for scientific personnel.
- The main focus of the execution of the project has to be in the Netherlands. Parts of the work plan can be carried out in other countries, on the condition good reasons can be provided to explain why this is necessary for the realisation of the work plan.

3. Unique High Risk Project

This type of funding is aimed at non-existing lines of research with a mostly theoretical basis, but with high potential for breakthroughs in science or the fight against cancer. Unique High Risk Projects offer the possibility to perform short-term preparatory work to determine whether a not entirely crystallised idea, offers any viable opportunities.

Eligibility conditions for a Unique High Risk Project:

- The project leader must hold a PhD at the start of the project and be employed by a Dutch institute during the term of the project.
- The project leader should have enough experience in the specific (scientific) area to enable efficient performance of pilot experiments, in order to turn a wild idea into a concrete and substantiated hypothesis.
- The guideline for the duration of a Unique High Risk Project is 1-2 years.
- The guideline for a budget application is € 150,000. Detailed justification has to be provided.
- You do not have to fulfil the rule of appointing scientific personnel for at least 0.5fte during the project.
- It is not allowed to only request funding for material costs and/or service provider costs.
- The first evaluation will be six months after the start of the project. At this point it is decided whether to continue or stop funding for the project.
- The main focus of the execution of the project has to be in the Netherlands. Parts of the work plan can be carried out in other countries, on the condition good reasons can be provided to explain why this is necessary for the realisation of the work plan.

4. Research Consortium

This type of funding is meant for research projects performed by or within more complex and/or bigger collaborations. A Research Consortium proposal should be submitted if:

- The proposal is performed by 4 or more organisations (service providers not included), or;
- One or more for-profit organisations (companies) are involved as participating organisation and/or co-funder, or;
- The proposal is part of an ongoing collaborative project performed by more than three organisations, or;
- The budget exceeds 1 million euros and at least 2 organisations are involved.

Eligibility conditions for a Research Consortium:

- The project leader must hold a PhD at the start of the project and be employed by a Dutch institute during the term of the project.
- The guideline for the duration of a Research Consortium is 4-6 years.
- Costs for international internships can be included for scientific personnel.
- At least one scientific researcher (PhD-student or postdoctoral researcher/doctor's assistant/ medical specialist) is required to work a minimum of 0.5 FTE per year during the term of the project.
- The costs for the creation of a consortium is not eligible for funding
- A consortium agreement signed by all participating organisations is not required before submission, but obligatory at the start of the project.
- Costs for project management can be included, but should be justified: The project manager does not have a scientific/research role and is not a project leader.
- The core focus of the execution of the project has to be in the Netherlands. Parts of the work plan can be carried out in other countries, on the condition good reasons can be provided to explain why this is necessary for the realisation of the work plan.

5. Infrastructure (Pilot phase)

Type of grant	: Infrastructure grant
Aim of program	: To support infrastructure that can and will be shared nationally
Call phase	: On 16 December, 2 A4 must be submitted via email
Call publication	: On 14 November, the Infrastructure call will be published and more detail on the funding requirements will be available.

6. Implementation (Pilot phase)

Type of grant	: Implementation grant
Aim of program	: To support the implementation of clinically validated applications that need several steps more to actually use the product in the clinic, such as reimbursement or adaptation of clinical guidelines
Guideline for budget	: €150k
Guideline for project dur.:	1 to 2 years
Call phase	: On 16 December, 2 A4 must be submitted via email
Call publication	: On 14 November, the Infrastructure call will be published and more detail on the funding requirements will be available.