

FAQ

QuantERA 2017

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1. What is the maximum budget for the Irish partner? Is this the same for each Irish partner in the same consortia or is it the total for all Irish partners in the same consortia?
 - >> The maximum budget for the Irish portion of a proposal is €250,000 and this is irrespective of the number of Irish partners involved in the consortium and whether the Irish partner is the coordinator or not.
 2. How many applications can an Irish researcher make to the QuantERA 2017 Joint Transnational Call?
 - >> Irish based researchers may only submit one single proposal, as Coordinator or partner, to the QuantERA 2017 JTC. However, Irish based researchers are permitted to submit additional applications as external collaborators i.e. as a Research Group not applying for funding.
 3. What are the eligible costs associated with the QuantERA 2017 call?
 - >> Salary-related costs (Partner cannot request a salary)
 - Small equipment costs
 - Travel
 - Direct running costs
 - Dissemination and knowledge exchange costs

Overheads (overhead is calculated as 30% of the direct costs, but excluding therefrom the cost of all equipment identified in the application)

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

>> Access charges may be sought for use of infrastructure where SFI pre-approved access charge plans are in place. A listing of key contacts for SFI access charge plans is available on the [SFI 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 justification.

5. Does this include funding for industrial partners?

>> No, funding is for Irish researchers in eligible research bodies.

6. Is the budget increased for Irish participants who act as the Co-ordinator of the consortia?

>> No. The max budget is €250,000 and is irrespective of whether the Irish partner is the coordinator or not.

7. What is the name of the funding programme, FO and contact person in FO?

>> Funding Programme = QuantERA 2017; FO = Science Foundation Ireland; Contact person in FO = Dr. Suzanne Foley

8. Does this budget include overhead/indirect costs?

>> The maximum budget per Irish proposal is €250,000. This **does** include the overhead so this must be factored in (overhead is calculated as 30% of the direct costs, but excluding therefrom the cost of all equipment identified in the application).

9. Which areas will be supported from an Irish perspective?

>> All

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

>> In order for a consortium to be eligible, it must consist of a minimum of 3 partners (all requesting funding) from 3 different countries participating in the QuantERA Call 2017. Consortia should be focused and should therefore normally contain between three and six partners.

11. What is the minimum number of Member States required to be involved?

>> At least 3 different EU Member States, or associated countries, are required to be involved. At most 60% of the total requested funding may be requested by partners from one country; at most 40% of the total requested funding may be requested by a single partner.

12. Where can I find further information on the eligibility criteria of Irish participants?

>> <http://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/open-calls/joint-transnational-co-funding-opportunities-era-nets.html>

13. Can PhDs be funded through this call?

>> As detailed in the Call Text document for the 2017 co-funded QuantERA Call, funding is awarded as a grant for either two or three years. As per Science Foundation Ireland's Grant Budget Policy, it is the Foundation's preference to provide funding for four year PhD programmes. However, in this instance, as the maximum duration of awards funded through the QuantERA 2017 co-funded call cannot exceed 3 years, SFI will accept applications for funding which include three year PhD programmes. In these cases, where applications for funding advance from the pre-proposal to full-proposal stage of the review process, applicants will be required to provide the Foundation with a letter of commitment from the host institution confirming that the financial support required for a fourth year of PhD funding (stipend + fees), if required, will be the responsibility of said institution. Furthermore, the project coordinator 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 award.

14. Do all Irish based co-applicants on a proposal need to satisfy the SFI eligibility criteria?

>> Yes, all Irish applicants and co-applicants on a proposal must satisfy the SFI [eligibility criteria](#).

15. What qualifies as an independent research grant?

>> All Irish Applicants are required to have demonstrated research independence through securing at least one independent research grant as lead investigator or as co-investigator. Eligible research grants would be expected to support at least one full-time equivalent, excluding the applicant(s), and include research team costs (e.g., materials and consumables). This excludes smaller awards such as travel grants, equipment grants, postgraduate fellowships, postdoctoral fellowships, and awards of short duration (12 months or less). Laboratory fit-out/start-up funding, and awards that have not been subject to external international peer review are also excluded. Applicants may be required to provide evidence to support the validity of an award upon request. If you are uncertain regarding the eligibility of funding you have received, please contact SFI at h2020@sfi.ie.