SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme 2024

Dr. Anne-Louise Holloway

Scientific Programme Manager
Enterprise Partnerships Team

11 April 2024
Webinar information

- Short, one-way PowerPoint presentation with voiceover
- Presented by Dr Anne-Louise Holloway, Scientific Programme Manager, Enterprise Partnerships
- Closed Caption recording will be made available
- We will walk you through the presentation and answer questions at the end
- You may submit questions by typing them in the Q&A box on the bottom of the Zoom screen – please try to be concise

- Recording of the webinar will be available on the SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship programme page at: http://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-industry-fellowship-programme/
SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme Team

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SFI Fellow

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Presentation Format

- Programme overview
- Application process
- Review process
- Q&A
Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is the national foundation for investment in research in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), which assists in the development and competitiveness of industry, enterprise and employment in Ireland.

It also promotes and supports STEM education and engagement to improve awareness and understanding of the value of STEM to society and to support the STEM careers pipeline.
SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship

Overview:

- Supports academia industry collaboration to address industry-informed challenges
- Funds an academic researcher to work on a research project in a company
- Up to 12 months full-time or 24 part-time
- SFI supports salary, mobility and open access costs. Industry Partner supports other costs
- A way for SMEs and MNCs to bring innovation and talent to their company
- Enhance the skills of the Fellow and will be of mutual benefit to both the industry and academic partners
- 2024 Call now open submission deadline: 26 June 2024, 1 pm Dublin time
- Short application led by the researcher with input from the industry partner

Industrial Research projects

Experimental Development projects

Links academic researchers and research-active enterprise

Partner with academic institutions

SFI researchers gaining industry experience

Advance knowledge/projects in niche areas

https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-industry-fellowship-programme
**Overarching objectives**

**Collaborate**

*Connect* scientific research and researchers with beneficiaries and potential users.

**Innovation**

Facilitate *increased participation in RD&I* by Small, Medium and Large enterprises in the regions across Ireland.

**Impact**

Foster *impactful innovation* by supporting industry-informed research.

**Training**

Enhance the *breadth of training* of researchers and their employability.
SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship

>€25.4 M in awards made to date *

Over 290 awards made to date*

50% of awards made to date have SME industry Partners*

50% of awards made to date have MNC partners*

Sectors

- AgriFood
- Biotechnology/Biologics
- Computer Hardware
- Electrical Engineering and Electronics
- Energy and Environmental
- Finance / Services
- Materials
- Medical Technologies
- Software and other Computer Services
- Telecommunications

* Includes both the current programme (Industry RD&I fellowship) and its predecessor (Industry fellowship)
Programme structure

Industry RD&I Fellowship

Faculty, Postdoctoral or late-stage PhD researcher carries out research in industry, anywhere in the world.

Applicant = Fellow

Max SFI contribution
€100,000
Salary, Mobility & Open Access Costs

• Skilled researcher (Fellow) is embedded in the host company working on a joint project, supports:
  • Industrial research
  • Experimental development
• Company identifies an industry mentor
• Duration: Up to 12 months full-time or 24 months part-time
• SFI Budget: max. €100,000 – SFI provides salary, open access costs and mobility support to Fellow & the company supports the remaining costs of the project
• The applicant is the prospective Fellow
• The Fellow remains an employee of the Research Body for the duration of the Fellowship
• The Fellow must be located at the industry partner’s premises for the full placement duration of the fellowship
• Application Deadline:
  • 13:00, 26 June 2024 - Notification to Applicants in October 2024
• Earliest Start Date: January 2025
Why apply?

Benefits to academic researchers

Researchers placed into industry will have the opportunity to gain a working knowledge of relevant business drivers (e.g., intellectual property, regulatory, investors and markets). The upskilling and industry exposure provided to postdoctoral researchers will prepare them for a career in industry and maximise the impact of their training so far. For faculty researchers, it is expected that their Fellowship will seed subsequent industry collaborations and shape the direction of their research going forward.

Benefits to the industry partner

Industry partners hosting researchers will benefit from the expertise of the fellow embedded in their company, bringing innovative solutions to industry challenges; providing support to enhance competitive advantage and future resilience and development of links with academia to seed future longer-term collaborations.
Case Studies

SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme

Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) is pleased to launch the Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme 2024 which seeks to support academic-industry interactions to address industry-informed challenges. Awards under this programme can be made to academic researchers (at faculty, postdoctoral and late-stage PhD level) wishing to spend time in industry worldwide through the temporary placement of academic researchers with an industry partner.

- Funding
- Updates to the Programme for 2024
- Finding a partner
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategy
- Key Dates
- Webinar Information
- Downloads
- How to Apply

SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme Experiences

- Dr Marco Morelli
- Associate Professor Marcus Baumann
- Dr James Murray

In collaboration with:

Enterprise Ireland
IDC Ireland
Who Can Apply?

Application is led by a STEM Researcher in collaboration with an industry partner company

Faculty Researcher (Category A)
- Prof.
- Assoc. Prof.
- Assist. Prof./Lecturers

Postdoctoral Researchers (Category B)
- Current Postdoc. Researcher in eligible Research Body
- Former Postdoc. Researcher in eligible Research Body
- Holders of PhDs awarded by eligible Research Bodies

Late-stage PhD students (Category C)*
- registered at an eligible Irish Research Body & in the final 6 months of their PhD

NOTES
- Please refer to the programme call document for full details on the eligibility criteria for each applicant category
- Category B includes Research Fellows
- Successful Category C applicants must have completed their PhD before they commence their Fellowship.
- Category C applicants must include their current PhD supervisor as an Academic Collaborator on their application.
- Proposals are not accepted from applicants who wish to be hosted in an organisation in which they have a financial interest or hold a decision-making role.
- Only one Fellowship application per applicant is permitted.

*new for 2024
Company eligibility?

Open to
Small Enterprises, Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and Large Enterprises (MNCs)

SFI provides a fixed proportion of the total eligible project costs with the remaining costs to be met by the industry partner. The SFI funding rate depends on the size of the company and the nature of the research project.

- private for-profit company located in Ireland or abroad
- Must be a research-active company
- Can provide a minimum contribution of 20% of total eligible project costs*
- independent infrastructure to host a prospective Fellow

**NOTES**
- *In-kind* contribution: there is no requirement for the industry partner to transfer funds to the research body; it needs to show that it will itself incur the costs detailed under the industry partner contribution.
- Industry hosts may partner with more than one Fellow i.e. support multiple applications.
- Commercial semi-state companies such as CIE, EirGrid, ESB, etc. are eligible industry partners.
- Academic spinouts are eligible industry partners provided they meet all other eligibility criteria, including the disclosure of any potential conflicts of interest.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company Size</th>
<th># employees</th>
<th>Annual Turnover OR</th>
<th>Annual Balance Sheet</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small</td>
<td>1-49</td>
<td>&lt;€10 M</td>
<td>&lt;€10 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>50-249</td>
<td>&lt;€50 M</td>
<td>&lt;€43 M</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large</td>
<td>&gt;250</td>
<td>&gt;€50 M</td>
<td>&gt;€43 M</td>
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</table>
Programme Remit

Projects must be aligned with SFI’s legal remit:

- the research should be oriented basic or applied;

and

- the research should align with one of the six Refreshed Priority Themes for 2018-2023

or

- with any other area where there is convincing evidence that there will be significant potential for economic and/or societal impact in Ireland.

In this call there is an additional requirement for projects to meet the definitions of industrial research or experimental development.


Refreshed Priority Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ICT</th>
<th>Future Networks, Communications and Internet of Things</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data Analytics, Management, Security, Privacy, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence (including Machine Learning)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Digital Platforms, Content and Applications, and Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality</td>
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<tr>
<th>Health</th>
<th>Connected Health &amp; Independent Living</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Medical Devices</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Diagnostics</td>
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<td>Therapeutics</td>
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<tr>
<th>Food</th>
<th>Food for Health</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smart and Sustainable Food Production and Processing</td>
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<tr>
<th>Energy, Climate Action and Sustainability</th>
<th>Decarbonising the Energy System</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sustainable Living</td>
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<tr>
<th>Manufacturing and Materials</th>
<th>Advanced and Smart Manufacturing</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Manufacturing and Novel Materials</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services &amp; Business Processes</th>
<th>Innovation in Services and Business Processes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Other Research Areas with Significant Potential for Economic and/or Societal Impact |
Programme Remit

Proposals must align with SFI’s legal remit and fall under one of the following categories of research as defined by the European Commission

Industrial Research:

☐ planned research or critical investigation aimed at the acquisition of new knowledge and skills for developing new products, processes or services or for 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).

☐ comprises the creation of component 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.

Experimental Development:

- means acquiring, combining, shaping and using existing scientific, technological, business and other relevant knowledge and skills with the aim of developing new or improved 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 for example super-computing, quantum technologies, block chain technologies, artificial intelligence, cyber security, big data and cloud or edge technologies).
- this may also encompass, for example, activities aimed at the conceptual definition, planning and documentation of new products, processes or services.
- may comprise prototyping, demonstrating, piloting, testing and validation of new or improved products, processes or services in environments representative of real-life operating conditions, where the primary objective is to make further technical improvements on products, processes or services that are not substantially set.
- this may include the development of a commercially usable prototype or pilot which is necessarily the final commercial product, and which is too expensive to produce for it to be used only for demonstration and validation purposes.
- experimental development does not include routine or periodic changes made to existing products, production lines, manufacturing processes, services and other operations in progress, even if those changes may represent improvements.

The applicant, in conjunction with their industry mentor, and TTO as appropriate, is responsible for selecting a research category which appropriately reflects the proposed project activities however SFI reserves the right to final assessment of project research categorisation.

The selected research category determines the level of funding support that SFI can provide.
Funding

SFI supported costs (max. €100K)
- Fellow’s Salary*/Teaching
- Mobility/Travel max €10,000
- Open Access publishing Costs

Company supported costs
- Staff time
- Equipment
- Operating Expenses
- Contractual Research

TOTAL PROJECT COSTS

GRANT MADE TO RESEARCH BODY

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION

NOTES
- **State aid:** Programme is subject to the EU Commission General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) EU Commission Regulation (EC) No. 651/2014 which sets rules for the level of funding support that can be provided by national agencies.
- The maximum funding level (AID INTENSITY) for a Fellowship project depends on:
  - size of the industry partner company
  - category of research (industrial research or experimental development)
  - dissemination of results/availability of licences/Assisted Region
- SFI funding rate (aid intensity) can vary from 25% to a maximum of 80% of total project costs depending size of the partner company, category of research involved & dissemination of results.
- *SFI Team Member Salary Scales* should be used to cost the Fellow’s salary.

SAMPLE BUDGET
- A worked example of a project budget is available for download on the programme webpage
The maximum funding level (AID INTENSITY) for a Fellowship project depends on:

- size of the industry partner company
- category of research (industrial research or experimental development)
- dissemination of results/availability of licences/Assisted Region

Total Eligible Costs: applicants are required to submit a fully costed budget that includes a full breakdown of both the industry partner’s costs in supporting the project and the SFI requested costs (i.e., the total eligible costs).

The requested budget (€) from SFI must not exceed the permitted aid intensity (as determined by the company size, research category & dissemination) as a percentage of the total eligible costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Partner Company Size</th>
<th>Small</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Large</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category of Research: R&amp;D Projects</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Research</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental Development</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>35%</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If at least one requirements of dissemination of results/availability of licences/Assisted Region is met</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Research</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Experimental Development</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCIENCE FOUNDATION IRELAND

SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme 2024

Call for Submission of Proposals

KEY DATES
- Call Launch: 22 March 2024
- Call deadline: 26 June 2024 at 13:00 Dublin Local Time
- Notification to Applicants: October 2024

Terms of Reference

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy and reliability of this document, it is provided for information purposes only and as a guide to expected developments. It is not intended, and should not be relied upon, as any form of warranty, representation, undertaking, contractual, or other commitment binding in law upon Science Foundation Ireland, the Government of Ireland, or any of their respective servants or agents. Science Foundation Ireland Terms and Conditions of Research Grants shall govern the administration of SFI grants and awards to the exclusion of this and any other oral, written, or recorded statement.

All responses to this Call for Submission of Proposals will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the applicant except as far as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the proposal or as may be required under law, including the Industrial Development (Science Foundation Ireland) Act, 2001, the Industrial Development (Science Foundation Ireland) (Amendment) Act 2013 and the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

Download from: https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-industry-fellowship-programme/
The Application Process for Researchers

- To apply to the Industry RD&I Fellowship Programme, applicants should:
  - Read the Call Documentation
  - Find a company to host you
  - Scope project with company & discuss Intellectual Property
  - Plan Budget
  - Gather Letters of Support
  - Create Application in SESAME (incl. Budget)
  - Upload Your Application Form, CVs & Letters of Support
  - Submit to Research Office (RO)
  - RO Submits to SFI
  - Company submit financial documents directly to SFI

NOTES
- Read the call document carefully, if you have questions contact the RO or SFI.
- Read the Funding section (Section 3) of the call document in detail and understand the eligible SFI costs and required contribution of Company in-kind costs to the project.
- Start the application process in SESAME as soon as you can.
- The RO submits your application to SFI.
- Once you submit your application on SESAME, it goes to the RO for approval. The RO may need to get back to you for clarifications before submitting to SFI.
- Work with your RO and give them time to work.
Process for Companies

1. Read the Call Documentation
2. Identify suitable candidate(s)*
3. Scope project with applicant & discuss Intellectual Property
4. Plan Budget
5. Identify a member of staff to act as Industry Mentor
6. Provide letter of Support & mentor CV
7. Prepare financial documents for submission to SFI

NOTES
- Companies can support more than 1 application.
- Under State aid rules, industry partners must not be ‘undertakings in difficulty’. Industry partners will be required to confidentially provide additional financial information/declarations to SFI. These documents will be used by SFI to determine the eligibility of the company to receive State aid.
Finding Partners

- **SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship Group** on LinkedIn
  - [https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8201626](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8201626)

- **Business Development Managers** in Research Bodies/SFI Research Centres

- **Company Matchmaker Tool**
  - We are currently running a pilot matchmaker tool to help connect researchers and companies. Interested parties can fill in a short online form outlining their expertise (applicants) or project requirements (company) and if there is a ‘match’ SFI will make a connection.

Forms are available on the programme webpage

[https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-industry-fellowship-programme/](https://www.sfi.ie/funding/funding-calls/sfi-industry-fellowship-programme/)
An intellectual property (IP) rights agreement must be concluded by the Research Body with the relevant industry partner prior to commencement of the Fellowship.

IP agreements between the industry partner & the Fellow’s Research Body, are the responsibility of the Research Body & should comply with Ireland’s National IP Protocol 2019:

https://www.knowledgetransferireland.com/ManagingIP/National-IP-Protocol/

IP arrangements should reflect the collaborative nature of the project, the level of commitment of the industry partner & compliance with State aid regulations.
Proposal Submission
Proposal submission - SESAME

- Note that the ‘Applicant’ will always be the prospective Fellow

- Proposals will only be accepted through SESAME, the SFI grant management system [https://grants.sfi.ie/s_Login.jsp](https://grants.sfi.ie/s_Login.jsp)

- Research Bodies will provide the applicants with a username, password & SFI PIN for SESAME

- Detailed information on application process available in the Call Document including submission requirements in respect of file types to be uploaded, maximum upload size, font sizes etc.

- Applicants must complete all mandatory SESAME profile fields (marked in red) before submitting an application.

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**Deadline**
Submission deadline **26 June 2024 at 13:00**

- Industry partner must submit additional (financial) documents directly to SFI via email by **10 July 2024**
SESAME Proposal Sections

Step 1  Eligibility Questionnaire

Step 2  Application details:

- Complete SESAME sections
- Upload of programme documents:
  1. Proposal (max. 6 pages, pdf upload) - template provided
  2. References List (max. 1 page, pdf upload)
  3. Applicant CV (max. 5 pages, pdf upload) - template provided
  4. Industry Mentor CV (max. 5 pages, pdf upload)
  5. Budget Justification (max. 3 pages, pdf upload) & Budget spreadsheet (template provided)
  6. Conflict of Interest statement (max. 2 pages, pdf upload)
  7. Letters of Support (max. 2 pages each, pdf upload)
  8. If relevant, Academic Collaborator CV (max. 2 pages pdf upload) -template provided

Proposal Checklist provided in Appendix D
In addition to the proposal documents submitted on SESAME the industry partner is required to confidentially provide additional financial information/declarations. These documents will be used to determine eligibility of the industry partner to receive State aid.

The following documents must be confidentially provided by the industry partner to SFI directly by email to irdif@sfi.ie from the industry partner mentor or designated representative by **10 July 2024**

Please ensure that the Applicant’s Name and Proposal ID are quoted in the email subject line.

- Declaration of financial capacity.
- Declaration of SME status (for SMEs only).
- Declaration of solvency.
- Latest set of financial records (P&L and balance sheet). If the industry partner is not required to produce audited accounts, management accounts signed off by an accountant will be accepted.

*Templates for the industry partner documentation are provided on the Industry RD&I Fellowship programme webpage.*
Fellowship Proposal Template

Fellowship proposal upload (max. 6 pages)- Template provided

The proposal content must be structured under the following 3 headings and address each sub-heading:

1) **Research & Training**
   - **Challenge**: Describe the research/technological challenges to be addressed and their relevance to the industry partner’s activities.
   - **State-of-the-art**: Describe the current state-of-the-art in the area.
   - **Research programme**: Describe the novelty and/or innovative aspects of the research programme, including work packages and detail any training activities as appropriate.
   - **Training plan**: detail any training activities as appropriate.
   - **Applicant and Mentor**: Describe the mentor’s expertise and business sector, and how the Fellow’s expertise is suitable to carry out the proposed research programme.
2. Impact

❑ Describe the potential for long-term collaboration between the participants, and their commitment to the programme.
❑ Describe how the Fellowship will enhance the career perspectives and employability of the fellow and how it will contribute to their skills development.
❑ Describe how the proposed research will impact on the industry partner’s activities.
❑ Describe the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the results, including intellectual property (IP) management measures.
❑ Applications where additional grant aid is requested for wide dissemination of results, you must detail how results will be disseminated.

3. Execution & Delivery

❑ Describe how the research programme will be implemented (include a Gantt chart).
❑ Describe the supervision and mentoring arrangements, including risk management.
❑ Describe the infrastructure, facilities and space to be provided by the mentor. This should include details of the office, laboratory, computing, animal or other facilities as necessary, where the research will be done, including the equipment and materials that will be available.
**Section 1 – Applicant Details**

- Name & Institution
- Career Profile (Education & Employment)
- Key Achievements in Research Excellence & Impact
  1. Key Achievements in the Generation of Knowledge
  2. Key Achievements in the Development of Individuals
  3. Key Achievements Supporting Broader Society & the Economy
  4. Key Achievements Supporting the Research Community

**Section 2 – Publication Details**

- A. Senior-Author Publications: 3 peer-reviewed, senior-author primary-research publications
- B. Other Publications: Up to 7 other publications

**Applicant & Academic Collaborator** Narrative CV templates available on the programme webpage must be used.

- Reference to metrics such as journal impact factor, h-index and total number of publications is not permitted.

- Allows for the provision of additional information such as periods of leave from research, if relevant.

- Deviating from the instructions in the template may result in the redaction of these details prior to review.

- A template is not provided for industry mentor CVs - rather guidance in line with DORA principles is provided in the call document.
Review Process
Review Process

Application

Proposal document (6 pages)  CVs  Letters of Support  Budget  Conflict of Interest statement

Independent International Experts

Quality of the Research and Training Programme
- Quality & innovative aspects of the research programme.
- Relevance of the sex/gender dimension in the research area.
- Quality & innovative aspects of the training programme, where appropriate, including mentoring.
- Suitability &/or complementarity of the Fellow’s expertise with the research & training programme.

Potential for Impact
- Potential for long-term collaboration and knowledge exchange between the participants, and their commitment to the programme.
- Enhancement of the career perspectives & employability of the Fellow & contribution to his/her skills development.
- Potential to shape and inform the future direction of the Fellow’s research.
- Quality of the proposed measures to exploit & disseminate the results, including IP management plans.

Execution and Delivery
- Coherence & feasibility of the work & training plan.
- Appropriateness of the infrastructure & mentoring arrangements provided by the mentor.

3 Criteria – Equally Weighted (scored out of 5)
Closing points

**Deadline**
Submission deadline **26 June 2024 at 13:00**

- ✓ Read the programme document in detail
- ✓ Check your eligibility to apply
- ✓ Fellowship project should be developed in partnership between the applicant and company
- ✓ Engage early with the Research Body’s Research Office
- ✓ Carefully prepare the fellowship budget
- ✓ Allow enough time to work on the application
- ✓ Email any queries to irdif@sfi.ie
We are now reviewing questions

You may submit questions by typing them in the Zoom Q&A box - please be concise

We will deal with as many of these as we can, verbally

We will post a recording of this webinar on the Industry RD&I Fellowship webpage

Questions can be submitted after the webinar to irdif@sfi.ie
Extra Slides
## SFI Industry RD&I Fellowship: Example Budget

- **Company Size:** Small
- **Research Category:** Industrial Research
- **Wide Dissemination of Results:** Yes

### SFI Contribution

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<td>Travel</td>
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<td>Open access</td>
<td>1,500</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>60,602</strong></td>
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### Industry Partner Contribution

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<tr>
<td>Staff Costs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment/Instrumentation</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Costs of contractual research</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operating expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>23,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (eligible) Project Costs:** €60,602 + €23,000 = **€83,602**

**CHECK** SFI contribution must be less than 80% of Total Project Costs i.e. less than €66,882

€60,602 < €66,882

**SFI Requested Budget:** €60,602

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NB: SFI Team Members Scales were updated in Nov 2023: [https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/](https://www.sfi.ie/funding/sfi-policies-and-guidance/budget-finance-related-policies/)
**Budget notes**

- **SFI Requested Budget**: SFI will fund up to a maximum of €100,000 in direct costs to support the fellow's salary (or teaching buy-out), mobility and open access costs only. *Subsistence is not supported.*

- Applicants are required to complete **two** budget templates for this programme:
  
  1. a SESAME budget table detailing the SFI requested costs (the industry partner costs should **NOT** be included in the SESAME budget table) and
  
  2. a detailed budget spreadsheet, which includes the industry partner costs as well as the SFI requested costs, using a Microsoft Excel budget template provided. This must be uploaded as an attachment to the proposal in the SESAME. It must provide a full breakdown of all the industry partner’s costs in supporting the project.

    - This spreadsheet checks to ensure that the requested SFI budget does not exceed the permitted aid intensity.

- **Budget Justification (PDF upload, max. 3 pages)**

  - Provide a full justification for all eligible project costs including both the SFI supported costs and the industry partner’s costs in supporting the project.

  - Please note that costs that are not considered to be fully justified in this section will not be approved for funding.

  - The industry partner costs must be verifiable using standard accounting practices.