

KWF Financing of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Call PPS-2024-PILOT

Goal of this program.

In collaboration with Health~Holland, KWF Kankerbestrijding is able to invest in the PPP Subsidy Program for Public Private Partnerships, to stimulate innovative research, entrepreneurship and accelerate the development of products and technologies to impact cancer patients.

This program is looking for innovative, translational, and multidisciplinary research focused on oncology in which knowledge institutes and private partners are collaborating.

From 2024, the 'PPP Research and Innovation Regulation' will change into the 'PPP Innovation Subsidy Regulation'. With the PPS-2024-Pilot call, Health~Holland and KWF will provide extra funding to pilot and measure the new regulations, which will come into effect from 2025 onwards.

General information on the Health~Holland Pilot Call 2024 can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Who can apply?

Scientists employed by a Dutch knowledge institute can submit a proposal. There needs to be a genuine collaboration with at least one private for-profit partner contributing to the project.

Applications can be submitted between June 25th 2024 and October 1st 2024.

Applications will not be accepted after the deadline of Tuesday October 1st 2024 at noon.

Fully completed project proposal forms and the TKI/PPP budget sheet can be uploaded in KWF Grant Management System (GMS). For more information on the eligibility criteria, see the following pages. In case you have additional questions, please contact KWF at pps@kwf.nl for PPP related questions or bestedingen@kwf.nl for GMS related questions.

Scientific project review process.

All applications will initially be subject to an internal eligibility check before it is reviewed by external reviewers. After these reviews the project proposals will be assessed by the KWF scientific review board, consisting of scientists, clinicians, venture capitalists and valorisation experts in the relevant areas of expertise.

General conditions and eligibility criteria.

The application must meet a number of conditions. Important aspects in this regard are:

- The research fits within the social theme 'Health & Care', the central mission and at least one of the five focused missions that contribute to the central mission of this theme, as concretized in the [Knowledge and Innovation Agenda Health and Care 2024-2027](#), and the objectives of the regulation. See pages 22-67 of the KIA for the mission(s) of the PPP-program.
- The consortium consists of at least one for-profit enterprise and one Dutch knowledge institute/research organization. Foreign for-profit enterprises and research organizations are encouraged to participate in the consortium as long as the results of the research project benefit the Dutch knowledge infrastructure and economy. The main applicant is based in the Netherlands.
- Effective collaboration takes place. This means, among other things, that the project is carried out at joint cost and risk and that all consortium partners make a substantive contribution to the project. The research is of high scientific quality.
- The project consists of fundamental research, industrial research or experimental development, or a combination thereof*. A description of the three types of research is described in Appendix D of the application form-appendices. Correct classification of the project according to the type of research is very important and might be subject to additional checks if deemed necessary. Incorrect classification might lead to disqualification of the project. Please follow the advice of your contact person at KWF and/or your knowledge institute.

* In case of drug development, pre-clinical research in animals falls within the research category 'industrial research'. In principle, clinical phases 1 and 2 fall within the research category 'experimental development'. Phase 3 clinical trials (and beyond) are seen as competitive development and fall outside the scope of the PPP Subsidy Regulation.

- All consortium partners have to make an in kind contribution. This means, for example, that all consortium partners must incur payroll costs and that these costs are visible in the budget form (Excel). In addition to the aforementioned in kind contribution, it is possible to contribute in cash as well. The in cash contribution of the enterprises must be due to a Dutch research organisation (and not to the project concerned).
- Consortium partners may not hire or compensate each other for services or products within the project. Consequently, consortium partners may not invoice each other. Third parties may be hired for services; they are not consortium partners.
- Large enterprises (Dutch and foreign), foreign SMEs and Dutch and foreign other parties are not permitted to apply for PPP subsidy; the expenses they incur should be equal to the in-kind contribution they provide.
- In principle, it is up to the enterprise(s) how they finance their own contribution. However, we strongly advise against creative constructions; improper use of PPP subsidy by consortia must be prevented at all times, e.g. using PPP subsidy and making an in cash contribution by the same party.
- If the consortium has received or will receive other public grants for the submitted project, for example from NWO, ZonMw, TNO, TTW or Health~Holland, the regulation regarding cumulation of different grants applies (see addendum 5 on page 4).
- Research organizations, such as universities, UMCs, universities of applied sciences, TO2s, KNAW institutes and other organizations that meet the definition of research organization, may fund up to 70% of their own costs* with PPP subsidy in the case of fundamental and industrial research. Research organizations may fund up to 60% of their own costs with PPP subsidy in the case of experimental development. Dutch SMEs (for-profit and not-for-profit enterprises) may fund up to 60% of their own costs using PPP subsidy to conduct fundamental and industrial research. Dutch SMEs may finance up to 40% of their own costs with PPP subsidy to conduct experimental development. Whether an industrial party qualifies as an SME can be checked at RVO MKB-toets. See Table 1a and 1b.

* All eligible costs incurred by that particular partner, except any in-cash contributions

Table 1a. Financing and matching percentages by type of research *Partner level*

Max % PPP subsidy based on eligible costs partner	Fundamental (TRL 1-3) and Industrial research (TRL 4-6)	Experimental development (TRL 7-9)*
Research organization	70%	60%
Dutch SME*	60%	40%
Large enterprises, non-Dutch SME, Dutch and non-Dutch other parties	0%	0%

The percentages listed in Table 1.A are percentages taken over the total costs of the organization in question.

*TRL 8 and 9 are not eligible for PPP funding

Table 1b. Minimal contributions *Project level*

Minimal contribution based on total project cost	Fundamental (TRL 1-3) and Industrial research (TRL 4-6)	Experimental development (TRL 7-9)*
Research organization(s)	min. 10%	
For-profit and not-for-profit enterprise(s)	min. 15%	min. 30%

The percentages listed in Table 1.B are percentages taken over total project costs.

- Budgeted costs should be directly related to the R&D activities, and do not include for example: bench fee costs, travel within the Netherlands, supporting/project management tasks that are not directly related to the project's R&D activities.
- In exchange for their contribution, the private partner obtains first access to the results. They also obtain an exclusive option to negotiate a license to use the results and inventions coming forth from the PPP project. If the private partner decides to exercise their option rights, their contribution to the project will be taken into account in the negotiations.
- The proposal should contain a description of the objectives, subject, key challenges, approach, and how the project contributes to the goals of TKI-LSH/Kennis en Innovatie Agenda. Each part of the project classification must be well described in work packages. The degree of cooperation must be clearly stated as well as why the consortium is particularly capable of achieving the objectives.
- A detailed budget, describing the contribution of each partner (in cash and in kind) and the allocation of the budget must be provided. For the in kind contribution for personnel costs, the role and activities of the personnel should be clearly described and an hour registration is mandatory. TKI-LSH requires the use of a specific Excel template for project budgets. If applicable, please contact your internal financial department to ensure the budget meets all requirements and for approval of the budget.
- The maximum duration of the project is 4 years. The deadline for finalizing the research project granted in the 2024-Pilot PPP allowance call is October 1st 2029.
- All results and any new intellectual property (IP) generated in the collaborative project should remain the property of the consortium partner that has generated the results and foreground IP. An option to negotiate a license agreement at market value to use the intellectual property for commercial development is included in the consortium agreement.
- A consortium agreement between all partners, should be signed within three (3) months after allowance of the grant. The project should start within six (6) months after the allowance is granted. A KWF-PPP compliant CA template, adjusted to the new PPP Subsidy Terms and Conditions, will be available for your convenience end of July 2024.
- Your project might be eligible for Health Innovation Netherlands (Hi-NL) innovation guidance, which can be financed with PPP allowance. More information can be found on the Hi-NL [website](#).

Criteria for ranking the proposals by the scientific board are:

- Scientific quality
- Feasibility
- Relevance (impact/utilization)

CHECKLIST

- The consortium consists of at least one Dutch knowledge institute and one for-profit private party.
- The main applicant (hoofdaanvrager) is a knowledge institute and located in the Netherlands.
- The project has a duration of a maximum of 48 months.
- Effective collaboration takes place. This means that the project is realized at joint cost and risk.
- All consortium partners make an *in kind* contribution. This means that all consortium partners should at least incur payroll costs.
- The research organization contributes at least 10% of the total project costs.
- The budgeted costs are directly related to the R&D activities, and do not include for example: bench fee costs, travel within the Netherlands, supporting/project management tasks that are not directly related to the project's R&D activities.
- The budget form has been signed by a financial controller from the main applicant and a statement from the research organisation's/company's TKI/PPP regulation contact person (or other authorized person) indicating that the reserved PPP Subsidy for the Pilot Call can be used for this project is included.
- Letters of commitment of all parties involved, each stating the parties' in cash & in kind (separately) contribution to the project. Only the main applicant does not need to upload a letter of commitment.

More information on the PPP allowance can be found on the [Health~Holland website Pilot Call 2024](#).