

Other funding options include the following:

SFI Spokes

Science Foundation Ireland funds oriented basic and applied research in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. SFI fund a variety of Research Centres around Ireland to link scientists and engineers in partnerships across academia and industry to address crucial research questions. Access to these research centres for new partner companies can be facilitated through the Spokes Program. The Programme has been designed to deliver excellent basic, oriented research results and discoveries in targeted projects associated with SFI Research Centres and hence will deliver significant economic and societal impact during the lifetime of the programme.

To apply for a Spokes award under the rolling call mechanism, the industry partner (or partners) must make a minimum 50% cash contribution to the research programme.

The high industry cost-share component of the Spokes Rolling Call reflects the importance and urgency of the programme to industry and conveys the following advantage to this track:

Timing of the application submission is determined by the applicants and not SFI

Relatively quick turnaround ('fast track') of the submitted proposal

Assessment of the proposal on its own merit and not in competition with other proposals

Applications that are deemed fundable by scientific and impact assessment will be funded

Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund

The Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund is a €500 million fund established under Project Ireland 2040 and is run by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation with administrative support from Enterprise Ireland. The Fund, which was announced as part of Project Ireland 2040, will see an overall amount of €500 million of Government funding allocated over the ten years from 2018 to 2027 alongside enterprise co-funding.

The Fund is delivering on Pillar 1 of the Government's Future Jobs Ireland framework – Embracing Innovation and Technological Change – by funding the development and deployment of disruptive innovative technologies on a commercial basis. It is one of the first funds of its type in the world and is aimed at tackling national and global challenges to secure the jobs of the future.

The most recent DTIF call (2019) requested applications for a minimum of €1.5 million over 3 years. Consortia required at least 3 partners with at least one SME and one other enterprise partner. Within this call, enterprises could claim up to 50% of their eligible costs. Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) could claim up to 100% of eligible costs. RPOs could not receive more than 50% of the total DTIF funding in any collaboration.

To be eligible for funding, companies were required to be a client or potential client of Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland or Údarás na Gaeltachta or an eligible Research Performing Organisation (RPO). If not, they could still be involved in a collaboration, but would not be eligible for funding. DTIF funding can only be drawn down by clients of Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland, Údarás na Gaeltachta and eligible RPOs.

Irish Research Council

The IRC is an associate agency of the Department of Education and Skills, under the aegis of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), and funds research across a wide range of disciplines. The IRC funds postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers across Ireland, and has specific programs in place to fund industry sponsored research. The Enterprise Partnership Program is a unique national initiative linking excellent researchers to enterprise. The scheme brings great research ideas into an enterprise partner with the support of a higher education institution., and funds both postgraduate and postdoctoral scientists.

Postgraduate Awardees receive an annual package of up to €24,000 per annum comprising of:

- A scholarship stipend of €16,000 per annum
- Fee contribution of up to €5,750 per annum
- Research expense fund of €2,250 per annum

The IRC co-fund two thirds of the cost for a postgraduate researcher to undertake research directly related to an organisation's interests and contributes up to €16,000 per annum towards the researcher costs. The enterprise partner commits an annual contribution of €8,000. Both enterprises and researchers benefit greatly from the programme. Enterprise partners co-fund excellent researchers who dedicate their time to a specific research project related to the organisation. At the end of the project, the researcher will gain workplace skills and a degree by research. The enterprise benefits from high value and in-depth research in an area closely aligned with their strategic interests.

Postdoctoral Awardees receive an annual package of €45,955 comprising of:

- A salary of €31,275 per annum
- Employer's PRSI contribution of €3,425 (10.95% of salary) per annum
- Employer's pension contribution, where applicable, of €6,255 (20% of salary) per annum
- Research expense fund of €5,000 per annum

The IRC co-fund two thirds of the cost for a postdoctoral researcher to undertake research directly related to an organisation's interests. The Irish Research Council contribute up to €30,636.67 per annum towards the researcher costs. The enterprise partner commits an annual contribution of €15,318.33.

Both enterprises and researchers benefit greatly from the programme. Enterprise partners co-fund excellent researchers who dedicate their time to a specific research project related to the organisation. At the end of the project, the researcher will have gained important workplace skills and a fellowship. The enterprise benefits from high value and in-depth research in an area directly aligned with their strategic interests.

Interreg

Interreg is one of the key instruments of the European Union (EU) supporting cooperation across borders through project funding. Its aim is to jointly tackle common challenges and find shared solutions in fields such as health, environment, research, education, transport, sustainable energy and more. Interreg is one of the two goals of the EU Cohesion Policy in the 2014-2020 period and it is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). It has a budget of EUR 10.1 billion invested in the several cooperation programmes responsible for managing project funding.

Interreg has three types of programmes:

- Cross border (60 programmes)
- Transnational (15 programmes)
- Interregional (4 programmes)

Interreg contributes around EUR 1 billion to EU external border cooperation programmes supported by the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) and the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI).

2014-2020 is the fifth period of Interreg and therefore it is called Interreg V. In accordance with the new design of the EU Cohesion Policy and the targets set out in Europe 2020 Strategy, Interreg has been significantly reshaped to achieve greater impact and an even more effective use of the investments. Key elements of the reform are concentration, simplification and result orientation. Interreg V is based on 11 investment priorities (thematic objectives).