

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse - Swiss Innovation Agency

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Information on the requirements and criteria for non-commercial research centres outside the higher education sector

In order to be eligible as a non-commercial research centre outside of the higher education sector and to submit an application for contributions to innovation projects (Article 19 of the Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation, RIPA, SR 420.1), the research centre must meet the requirements of Article 5 RIPA and Article 10 of the Innosuisse's implementing provisions for innovation projects. These requirements are outlined below:

- 1. The institution is not considered a research body within the meaning of Article 4 RIPA
- 2. The institution must advance the purpose of the research; this is demonstrated as follows:
 - The research objective must be explicitly set out in the legal basis and in the institution's strategy
- 3. The funding bodies and owners of the institution do not gain any pecuniary advantage from its research activities; this is demonstrated as follows:
 - The distribution of a dividend or any other form of monetary benefit to the owners or shareholders is statutorily excluded
- 4. The level and quality of the institution's research is comparable to that of research establishments in the higher education sector; this requirement is demonstrated as follows:
 - Publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at conferences, courses and seminars based on research results or similar scientific activities
 - Research managers and team leaders have a higher level of education and proven experience in science-based innovation projects
 - The institution has the research infrastructure required to conduct science-based innovation projects
 - The institution has a research programme and annually budgeted financial resources to carry out its research programme

Checking eligibility when submitting an application

- The eligibility of a research institution outside the higher education sector under Article 5 RIPA is examined when an application for funding for a specific innovation project is submitted
- The eligibility is checked again for each innovation project; provided that the circumstances do not change, it can be assumed that a future application with a similar field of research will be assessed positively
- If the result of the eligibility review is negative, the funding application for a project is not materially
 assessed and a non-consideration decision is taken

Documents to be submitted

- As part of the application for project funding, the institution submits all the documents required to verify the eligibility conditions:
 - 0. Indicate the name and contact details of the person in charge of the institution, as well as the institution's UID identification number
 - A. Articles of association of the institution
 (→ submit one PDF document named "A_articles_research_centre")
 - B. List of the institution's publications over the last three years (authorship required and publication under the institution's address)
 (→ submit one PDF document named "B publications research centre")
 - C. List of research staff:
 - Total number of full-time equivalents (FTE) per position: research director, group leader, postdoctoral fellow, PhD student, laboratory technician, engineer, etc.
 - Curricula vitae and training certificates from director of research and team/group leaders
 - (→ submit one PDF document named "C list staff CVs research centre")
 - D. List of R&D projects over the last two years, research projects initiated and directed by the institution
 - (→ submit one PDF document named "D list projects research centre")
 - E. Evidence of previous/continuing cooperation with industry

 (→ submit one PDF document named "E link industry research centre")
 - F. Detailed list of the institution's annual budget for research activities (past year, current year and upcoming year) per budget item: salary, equipment, consumables, etc.
 (→ submit one PDF document named "F budget research_centre")
 - G. Detailed description of the available research infrastructure if applicable: core facilities, laboratory equipment, etc.
 - (→ submit one PDF document named "G_infrastructure_research_centre")