



ELIGIBILITY OF INSTITUTIONS IN RELATION TO FUNDING

BELSPO R&D PROGRAMMES

Eligible institutions

Eligible institutions are institutions that can receive funding in BELSPO R&D programmes as Coordinator or Funded Partner, provided the project they participate in is selected for funding.

1. The following types of institutions are always eligible for funding:

- Belgian Federal Scientific Institutions
- Belgian Universities
- Belgian Schools of Higher Education

2. A fourth type of institution 'other Belgian public and non-profit institutions' is eligible for funding if they fulfil **ALL** the following criteria:

- a. There is a systematic research effort over a period of years within the institution. (Punctual or brief periods of research do not count).
- b. The institution's research efforts create new knowledge for Belgium. (Including research whose purpose is to fill a knowledge gap in Belgium, this is, research that has already been done in other countries but not yet been performed or applied in/to Belgium).
- c. Staff members of the institution have (co-)authored peer-reviewed articles or scientific publications, where they appear as affiliated with said institution. By scientific publications we mean publications which:
 - i. Are not a copy or summary of another publication (i.e. Final Reports...)
 - ii. Contain the following sections / information: Literature, data & methodology, results and conclusions.
- d. Institutions have an in house research strategy, specifying the kind of research that is performed and in which subjects or themes.

Note: Being a non-for-profit public institution and having the statutes that mention 'research' is a necessary but not sufficient condition to be considered eligible for funding.

Non-eligible institutions

Non-eligible institutions are institutions that cannot receive funding as Coordinator or Funded Partner¹. They can be considered sub-contractors or Non-Funded Partners.

1. Any institutions that do not fulfil the criteria mentioned under the section 'Eligible Institutions' are not eligible for funding.
2. Think tanks, incubators, accelerators, facilitators and hubs are not considered eligible institutions.
3. Institutions performing only systematic or repeated analysis, data collection or monitoring, with no intramural research based on those analysis, data collection or monitoring.

Eligibility check

For the P4Science & S4Policy programmes

The first step to apply for funding under P4Science and S4Policy, is to submit an Expression of Interest. This Expression of Interest is checked, among other things, in regard to the eligibility for funding of the Coordinator and eventual Funded Partners. If they are not eligible for funding, BELSPO will contact the coordinator to let them know they must be changed. BELSPO may ask you to fill in an Institution Request form, available on the programme's website.

For the ESFRI-FED programme

The first step to apply for funding under ESFRI-FED, is to submit a Full Proposal. The Full Proposal is checked, among other things, in regard to the eligibility for funding of the Coordinator and eventual Funded Partners. If any of them are not eligible for funding, the proposal will not undergo evaluation. BELSPO strongly advises to contact the ESFRI-FED secretariat to ensure that the institutions appearing as Coordinator (and Funded Partners) can be funded. BELSPO may ask you to fill in an Institution Request form, available on the programme's website.

¹ Note that there are specific restrictions in which institutions can coordinate a proposal depending on the R&D programme. Please read the Information File of the programme.

Institution Request Form

The Institution Request Form is a template that includes all the information required by BELSPO to assess an institution's eligibility for funding. Should you have a doubt regarding the eligibility of an institution in this regard, please fill in and submit an Institution Request Form. This form is available on the programmes' website.

A doubt?

If you have any questions regarding eligible institutions, please contact:

- For P4Science: P4Science@belspo.be
- For S4Policy: S4Policy@belspo.be
- For ESFRI-FED: Esfri-fed@belspo.be