
Public and private funding schemes for industrial oriented collaborations

2025

In the following pages you can find two tables summarizing the most common public and private funding schemes available to all researchers, who are open to work with **external companies**.

The first table illustrates **public funding schemes** available to researchers, where government incentives are given to facilitate private-public-partnership, mainly through Innosuisse.

The second table describes the main **private funding schemes** available to researchers at USI, where companies directly act as sponsor for the research project.

You can click on the scheme's name to open the relative website.

For schemes that require contract negotiation or IP support, interested candidates shall always **contact USI Transfer – Technology Transfer Office** (usitransfer@usi.ch) to establish a budget and to learn more about the programme regulations and available support.

For any questions about academic support, grants, support for applying to public tenders, please feel free to contact the Research Service (servizio.ricerca@usi.ch).

** Grantees of Innosuisse projects whose allocated USI funding volume exceeds CHF 400,000. -, will receive a tuition relief of 6 ECTS total, funded by the general USI budget. In justified cases, the incentive can be converted into the corresponding monetary amount in favor of the grantee's personal account.

** Additionally, for Innosuisse projects 15% of the value of the project is paid together with the project funds to cover overheads. 1/3 of that goes directly to the research fund of the responsible grantee. ([Policy on the management of funded R&D projects](#)).

Public funding schemes

Public funding schemes	Idea stage	Conditions	Duration	Deadline	Budget
<u>Innosuisse innovation cheque</u>	Idea (low TRL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary study 	6 months	Rolling call	15000 CHF
<u>Innosuisse national projects without implementation partner</u>	Prototype	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will find a national implementation partner later on 	6-18 months	Rolling call	No limit, but usually <0.5M
<u>Innosuisse national projects with implementation partner</u>	Market ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Already have implementation partner National commercial partner(s) 	6-36 months	Rolling call	No limit, 50% covered by Innosuisse, but usually <2M
<u>Eurostars</u>	Market launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International consortium, EU project International commercial partner(s) 	36 months	April September	50% of costs covered as research partner
<u>Eureka</u>	Market launch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International partners, only specific thematic areas International commercial partner(s) 	36 months	Deadlines vary from country to country	No limit, 50% covered by Innosuisse
<u>Consortium led projects (e.g. Flagship)</u>	Can vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can vary Multiple commercial partners 	Can vary	Can vary	Can vary
<u>Bilateral cooperation</u>	Can vary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can vary Multiple international commercial partners 	Can vary	Deadlines vary from country to country	Can vary
<u>Interreg</u>	Market ready	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International partners, only specific thematic areas 	18-36 months	Deadlines vary from country to country	Can vary

Private funding schemes

Private funding schemes	Timeline	Scientific results and publication	Conditions	IP rights	Budget
<u>Sponsored Research Agreement with Industry</u>	Agreed with company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Right to publish with limited delay to protect IPR • Freedom to publish 	Company wants to promote research in defined field of use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USI is the owner of the newly developed IPR • Company can exploit IPR developed • Company can negotiate an exclusive license and file patent applications 	All direct cost + overhead
<u>Contract Research Agreement with Industry</u>	Agreed with company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company has a review right to remove its confidential information and to delay publication to protect IPR • Freedom to publish 	Company wants to commercially advance research in defined field of use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company can exclusively exploit IPR developed by USI for commercial purposes • Company has the right to file patent applications in its own name and its own expenses on the IPR. 	All direct cost + overhead + IP surcharge
<u>Service Agreement</u>	Agreed with company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Company owns results • No publication 	Company needs assistance to develop commercial activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Customer owns results and related IP • USI remains the owner of methodology developed 	Service fees charged to customer at hourly rate