

Plogen Program

The Plogen Program is a regional initiative in Rogaland to support research-based innovation projects leading to the development of new products and services or in other ways making an impact on society. The Program is a key mechanism to elevate technologies from the basic Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 1 – Research, to Technology Optimization (TRL 2-4) and to Proof-of-Concept (TRL 4-6).

Funding Available - Submit an Application!

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Employees at the [UiS](#), [SUS](#), [NORCE](#), [NIBIO](#) Særheim, [NMBU](#) Høyland, [HVL](#) Haugesund/Stord and [NOFIMA](#) Stavanger can apply for **up to 50.000 NOK**.
- The applicant must be employed at the respective research institute throughout the entire project period or in case of students have a valid student status.
- The underlying intellectual property/concept/idea must be related to the applicant's research area and area of interest. Or in case of applications from undergraduate and graduate students these eligibility criteria will be assessed on the case by case basis.
- In case your application is not eligible for support under the Plogen Program, the TTO will still provide an assessment and redirect you to the right program
- We welcome inter-institutional and multidisciplinary projects so as applications submitted by teams
- We encourage the involvement of students during the project

EVALUATION

- When reviewing the application, the research background and anchoring to previous or current research projects will be assessed, as well as the applicant's commitment to carrying out an innovation project.
- The estimated decisioning time is 1-4 weeks depending on when the application is submitted. The applicants will receive the final decision on the 15th of the following calendar month their application was submitted. For example, if you applied anytime in January, you will be notified about the decision on the 15th of February and so on. Please note that during the summer vacation period and in December delays may occur. Please notify Validé upon submitting your application if for any reason the decision-making process needs to be accelerated and we may be able to accommodate such inquiries.

FUNDING

- The applicant(s) has full control over the budget and additionally to the granted funding, the applicant(s) will receive technology management-, Intellectually Property Rights-, agreements-, business development- grant writing-, and other innovation management related support from the TTO.
- Any applicant can apply with multiple proposals, there are no limitations. However, the TTO will establish a priority list with the applicant to define which proposals should be focused. Any applicant can also be principle investigator in one or more projects and participant in other projects and can apply multiple times during the year.

- For all applicant(s) and especially for those who have applied in the past or plan to apply multiple times: we advise you to provide a sufficient final report after each project to support the TTO evaluation process and further increase the chance for future funding.
- The budget can be used both on direct and indirect costs, but each applicant has to clarify the expenditures with its employer and with the TTO. Examples for expenditures are: cost of materials and services (buying chemicals, ordering programming services, prototyping services, drawings, etc.), traveling and accommodation related to conferences, industry meetings, human resources (student work, in-house or external professional support, etc.).

PERSPECTIVES

- Upon completion, the TTO will assess the results and will provide opportunity for continuation (if the project is eligible). If an invention, a novel and inventive technology is created or under development, the TTO will consider integrating the invention into its portfolio and will continue to work on the project. This work will focus on protecting the Intellectual Property Rights generated (patentable invention, copyright, trade secret, design, know-how, etc.), provide and apply for funding to execute Technology Optimisation and Proof-of-Concept projects where relevant, establish and help maintaining strategic collaboration with industry and ultimately execute commercialisation through licensing and startup ventures.
- We are unable to list all the possible outcomes of a Plogen Project, but based on past experiences the applicant(s) can expect: industry sponsored research contract, national and / or EU grant application, patent application, starting up a company, start pilot projects, develop a prototype and test it, launch new R&D initiatives and collaboration projects, publication, contribution into bachelor-/master-/PhD thesis, etc. and possibly negative results in which case we discontinue working on the initiative.

PROJECT INFORMATION

- Once the application is approved, the applicant has 15 days to contact his/her employer and start the project. From that day, the project must be completed, and the final report submitted to Validé within 6 months. In case the project is approved later during the year (Q3 – Q4) and the applicant is not able to complete it within the same calendar year of the project start, both the research institute administration and Validé must be notified in due time.
- In any other changes, such as changes with the project timeline, scope, employment status, etc. the research institute and Validé must to be notified as soon as possible. In case of significant changes in project scope, change in employment status or other important factors, the project may be terminated and the funding may be withdrawn.

We evaluate the Applications monthly as long as funding is available.

Please send this application form electronically in a .pdf and .doc format to matyas@valide.no and to plogen@valide.no and name the files as follows: “Name of the applicant, Project Title and Plogen Program 2019”.