

**Technology Strategy Board**

Driving Innovation

# Grant for R&D

**Apply for this SME  
innovation grant  
at [www.innovateuk.org](http://www.innovateuk.org)**

**APRIL 2011**



## Support for innovative SMEs

A new Technology Strategy Board scheme is offering funding to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to engage in R&D projects in the strategically important areas of science, engineering and technology, from which successful new products, processes and services could emerge.

From 4 April 2011 the Grant for R&D scheme will support SMEs carrying out R&D which offers potentially significant rewards and that could stimulate UK economic growth.

Three types of grant are available:

- Proof of market
- Proof of concept
- Development of prototype.

Any UK SME working across any sector may apply; applications are accepted on a rolling basis for assessment by independent experts.

To apply or find out more go to:

**[www.innovateuk.org](http://www.innovateuk.org)**

E: **[competitions@tsb.gov.uk](mailto:competitions@tsb.gov.uk)**

T: **0300 321 4357**

## R&D GRANT

### Proof of market

This grant enables companies to assess commercial viability, through:

- market research
- market testing and competitor analysis
- intellectual property position
- initial planning to take the project to commercialisation, including assessing costs, timescales and funding requirements.

#### Key features

Duration – up to 9 months

Maximum grant – £25k

Funding proportion – up to 60% of total project costs

## R&D GRANT

### Proof of concept

A grant to explore the technical feasibility and commercial potential of a new technology, product or process:

- initial feasibility studies
- basic prototyping
- specialist testing and/or demonstration to provide basic proof of technical feasibility
- intellectual property protection
- investigation of production and assembly options.

It also includes pre-clinical research studies for healthcare technologies and medicines, including target identification and validation.

#### Key features

Duration – up to 18 months

Maximum grant – up to £100k

Funding proportion – up to 60% of total project costs

## R&D GRANT

### Prototype development

This funding is used by companies to develop a technologically innovative product, service or industrial process:

- small demonstrators
- intellectual property protection
- trials and testing, including clinical
- market testing
- marketing strategies
- identifying routes to market
- product design work
- phase 0 pre-clinical studies for medicines.

#### Key features

Duration – up to 2 years

Maximum grant – £250k

Funding proportion – up to 35% of total project costs for medium enterprises; up to 45% for small and micro enterprises

## Who can apply?

Pre start-ups, start-ups, and small and medium-sized businesses from all sectors across the UK.

## Unsure if your business is an SME?

We use the European definition of SME, see:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/facts-figures-analysis/sme-definition/index_en.htm)

## Previous schemes

This Grant for R&D replaces the old regional development agency Grant for R&D scheme.

## Devolved administrations

The new scheme will work alongside existing programmes in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

## Future programmes

In future we may also run themed competitions using the Grant for R&D scheme in our priority investment areas.

*The Technology Strategy Board is a business-led executive non-departmental public body, established by the Government. Its role is to promote and support research into, and development and exploitation of, technology and innovation for the benefit of UK business, in order to increase economic growth and improve quality of life.*



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