

R&D grant funding February 2025

Hazlewoods

Open Funding Calls

Innovate UK innovation loans future economy: Round 19

- Loans between £100k-£2M, up to 5 years' project duration, single applicant.
- **Closing date:** 5 March 2025.

Innovation loans for highly innovative late-stage research to develop new products, processes or services with clear commercialisation routes and economic impact in the following application areas: net-zero, health and wellbeing and next generation digital technologies. You must demonstrate the ability to repay the loan and interest, therefore this is not a suitable vehicle for pre-revenue start-ups.

Knowledge Transfer Partnership: 2024 to 2025 Round 5

- Max. £8,500/month for 12-36 months** (the Innovate UK proportion of these costs are allocated to "knowledge base partner" (academic institute/RTO/Catapult); business partner contributes remainder).
- **Closing date:** 12 February 2025.

Funding to facilitate transfer of the latest academic thinking and new skills to the business partner in a specific, strategic innovation project to the benefit of both partners and the wider UK economy. The application must be led by the knowledge base partner.

EIC Accelerator

- Up to €2.5M, max. 70% of eligible project costs
- **Closing dates:** 12 March 2025, 1 October 2025, 18 December 2025 (multi-stage application, short/preliminary application may be submitted any time)

Funding for SMEs aimed at scaling up high impact innovations to create new markets or disrupt existing ones. Later stage research projects, which must demonstrate minimum TRL5 and which may be single applicant or collaborative.

International Collaboration

Eureka Eurostars

- Up to €360k project total, max. 60% of eligible project costs for UK SME partner, max. 36-month duration.
- **Closing date:** 13 March 2025.

Funding for innovative SMEs to undertake collaborative R&D and innovation in any technological areas to address any market area (civil applications only). Applicants must collaborate with at least one other independent entity from another Eurostars country.

India-UK Collaborative R&D for industrial sustainability Round 2

- £100k-£300k grants for UK partner, up to 70% of eligible project costs funded, 6-18 month project duration.
- **Closing date:** 12 February 2025.

Funding for business-led, collaborative R&D focused on net-zero technologies. UK organisations must collaborate with at least one Indian non-linked registered business applying under the equivalent Indian funding programme (Technology Development Board).

Canada-UK Collaborative R&D

- Up to £300k funding request, 12-24-month project duration.
- **Closing date:** 16 April 2025 (Canadian partner must have submitted an Expression of Interest before 15 January 2025).

Funding to stimulate the development and implementation of innovative technologies in life sciences, digital and emerging technologies, sustainability and net zero technologies. UK businesses must collaborate with at least one non-linked Canadian SME, who must complete an Expression of Interest through the National Research Council of Canada.

Early Notification

- EIC Pathfinder.
- Up to €3M, up to 100% funded
- Call will open 20 February 2025 for deadline 21 May 2025

Funding for early-stage research and development (TRL1-4) of radically new technologies with potential to create new markets, and/or solutions for global challenges. Research must be collaborative, between at least three legal entities, independent from each other and each established in a different country. UK businesses cannot lead on these applications but can be beneficiaries of the grant as part of the consortium.

Thematic/ Regional Calls

Innovate UK

Is the UK's largest grant funding provider for businesses, with open (above) and thematic calls throughout the year, some of which are regional (below).

ATI Programme strategic batch – Expressions of Interest (Eoi)

- Up to £18M (for capital infrastructure), 60% max. funding for project.
- **Deadline for Eoi:** 19 February 2025

You must complete the Eoi to be invited for full application. Your project must be either Industrial Research or Capital Infrastructure, but cannot span both, and must align with the “UK Aerospace Technology Strategy, Destination Zero”.

Ofgem Strategic Innovation Fund – Discovery Challenge 2 (greater heat flexibility)

- max £150k (ex VAT), min. 10% self-funded contribution.
- **Closing Date:** 26 February 2025

Your proposal must address the aims of the Strategic Innovation Fund to deliver net zero at the lowest cost to consumers, whilst supporting innovative business to grow and scale. Challenge 2 looks to address greater heat flexibility within decarbonised heat generation (e.g. energy system flexibility to accelerate electrification of heat, whole system integration, acceleration of decarbonisation of major demands).

APCUK – Advanced Route to Market Demonstrator 4

- £500k-£1.5M, min. 50% match funded
- **Closing Date:** 2 April 2025

Funding to develop a process demonstrator for zero emission on-vehicle technologies for on-road or off-road vehicles, focusing on one or more of the following areas: energy storage, fuel cells, electric machines, power electronics, zero-tailpipe emissions internal combustion (non-fossil fuel) engines for on-road applications, non-fossil fuel internal combustion engines for off-road applications, lightweight materials, hydrogen store.

Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition 6 Feasibility, Smart Shipping or Pre-deployment Trials.

- Up to £1M (Feasibility), Up to £2M (Smart Shipping and Pre-deployment Trials)
- **Closing Date:** 16 April 2025

Funding for feasibility studies and pre-deployment trials into clean maritime technologies and skills to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Thematic/Regional Calls Continued

APC26: Industrialising net zero automotive technology

- £2.5M–£20M, min. 50% match funded, 18–36 month duration
- **Closing date:** 14 March 2025

Funding for collaborative research (i.e. partner(s) to design, develop and manufacture technology to support the UK's transition to zero-emission vehicles and a pathway to a net zero automotive industry. Your project must focus on one or more of the following areas: energy storage, fuel cells, electric machines, power electronics, zero-tailpipe emissions internal combustion (non-fossil fuel) engines for on-road application, non-fossil fuel internal combustion engines for off-road applications, lightweight materials, hydrogen storage.

European Space Agency

Has various opportunities to support the development of commercial services using space assets, including:

ESA Open Call – feasibility and demonstration projects – always open, negotiated funding level

Kick-Start Open Call – Feasibility – always open, 75% funded, max. €75k

Green Hydrogen as a Sustainable Energy Source – up to 80% max. €200k (deadline 30 May 2025)

Space for a Sustainable Textile Industry – up to 80%, max. €200k (deadline 23 March 2025)

Space for Electromobility – up to 80%, max. €200k (deadline 21 February 2025)

Maritime Decarbonisation: Ports Decarbonisation – up to 80% (deadline 15 February 2025)

Space for Construction Monitoring – up to 80% (deadline 28 February 2025)

Maritime Decarbonisation: Green Propulsion – up to 80% (deadline 28 February 2025)

Space for Infrastructure – multistage application (Activity Pitch, Outline Application, Full Application) (Deadline 28 February 2025)

Space for Olympic Games – multistage application (Activity Pitch, Outline Application, Full Application) (Deadline 31st December 2025)

Early Notifications

Commercial Applications of Space Weather Data – €200k (fixed), opening 19 February 2025 (webinar 18 February 2025)

Space for Intermodal Transport – negotiated, opening 17 February 2025 (webinar 12 February 2025)

Integrated Digital Solutions for the Energy Sector – negotiated, up to 80%, opening 13 February 2025 (webinar 12 February 2025)

Space for Sustainable, Connected and Liveable Cities – up to 80%, opening 28 March 2025

Various Kick-Starts – 75% funded, up to €75k

Defence and Security Accelerator

Is part of the UK Government's Ministry of Defence, funding exploitable innovation to support UK defence and security. Current opportunities include:

Innovation Focus Area – Defence Test & Evaluation (deadline 25 February 2025)

Future-Proofing Biosecurity by Strengthening UK Microbial Forensic Capability – up to £250k (deadline 18 February 2025)

Defence Innovation Loans (deadline 18 March 2025), up to £1M over max. 5 years for single applicants.

Later stage development (min. TRL6 at project start) of an innovative solution to a demonstrated Defence need. You must demonstrate the ability to repay the loan and interest, therefore this is not a suitable vehicle for start-ups.

Horizon Europe

Horizon Europe

Currently has ~150 open [opportunities](#) covering themes from artificial intelligence to zoonotic pathogens, with ongoing deadlines.

Typically, very high levels of funding available for multi-year, large-scale projects from early-stage to commercialisation. Virtually all Horizon Europe funding requires collaboration with minimum 2 separate European partners.

NIHR

Is the National Institute of Health and Care Research who fund, enable and deliver world-leading health and social care research that improves people's health and wellbeing and promotes economic growth.

Early Notifications

[i4i Connect Call 9](#) – opening 18 February 2025, up to £150k, 6-12 month duration

[i4i PDA Call 30](#) – opening 9 April 2025.


ARIA

Is a UK R&D funding agency built to unlock scientific and technological breakthroughs that benefit everyone.

[Programmable Plants](#)

- £10k-£500, max. 3 years' duration
- **Closing date:** 9 April 2025

Funding for bold ideas to programme plants to remove more CO₂, improve food security, and deliver medicines to those in need.





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