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Malta Enterprise (ME) is Malta's national economic development agency, tasked to promote sustainable economic growth and enhance the country's competitiveness. Its core role is to attract and facilitate foreign direct investment while supporting Malta-based enterprises to innovate, expand, and move towards higher value-added activities.

To achieve these objectives, ME designs and administers a range of financial support measures aimed at encouraging investment, research and development, digitalisation, skills development, and sustainable business practices. These measures are complemented by advisory and facilitation services, enabling enterprises to grow, internationalise, and strengthen their contribution to Malta's economic ecosystem.

www.maltaenterprise.com

1. Type and nature of entities that may be supported

All enterprises that are eligible to receive support from ME, business, academic and/or research focused will be considered for funding.

ME will also consider supporting academic and research organisations that do not engage in economic activities. These organisations are required to articulate the national industrial relevance of the project, particularly highlighting exploitation opportunities for enterprises having an operation presence in Malta.

2. Legal, administrative and financial conditions

For an enterprise to be considered for funding, it must meet the criteria established in the National Rules. The enterprise must have a permanent establishment in Malta (or demonstrate strong intentions to establish one in the coming months) and provide evidence to ME that it has the necessary financial resources to carry out the project.

Support to academic and research organisations will be considered if they have a permanent establishment in Malta capable of carrying out Research and Development activities.

ME requires that ALL applicants demonstrate how their proposed project fits into Malta's landscape and national economic development targets.

3. Consortium configuration

ME does not impose specific consortium configuration requirements. However, projects submitted by large enterprises must include at least one SME or an academic or research organisation established in Malta.

4. Eligibility of the Costs

It is recommended that the project and its budgeted costs are discussed in advance with ME. To be awarded national funding, eligible costs must be structured in accordance with the national rules while remaining aligned with the costs outlined in the Grant Agreement as well as with the costs reported to Chips JU.

5. National public funding rates

All funding to enterprises shall depend on the enterprise size and other parameters that are detailed in the National Rules. The funding rates specified hereunder reflect the total national funding allowed, yet these rates will have to be adjusted to ensure that the total funding from all sources including the funding from Chips JU does not exceed the maximum public intervention as allowed by the applicable rules.

Large enterprise	SME	Public Research Institutes and Universities
up to 50%*	up to 70%*	up to 100%**

*Support for enterprises shall be awarded in terms of the Research and Development Incentive Guidelines (National Rules) <https://maltaenterprise.com/researchanddevelopment>. Such support may be provided in accordance with State Aid rules applicable to the project.

**Funding for academic and research organisations may be provided at a rate of up to 100% provided that the organisation does not carry out economic activity and meets the definition of a research and knowledge dissemination organisation as set out in the General Block Exemption Regulations (GBER).

6. Other conditions

Applicants based in Malta (or those with a strong intention to do so) who intend to apply for Chips JU projects are strongly encouraged to contact the national coordinator in advance. This will help streamline the overall process, including access to and approval of dedicated national funds administered by ME, which compliment the funding allocated by the Chips JU.

Applicants seeking funding from ME must submit a national funding application <https://maltaenterprise.com/researchanddevelopment> alongside the project proposal submitted to the Chips JU, and prior to the signing of the consortium agreement. All applications for national funding must be submitted directly to ME.