

CALL FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND MATERIALS PHASE 2B

(Advanced Manufacturing and Construction)

Nuclear Innovation Programme - 2020

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS





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Questions and Answers

The below questions have been put forward to BEIS during the period from which the AMM Phase 2B grant call opened on the 8 January, to the deadline for questions, the 7 February. These have been published to ensure a fair and open competition.

QUESTION	ANSWER	Reference material
What do you mean by approved standards in the nuclear industry in the UK?	You must be able to show that what you are proposing in terms of your technology is not so far out of the norms and standards that you believe the regulator will engage with you. If there are recognised standards that you can work to then it is easier to make a case to the regulator.	NIA 1965 Licence condition 17
Is an organisation able to lead multiple projects?	Yes, you must however ensure that you abide by state aid regulations and have the resources and capability required to lead/undertake multiple projects.	
Are sub-contractors able to accrue 100% of their costs or do they also have to abide by the grant intensity limits?	Sub-contractors can claim 100% of their costs, however this must be drawn from the overall project intensity limits.	
How do Universities submit their finances, is it through the JES system or the BEIS finance form?	Through the finance form.	
Will the due diligence be on the project lead organisation or also on partners?	BEIS will perform "full" financial due diligence checks on the lead consortium member, and high-level financial due diligence checks on the other members.	
Is there a difference between sub-contractors and partners?	Project partners would be expected to be in place in the project proposal whereas sub-contractors, who are only undertaking a small aspect of the work, may be addressed during the project. Seek guidance within the GBER regulations for further information on intensity limits.	

Does the contribution from the consortium have to be in cash or can this be substituted for background intellectual property?	BEIS would suggest seeking guidance on the state aid regulations for this. In kind contributions are often difficult to justify under the state aid guidance.	GBER Regulations
Will funds be granted directly to project partners or to the lead partner and for them to redistribute to project partners.	It would be up to the project consortium to determine how the funds will be distributed and the lead partner's responsibility for distributing.	
What is the costing mechanism for academics? Do BEIS expect Full Economic Costing and would this be at 80%/100% FEC?	BEIS would expect full economic costings and it would be up to the project consortium to distribute the funds as they see appropriate. This must be in line with both GBER regulations and the grant intensity limits for this grant call.	GBER Regulations
Does Table 1 in the call guidance refer to the overall project intensity limits or does it relate to the individual partners?	Table 1 in the Call Guidance relates to the overall project makeup. Within this it is up to the project consortium to determine how these funds are allocated and ensure that they are within state aid regulations.	
What is the funding rate for university participation within this call as Table 1 only refers to large enterprises and SMEs?	The intensity limits in the Table 1 refer to the entire project. How this is distributed between the partners (Universities and non-profit research and technology organisations etc.) is down to the consortium. However, you must ensure that the allocation of funds abides by GBER regulations.	GBER Regulations
Can research organisations lead a project under this call?	No, only UK registered and operating industrial organisations may lead a project.	
With regard to the character limit within each text section of the application form, please could you confirm whether this limit includes or exclude spaces?	The character limit does not include spaces.	
What can be claimed as an eligible cost against this grant call?	BEIS advise checking state aid regulations to determine the eligible costs for the project	GBER Regulations

Are academic institutions limited to the same 30% of project costs under this call like Innovate UK grant calls?	Innovate UK calls have different guidelines, so if it isn't stated in the call guidance or GBER regs then it won't apply.	
What time is the deadline for submission of the proposal on the 19th?	The deadline for submissions is 5:30pm on 19 February 2020.	
The guidance note suggests that the finance form should contain an 8th page titled 'Project Quarterly & Milestone Breakdown Worksheet' but it is missing from the finance form on the BEIS website.	This will be updated an re-issued.	AMM Phase 2B Finance Form
BEIS has asked for a copy of Heads of Terms and a Collaboration Agreement. Are these both required at the application stage or can a Collaboration Agreement be sent through later?	The Heads of Terms is required within a consortium bid, the Collaboration Agreement will be required before a grant offer letter can be issued and so does not need to be submitted as part of the proposal.	
Will the redactions in Clause 11.2 of the grant terms and conditions be agreed with the grant recipient?	BEIS will ensure that the funding recipient is happy for the agreement to be published and that all confidential information is redacted.	
Will a description of activities appropriate for public dissemination be agreed between the grant recipient and BEIS?	The grant recipient will submit an abstract to BEIS which can be used for public dissemination.	
Can you confirm that intellectual property rights (IPR) material will be used for policy formation activities only?	Whilst it is in our intention to use the IPR to inform policy development, this does not restrict our rights to use the IPR for other purposes.	
Can BEIS the funding recipient transfer this IPR ownership to third parties via separate arrangements?	Refer to clause 19.1, you would need to ask, and we would not unreasonably withhold.	

Do consortium partners claim eligible costs directly back from BEIS or from the lead partner? The project lead organisation will be responsible for claiming and invoicing all eligible project costs from BEIS, they will then be responsible for distributing the funds within the project consortium.

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