

## Call for cross-border innovation and research pilot project proposals within HALRIC

### Summary of the call

Hanseatic Life Science Research Infrastructure Consortium for triple-helix innovation (HALRIC) works to strengthen the research and innovation capacity in the Life Science sector of the Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak-Hamburg region. This will be achieved by increasing and broadening the use of research infrastructures such as MAX IV, ESS, DESY, and European XFEL as well as cutting-edge complementary infrastructures e.g., Cryo-EM, advanced biological MS, and 7Tesla-MR. This call supports innovation and research initiatives that demonstrate cross border utilization of research infrastructures.

The proposed pilot project should be within the field of Life Science and use a minimum of one research infrastructure at the HALRIC partner organizations.

Each project can apply for support for typically 6-month-long projects, but proposals for shorter and longer projects will be considered.

### Key dates

HALRIC accepts applications on a rolling basis through 30 September 2025.

Upcoming deadlines are:

15 September 2023

1 December 2023

### Contact information

Questions regarding the HALRIC consortium and the call can be directed to:

Maria Sundh (HALRIC operational manager): [ms@mva.org](mailto:ms@mva.org)

Kajsa M. Paulsson (HALRIC project director): [kajsa\\_m.paulsson@med.lu.se](mailto:kajsa_m.paulsson@med.lu.se)

For more information, see the [HALRIC website](https://www.halric.eu).

## Aim of the call

A favorable research and innovation environment with easy access to multidisciplinary approaches is increasingly important to meet current and future challenges within Life Science such as developing therapeutics for rare diseases, personal medicine, as well as for prevention of disease with the development of e.g., vaccines. The Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak-Hamburg (ÖKS-Hamburg) region has, on a global scale, unique research infrastructures, both in term of large-scale facilities (MAX IV, ESS, DESY, and European XFEL) and cutting-edge complementary infrastructures (Cryo-EM, advanced biological MS, and 7Tesla-MR). With these advanced infrastructures comes advanced know-how and technology for sample production and preparation, as well as data processing and analysis.

Hanseatic Life Science Research Infrastructure Consortium for triple-helix innovation (HALRIC) works to connect researchers, the know-how, and the complementary research infrastructures of the ÖKS-Hamburg region to create a hub for Life Science research and innovation which is at the forefront globally.

The aim of this call is two-fold:

1. To accelerate the use of strategic research infrastructures in the ÖKS-Hamburg region by industry, hospitals, and universities.
2. To connect researchers and research infrastructures within the ÖKS-Hamburg region.

See further down for more information about evaluation criteria.

## Eligibility information

Financial support can only be awarded to HALRIC partner organizations.

Collaboration constellations that include partners from outside the partnership (e.g., industry and/or clinics) are strongly encouraged. However, collaborators outside the HALRIC partnership must cover their own expenses and cannot be reimbursed through this call.

## Budget information

Employment costs are the only eligible costs of the pilot project.

At the time of application submission, the applicant needs to have funding for the employment costs of the involved participants of the pilot project. At the end of the pilot project employment costs will be reimbursed with 40% (for Norwegian partners 50%) through external funding from Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak.

Different collaboration models can be considered, for examples see below:

1. Researcher/technician works full time (100%) in the pilot project whereas the main supervisor/senior researcher allocates 20% and the co-supervisor allocates 30% of their time respectively.
2. Researchers who e.g., are affiliated with a hospital and who do research part-time can apply for less than 100% in the pilot project.
3. A collaboration between two senior researchers and no younger researcher/technician, where 20% of their time respectively is allocated to the pilot project.

## Application process information

The application form and the budget form, available on the [HALRIC pilot project webpage](#), must be used. All page limitations must be followed.

All proposals will need the signature of the department head or equivalent from each participating organization who will be reimbursed through the project, to ensure that the initial employment costs are available. The signatures go on the budget form.

Applications should be submitted by email in searchable pdf files to [info@halric.eu](mailto:info@halric.eu).

#### Application review information

Final evaluation and decisions on proposals will be taken by the HALRIC pilot project committee. Representatives on the committee are listed on the HALRIC pilot project website.

The HALRIC pilot project committee will consider each of the criteria below, listed in no particular order:

#### **Priority 1 – cross-border collaboration**

To promote cross-border as well as complementary use of the research infrastructures the proposed projects should, as a minimum, include participants from two different countries.

#### **Priority 2 - industry and/or clinical research**

Priority will be given to pilot projects that include an industry collaborator and/or clinical research, as that is today underrepresented within the group of users of research infrastructures.

#### **Priority 3 - innovation potential**

The pilot project needs to be innovative in the sense that it has the potential to contribute to the development of a new product, process, technology or introducing concepts or instrumentation that are novel to one field of research or novel in a broad sense. This includes creative application of ideas and existing research infrastructure to solve a challenge, e.g., establishing new ways of analysis or new phenomenon and findings in Life Science.

#### **Priority 4 - new project constellation**

Projects based on new collaboration constellations between researchers in the ÖKS-Hamburg region and/or new users of the experimental techniques will be prioritized.

#### **Priority 5 - feasibility**

It must be clear that the pilot project is feasible within the timeframe of the proposed project period and that it includes the appropriate manpower and competences.

#### **Priority 6 – the use of more than one infrastructure**

Pilot projects combining more than one research infrastructure will be prioritized.

#### Award information and conditions

Applicants will be notified following the decision by the HALRIC pilot project committee.

The project must be started within 3 months after the approval by the HALRIC pilot project committee.

Granted applications must provide abstracts which can be publicly available.

Recipients of funding will be required to submit a report. A template for the report will be made available on the HALRIC website and must be used. The report should be completed no later than one month after ended project and sent to the project management at [info@halric.eu](mailto:info@halric.eu) to confirm completion of the project.

## Deadline

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis through 30 September 2025.

Applications are reviewed and granted by the HALRIC pilot project committee and representatives on the committee can be found on the HALRIC pilot project webpage.

Upcoming deadlines are:

15 September 2023

1 December 2023

## About HALRIC

Hanseatic Life Science Research Infrastructure Consortium for triple-helix innovation (HALRIC) is a cross-border innovation project. The goal of the project is to increase the innovation capacity in the ÖKS-Hamburg Life Science sector via increased access to and use of cross-border front end technologies, instruments, expertise, and data handling solutions.

The consortium involves 21 partner organizations and together with the Life Science industry of ÖKS-Hamburg, it constitutes the full spectrum of organizations needed for public-private collaborations (universities and research institutes, large-scale research infrastructures, life science organizations, hospitals, and the regions).

The project is funded by Interreg Öresund-Kattegat-Skagerrak.