



2025-PPS  
REACT-NL

# PPP 2025 REACT-NL (Rare Cancer Therapies – NL) Funding Information

*KWF Kankerbestrijding*

*Stichting Kinderen Kankervrij (KiKa)*

*Oncode Institute*

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## Goal of the program

One in two Dutch people will develop cancer. In approximately 20% of cases, it involves a rare form of cancer, affecting about 25,000 people in the Netherlands annually, including 600 children.

People with rare cancers face additional challenges; diagnosis often takes longer and there are fewer treatment options. As a result, the prognosis for patients with rare cancers is often worse. Therefore, rare tumors have been designated as a key priority by both the European Commission ([Rare Cancer Agenda 2030](#)) and the [Dutch Cancer Agenda \(NKA\)](#).

Dutch Cancer Society (KWF), Children Cancer Free Foundation (KiKa), and Oncode Institute join forces to improve the diagnostics and treatment for rare cancers, including childhood cancers.

As part of the Health~Holland 2025 Public Private Partnerships (PPP) programme, KWF, KiKa, and Oncode Institute have committed to the joined 2025-PPP thematic programme REACT-NL (Rare Cancer Therapies-NL), aimed at Catalyzing Dutch Technological Innovation and Valorization Capacity for Improved Diagnostics and Treatment of Rare Tumors.

The goal of REACT-NL is to initiate multiple public-private partnerships within the programme, focusing on developments aimed at clinical impact, to improve the perspective for patients with rare cancers and/or childhood cancers. Therapies for rare cancers often lack a clearly defined path to market access and commercialization. This collaborative programme provides a unique opportunity to establish such pathways with the right stakeholders. Special attention is given to valorization: The Oncode Institute valorization team specializes in translating scientific knowledge into applied research and has an extensive network of valorization partners.

The REACT-NL programme group calls for dedicated Public-Private Partnerships consortia between public and private partners for submission of a project proposal within the scope of the programme.

Projects must align in terms of subject matter with the [Knowledge and Innovation Agenda 2024-2027 Health and Care](#). Additionally, the projects must also meet the PPP requirements and innovation regulations. Specifically, projects must fall within the scope of the programme as defined below

## Scope

Project applications have to fall within the scope of the REACT-NL programme: new diagnostic or treatment options for rare cancers including childhood cancers. This includes, but is not limited to, the following focus topics:

- AI; for, among other things, product innovation (prediction of biological interaction), reuse of existing resources, or predictive toxicology
- Cell & gene therapy
- Imaging for the development of diagnostic tests
- Organoid models
- Organ-on-a-chip models
- Therapeutic vaccines and RNAs
- Theranostics
- Radionuclide therapy
- Personalized medicine & patient stratification

Furthermore, each application must meet at least the following criteria:

- The research aligns with the Knowledge and Innovation Agenda (KIA) 2024-2027 of the Top Sector LSH.
- The consortium consists of at least one for-profit enterprise and one research organization.
- The main applicant is a Dutch organization based in the Netherlands.
- The project is aimed at applied research with a focus on industrial research and/or experimental development. Elements of fundamental research may be eligible if properly justified.
- Projects at TRL 8 and 9, as well as phase-III clinical studies, are not permitted.
- The project is carried out at the joint expense and risk of all consortium partners, and all consortium partners contribute substantively to the project.
- The project has a maximum duration of four years and must start within six months of approval.

Rare cancers are defined as those with an incidence rate of fewer than 6 cases per 100,000 individuals at the EU level. Currently, 198 distinct cancer types fall under this classification. Importantly, **all paediatric cancers** fall under the definition of rare cancers. Paediatric cancers are the primary cause of death from disease amongst children in the Netherlands and they explicitly mentioned under the scope of the REACT-NL programme as the programme group views this as an important area for accelerating Dutch innovation and

valorization to improve diagnostics and treatment. Applications that focus on, or include, paediatric cancers or projects that can also contribute to paediatric cancer diagnosis or treatment are therefore encouraged. Both rare and paediatric cancers are identified according to the criteria and constraints established by the **RARECANCER project**. For the purposes of this call, **only Tier 1 and Tier 2 tumors, as specified in the RARECANCER project list, are considered eligible**. For more information, see: [RARECANCER](#) and/or [Patientenplatform Zeldzame Kankers](#).

## Application process

### Applications

**All project applications must use the mandatory PPP-2025-REACT-NL Project Application Form and the TKI-LSH Budget Form.** In addition, applicants are required to complete all mandatory fields in the KWF Grant Management System (GMS), *with the exception of the “Budget” tab*. For the project budget, the TKI-LSH Budget Form takes precedence and serves as the leading document.

Applications that do not comply with these requirements will not be taken into consideration.

Templates for the required supporting documents are available under the section “Documents and Templates.”

### Orientation Meeting

All applicants are encouraged to contact the programme group—via KWF, KiKa, and/or Oncode Institute—to arrange an orientation meeting. You may reach out to the programme group at your discretion to initiate this process.

### GMS

All applications have to be created and submitted via the KWF Grant Management System (GMS)

For contact and (technical) support regarding submissions through GMS, please contact KWF Team Besteding at [kwf.nl/vraag](mailto:kwf.nl/vraag).

### Health Innovation Netherlands (HI-NL) vouchers

Project applications may be eligible for an "innovation guide" through [Health Innovation Netherlands \(HI-NL\)](#) under certain conditions. This advisory report provides insight into the

steps needed for further development. The innovation guide can be funded with the PPP subsidy. This must be indicated in the application and included as an expense item in the budget. Please note HI-NL does not cover all areas of Life Sciences & Health.

This information is also included in the application form.

## Consortium

All applications must be submitted by a consortium comprising at least one Dutch knowledge institute/research organization and one for-profit enterprise. The consortium should represent a genuine and well-aligned collaboration between the participating partners.

To ensure clarity and commitment, all agreements between partners must be formalized in a Consortium Agreement (CA), which must cover at minimum the entire duration of the project. A template of the compulsory model Consortium Agreement is available. All Consortium Agreements have to be approved by the REACT-NL programme group within 3 months after receipt of the grant offering letter. **If applicable: please indicate where changes to the template have been made.** Foreign for-profit enterprises and research organizations are encouraged to participate in the consortium as long as the results of the research project benefit the Dutch knowledge infrastructure and economy. The main applicant must be located in the Netherlands. The designated project leader is required to hold a formal appointment with the main applicant. The consortium is also asked to prevent (personal) conflicts of interests (COI) (see Appendix C of the “Appendices to the project application form”) between the public and the private partner.

## Statement sound position of the private partner

It is mandatory for the grant recipients to declare that the private party is not an undertaking/company in difficulty. We ask all projects to sign the “[Verklaring geen onderneming in moeilijkheden](#)” declaration by the [Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland \(RVO\)](#) and upload this document with the application under “Letters of Commitment”

## Timelines

<b>Call opens:</b>	May 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
<b>Call closes:</b>	September 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2025
<b>Review process:</b>	September 2025 – January 2026
<b>Funding decision:</b>	January 2026
<b>Project start:</b>	July 2026 at the latest

## Review Process

Review of the projects before a grant offering decision follows the standardized KWF review process. For more information, visit [KWF review process](#). Within this call specifically, no pre-proposal or interviews are required.

## Eligibility check

All submitted projects will undergo a procedural eligibility check by the REACT-NL programme group following submission and prior to evaluation by the Scientific Board. This check includes, but is not limited to, the following criteria:

- **Scope:** Does the project fall within the scope of the REACT-NL programme?
- **Eligibility of Participants:**
  - Is the lead institute eligible as lead for funding?
  - Are all consortium partners eligible for funding?
- **Budget Compliance:**
  - Is the proposed budget (and budget sheet) accurate and complete?
  - Have the applicants met the required minimum financial contribution?
- **Documentation Requirements:**
  - Are all mandatory documents included in the submission?
  - Does the project proposal comply with the maximum page limit of 15 pages?

## Scientific Board Review

All projects will undergo evaluation by a dedicated PPP Scientific Review Board, composed of experts with a balanced mix of scientific knowledge and business development/valorization expertise. The REACT-NL programme group will publish the composition of the PPP REACT-NL Board in due course. The Board will be supported by advisory input from KWF, KiKa, Onco Institute, and external review reports.

Each project will be independently assessed by a minimum of three Board Members. The evaluation will be based on specific criteria, including:

- **Scientific Quality**
- **Relevance and Impact**
- **Feasibility**

Each Board Member will assign scores per criterion, followed by an overall **Final Score**. After the individual evaluations, the Scientific Review Board will convene in a Board Meeting to finalize the scoring process. Projects will receive a final score on a scale from **1 to 5**, with scores above **3.0** considered **fundable**.

Following the Board Meeting, the Scientific Review Board and the REACT-NL programme group will hold a **Prioritization Meeting**. During this session, projects will be selected for funding based on their final ranking and available budget.

### Patient Advisory Committee (PACO)

The programme group REACT-NL and Health~Holland highly value the (societal) input of patient representatives. As part of the review process, the **Patient Advisory Committee (PACO)—comprising (former) cancer patients—will evaluate the Dutch project summaries submitted.**

To support this, **project groups are required to submit a clear and complete Dutch summary in layman's terms via GMS.** This summary will be specifically reviewed by the PACO to ensure patient relevance and accessibility, and their input will be integrated into the overall assessment of the proposal. Representatives of the PACO will also attend the Scientific Board Meeting.

### Appeal

**All decisions made by REACT-NL may be appealed** within two weeks after the official communication of the decision to the project leader, unless communicated otherwise. See: [KWF Reglement Bezwaar & Beroep \(in Dutch\)](#).

### Monitoring

We aim to **invite all selected projects within the REACT-NL programme to participate in a voluntary symposium organized by the REACT-NL group**, prior to the official start of the projects.

The purpose of this event is to facilitate an informal meet-and-greet, and to provide an opportunity for project leaders, consortium members, and interested staff from KWF, KiKa, and Oncode Institute to present and discuss their project plans.

While attendance is not mandatory, participation is strongly encouraged.

## Financial Monitoring

Financial oversight will be carried out by a dedicated Public-Private Partnership (PPP) team within the KWF Monitoring Department. This team ensures that all financial aspects of the project are tracked and aligned with programme requirements.

## Scientific Monitoring

Each project will be assigned a science liaison, research manager and/or valorization expert from the REACT-NL programme group, who will be responsible for monitoring the scientific progress of the project. The (science) liaison will serve as the primary point of contact for the project group following the grant award. Details regarding the assigned science liaison and the associated monitoring responsibilities will be outlined in the grant offering letter and subsequent kick-off meeting.

## Health~Holland Monitoring Criteria

In addition to REACT-NL requirements, all project groups must also comply with the monitoring criteria established by Health~Holland. These requirements are described in the document titled ***“TKI-LSH PPS-2025-REACT-NL Funding Information, General Conditions and Eligibility Criteria”***, specifically under section 4.2.

## Documents and templates

The following documents are available through the [KWF website](#):

- PPP 2025 REACT-NL Funding Information
- TKI-LSH PPP-2025-REACT-NL Funding Information, General Conditions and Eligibility Criteria - Dutch
- Template Consortium Agreement (Standard/Clinical Studies) (available end of May 2025)
- Template Datamanagement Plan
- Template Letter of Commitment
- KWF-PPP Terms and Conditions 2025 (available end of May 2025)

The following documents can be downloaded through the [KWF Grant Management System](#) (after registration and starting a grant project proposal):



- PPS-2025-REACT-NL Project Application Form
- Appendices to the Project Application Form
- Contact Information Form to the Project Application Form
- References to the Project Application Form
- TKI-LSH (PPP) Budget Form

## General conditions and eligibility criteria

**All PPP applications must also meet the criteria and conditions for TKI-LSH PPP projects by Health~Holland. These can be found in the document “TKI-LSH PPS-2025-REACT-NL Funding Information, General Conditions and Eligibility Criteria” available on the [KWF website \(in Dutch\)](#). We strongly advise all project applicants to read this document in full.**

## Contact

KWF: [pps@kwf.nl](mailto:pps@kwf.nl)

KiKa: [research@kika.nl](mailto:research@kika.nl)

Oncode Institute: [valorization@oncodeinstitute.nl](mailto:valorization@oncodeinstitute.nl)

For contact and (technical) support regarding submissions through GMS, please contact KWF Team Besteding at [kwf.nl/vraag](https://kwf.nl/vraag).