

# BIOTEK2021 – Optimization funding

Researchers in Bergen have the opportunity to apply for funding for research projects with a commercial potential from The Norwegian Research Council. Optimization funding is a golden opportunity to gather the funds needed to conduct testing, up-scaling, forwarding or continuation of your research project in the field of biotechnology and bio prospecting. BTO will assist in writing the application and will handle the commercial development. In the last years, 31% of our applications have been successful. The three active projects we have in 2015 will receive approximately 29 mNOK from the Norwegian Research Council. Seize this opportunity and collaborate with us to get funding from BIOTEK2021!

## ABOUT BTO

Bergen Teknologioverføring (BTO) works on behalf of the research community in Bergen. We contribute to realize research findings and ideas that potentially can benefit individuals, the market and society at large. We assist with evaluating the innovative and commercial potential, acquire research funds, evaluate patenting, give legal assistance by negotiating licence agreements and signing contracts with existing businesses, find partners and establish new companies.

BTO is one of seven approved project partners in BIOTEK2021. In 2014, BTO and partners got two out of seven applications to the BIOTEK2021 optimization fund approved. BTO are currently participating in five active projects with a total budget of 46 million NOK, where 29 million is funding from The Norwegian Research Council.

## ABOUT BIOTEK2021

BIOTEK2021 is a program that helps implement the government's national strategy for biotechnology. The optimization fund is intended to contribute to further development of acquired research results and ideas from earlier biotechnological research and bio prospecting towards commercial application. The optimization funds will finance research and development of biotechnical products, processes and services with a commercial potential.

In this years announcement the funding opportunity has been divided into two:

- 1.) A call including all the thematic areas of the program, but with the exception of medical biotechnology.**
- 2.) A joint call from BIOTEK2021, FORNY2020 and the Norwegian Cancer Society which will include biotechnology related projects involving innovative cancer treatment and diagnosis.**

More information about BIOTEK2021 is available at [www.forskningsradet.no](http://www.forskningsradet.no).

## SPECIFICATIONS

- 10 page application
- Budget: 3 – 12 million NOK
- Duration: 2 – 3 years
- Up to 100% funding

The announcement, expected six weeks before the final deadline, can be subject to change.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The Norwegian Research Council demands that a preliminary business concept for the technology/knowledge is developed, including suggestions for possible applications. Therefore, collaboration with BTO is a criterion. There must be specified activities for the business development and IPR in the application. The institution where the researcher is employed will be the must be the project owner and BTO will be a partner. BTO will contribute actively in the application process. We suggest the following procedure:

- **Get in touch before May 29th to start the preliminary discussions**
- We will continually evaluate the project propositions and work with the application preparations for the qualified projects
- The process of establishing a project and writing the application should start as soon as possible, in May/June at the latest
- **Application deadline:** September 9th 2015

To start the project discussions, please contact the person responsible for your field. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to hear from you!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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