

SINGAPORE THERAPEUTICS DEVELOPMENT REVIEW 2026 (JUL) – INFORMATION SHEET

OVERVIEW

1. The Singapore Therapeutics Development Review (STDR) is a national-level grant call for public sector research, implemented by the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) in partnership with our strategic partners, the Experimental Drug Development Centre (EDDC), Nucleic Acid Therapeutics Initiative (NATi) and Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology (SMART).
2. STDR aims to boost the quality and quantity of drug development and biotech pipelines in Singapore through 3 key features:
 - a. Phased funding support to potential high-value drug discovery and development projects from the local public sector research community, based on the maturity and industry-readiness of projects;
 - b. Active project management to facilitate project progress, the incorporation of relevant feedback from industry experts, and the timely resolution of issues, with a view to successful project delivery; and
 - c. Mentoring from leading entrepreneurs, innovators and/or venture capitalists, training through bootcamps, workshops and/or seminars, as well as industry networking opportunities to provide dedicated guidance and upskilling opportunities to grant awardees.

STDR PRE-PILOT AND PILOT STAGES

3. The STDR (Pilot) is called twice a year, typically in Q1 and Q3. The STDR (Pre-Pilot) is called once a year, typically in Q3. It is highly encouraged but optional to have a clinical Co-Investigator or Collaborator.

Pre-Pilot	The Pre-Pilot stage aims to support earlier-stage, more exploratory proof-of-concept projects with some preliminary data. This stage supports both Target Validation (Stream 1) for single-target/single-asset projects and Platform Development (Stream 2) for platform technology projects. The Pre-Pilot stage is jointly coordinated by EDDC under the Target Translation Consortium (TTC)¹ and STDR Coordinating Office (CO).
Pilot	The Pilot stage aims to identify high value therapeutic projects within the community and render them the right support to achieve commercial success. Projects in the Pilot stage are expected to be supported by robust target validation and sufficient research data demonstrating their scientific and translational potential. They should also have a clearly defined development pathway and

¹ The Target Translation Consortium (TTC) had previously launched an annual “Call for Targets” in 2019 and 2020. From 2021, this Call was integrated with the STDR, and the TTC now provides its support for the preclinical validation of promising, putative drug targets through this Pre-Pilot programme instead.

	commercialisation strategy. Both single target/single asset drug development projects and platform technologies projects may be considered. All awardees will attend mentoring sessions to receive advice and guidance from leading entrepreneurs and innovators (including VCs, ex-pharma, biotech CEOs, or experts from EDDC). Mentors will advise on development and commercial strategy, including marketing, business modelling and pitch practice/advice. Awarded project teams will also attend STDR bootcamps to build a stronger understanding of key translational considerations. At the right stage, STDR may pair promising project teams with serial entrepreneurs for venture building.
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- Awarded project teams will also attend STDR bootcamps to learn commercialisation-related modules, such as market and competitive analysis, target product profile, and developing a commercialisation – ready pitch deck.
- Applicants may refer to the guide in **Annex A** to determine which grant type is most suitable for your project.

THEMATIC AREAS

- STDR is therapeutic modality-agnostic and will consider projects across a range of modalities, including small molecules, large molecules, cell and gene therapies, and platform technologies.

FUNDING PRINCIPLES

- Funding principles for STDR Pre-Pilot and Pilot Projects:

	Maximum Funding Quantum
Pre-Pilot	Up to S\$325K per project (including 30% indirect costs) over a maximum of 1 year.
Pilot	A total of S\$1M (including 30% indirect costs) may be awarded for Pilot funding, split into at least 2 or more Phases. Phase 1 covers the period up to the achievement of the go/no-go decision point (up to 1 year) <u>Funding:</u> Up to S\$400K per project (including 30% indirect costs). Phase 2 covers the achievement of the remaining key milestones (up to 1 year). <u>Funding:</u> Up to S\$600K per project (including 30% indirect costs). <u>Notes:</u> - Projects will be assessed towards the end of Phase 1 to determine eligibility to receive Phase 2 funding. - Applicants are encouraged to think about accelerating the project where reasonable. If milestones are achieved ahead of timeline, please write to STDR Secretariat to discuss repurposing of leftover fund (if any) and earlier unlocking of Phase 2 funding.

	• A portion of the budget may be set aside to engage professional help to develop a commercialisation plan. • Additional funding, or alternate allocation of Phase 1 and 2 funds, may be requested on a case-by-case basis, and will be subject to evaluation by the STDR review panel.
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EVALUATION CRITERIA

8. The detailed evaluation criteria for the Pre-Pilot and Pilot stages are in **Annex B**.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

9. Applicants are required to fulfil the following criteria at the point of application:

The Lead Principal Investigator (PI) should:

- Hold at least a 0.7 FTE primary appointment in a Singapore publicly funded research or tertiary institution;
- Have the relevant scientific/technical background and necessary experience to direct the project being supported by the grant.

10. Post-doctoral researchers who wish to apply for STDR should submit a letter from their supervisor, as part of the application submission on iGrants, declaring that:

- The supervisor supports the post-doctoral researcher's STDR application;
- The contract of the post-doctoral researcher covers the entire STDR grant period, and
- The grant body that is funding the post-doctoral researcher is agreeable to their application for STDR grants (if relevant).

11. Exceptions to the eligibility criteria will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the submission of a waiver request. Please write to the grant secretariat before the submission of your application, at least 7 days before the grant deadline on 27 Aug 2026, i.e. 20 Aug 2026.

GRANT CALL TIMELINES

12. Indicative Timeline for Pre-Pilot:

Submission of Full Proposals	
Launch of Call for Full Proposals	23 Jul 2026
Deadline for Submission of Full Proposals on iGrants	27 Aug 2026, 1700 hrs
Award	Q1 2027

13. Indicative Timeline for Pilot:

Submission of Pitch Deck & Short Write-up	
Launch of Call for Pitch Deck & Short Write-up	23 Jul 2026
Deadline for Submission of Pitch Deck & Short Write-up	27 Aug 2026, 1700 hrs
Presentation to Review Panel [Virtual]*	Nov 2026 (1800 – 2400 hrs)
Award	Q1 2027

Applicants must ensure they are available to the meeting marked () above.

SUBMISSION DETAILS

14. Applicants are required to submit their applications via [iGrants](#) by **27 Aug 2026, 1700 hrs.**
15. The STDR Pre-Pilot and Pilot grant calls are listed as two separate grant calls on iGrants:
 - a. STDR 2026 (Jul) Pre-Pilot Stream 1
 - b. STDR 2026 (Jul) Pre-Pilot Stream 2
 - c. STDR 2026 (Jul) Pilot
16. Only complete applications submitted on iGrants by the deadline will be accepted. Applicants are advised to submit their applications early in the event of technical errors with the iGrants website.
17. Applications must be fully endorsed by the applicant, applicants' respective Innovation and Enterprise Offices (IEOs) and Directors of Research² (DORs). Applicants are strongly encouraged to approach their respective IEO representatives and DORs early to give sufficient time to gather input and endorsement.
18. More details on the grant application steps using iGrants can be found in **Annex C**.

CONTACT INFORMATION

19. For queries related to iGrants, please reach out to: igrants-team@a-star.edu.sg
20. For general enquiries about STDR Pilot grant call, please reach out to: stdr_secretariat@a-star.edu.sg
21. For enquiries about Pre-Pilot and consultation on application, please reach out to:
Dr Tan Chong Teik (EDDC): Tan_Chong_Teik@eddc.sg
Ms Chia Hsin-Ee (EDDC): Chia_Hsin_Ee@eddc.sg
Dr Tiffany Scully (EDDC): Tiffany_Scully@eddc.sg

² DOR refers to Executive Director of the A*STAR RI or Chief Executive Director, Executive Director, the Director of Research or equivalent of the institution.