

Industry Alignment Fund Pre-Positioning Programme (IAF-PP) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

S/N	Question	Response
APPLICATION		
1	What is the process for research performers to submit IAF-PP proposals?	Research Performers keen in submitting proposals for the IAF-PP grant call may do so by submitting directly to the IA for consideration via IAF_PP_HBMS@a-star.edu.sg or IAF_PP_AME@a-star.edu.sg ; or through your various host institution Office of Research, with endorsement from the Host Institution Director of Research (HI DOR).
2	Can one IAF-PP project have 2 lead PIs with complementary skill sets?	Not impossible, though rare. For administrative reasons, it will be better for one of the PIs to take the lead.
3	What sort of documents are required to demonstrate commitment of industry at point of application? Are letters of commitment required at the point of application?	A Letter of Interest or Support is sufficient. If industry is prepared to commit at the point of application, the application will be more suited to the IAF-ICP scheme.
4	[For A*STAR RIs] Is endorsement from RI EDs necessary for IAF-PP applications that originate from A*STAR RIs?	Yes, RI EDs will need to endorse the proposals prior to submission.
ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA		
5	One of the eligibility criteria for the competitive grants is the track records of PIs. Will researchers who have not worked independently as a PI before be disadvantaged in this regards?	IAF-PP proposals are usually put together by several research groups aggregating their expertise and capabilities to address a certain scientific problem. Researchers can participate by contributing his/her individual expertise.
6	Programmes are expected to lead to industry participation within 3-5 years. Can you elaborate on this requirement?	Programmes should possess the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alignment of programme to Domain strategic objectives and ability to deliver RIE2025 outcomes • Pre-positioning for value creation and value capture in Singapore • Potential to attract corporate R&D spending and investment (e.g. joint or corporate lab, co-development of project, creation of jobs)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiation and competitiveness at an international level
7	Noting that the IAF-PP grants are thematic, if researchers have an opportunistic idea but the proposals under a certain theme had already been considered in the last funding cycle, can new ideas synthesized under this same theme still be considered for funding?	Yes. These can be surfaced directly to the for consideration via IAF_PP_HBMS@a-star.edu.sg or IAF_PP_AME@a-star.edu.sg ; or through your various host institution Office of Research
ASSESSMENT		
8	What are the evaluation criteria for IAF-PP proposals that the IAF-PP Review Panel is looking out for?	<p>Strategic alignment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Key programme objectives and proposed milestones are aligned with national priorities and outcomes of RIE2025, in order to achieve industry development (i.e. grow existing industry activities or attract new industry sector) and economic value capture for Singapore. <p>Technology soundness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technologies deployed are novel, innovative, and with the potential to be transformative; that exploit Singapore's unique and existing strengths; and have the potential to generate economic outcomes within a 3 to 5-year time frame. <p>Composition of performers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage on and integrate existing strengths and capabilities across various Singapore publicly-funded research and/or tertiary institutions to a create Singapore R&D proposition that is differentiated and globally competitive.
9	The website states that the IAF-PP Review Panel convenes quarterly. Is there an indication as to the dates of the review meetings?	Actual dates of the panel reviews will not be released, but the HHP and MTC IAF-PP application are open throughout the year. All applications will be collated by A*STAR as the implementation agency, and submitted to the HHP or MTC IAF-PP Review Panel for consideration.
10	What is the role of the IAF-PP SOC?	The IAF-PP SOC endorses programmes seeking IAF-PP funding, including the associated programme budgets and KPIs.
PROJECT BUDGET		
11	What is the indirect cost (overhead) of IAF-PP?	The indirect cost is 30% of the Direct cost awarded. Overheads are included in computation of the IRS gearing ratio.

12	What is the minimum and maximum funding amount?	There are no specific minimum and maximum funding amounts for a programme under IAF-PP. However, applicants are advised to budget their projects sensibly.
13	Can money flow to international collaborators?	No. RIE2025 grants are intended to fund public sector research conducted in Singapore. International collaborators can participate in the research but they will not receive any funding.
14	Can overseas universities participate in an IAF-PP project? If funds cannot flow to these overseas universities, there will not be any incentive for them to be part of the project.	RIE2025 funds are intended to support public sector researchers in conducting research in Singapore. Given this, local PIs are free to partner overseas universities but the research funding cannot flow to the overseas partners. To overcome this, PIs could consider a consortia model in which international collaborators source for their own funding but the outcomes are shared by all parties involved.
INDUSTRY COLLABORATION		
15	For IAF-PP, must the industry partner be based in Singapore?	No. But if they don't have a presence that can benefit from or commercialize technology that we develop with them, then the value capture would be difficult to realize. For potential partners that do not have a presence, there will need to be a case for how the collaboration or project could potentially result in economic outcomes, such as jobs and investments in Singapore.
OTHERS		
16	What are the purposes of grant calls and public workshops?	Public workshops will only be organized when necessary, purpose of which are to pull together relevant researchers and encourage cross talks, which could hopefully culminate in collaborations. Grant calls would also be launched for thematic areas when necessary. These will be announced to the research community via the A*STAR website or through email blasts beforehand.
17	If a project results in a technology that can be productised and sold, but the benefits are accrued to an overseas manufacturer, will the project be supported?	Unlikely, unless this is a local company. Either way, there needs to be a case for how there will be value captured in Singapore from the project.
18	What is the typical IP arrangement with companies for an IAF-PP funded project?	The unusual IP arrangements such as ownership will stand (e.g., SDSO, JDJO). If companies are paying significantly for the project, they will typically expect an option for

		an exclusive license. Performers must take reference from the National IP Protocol.
--	--	---