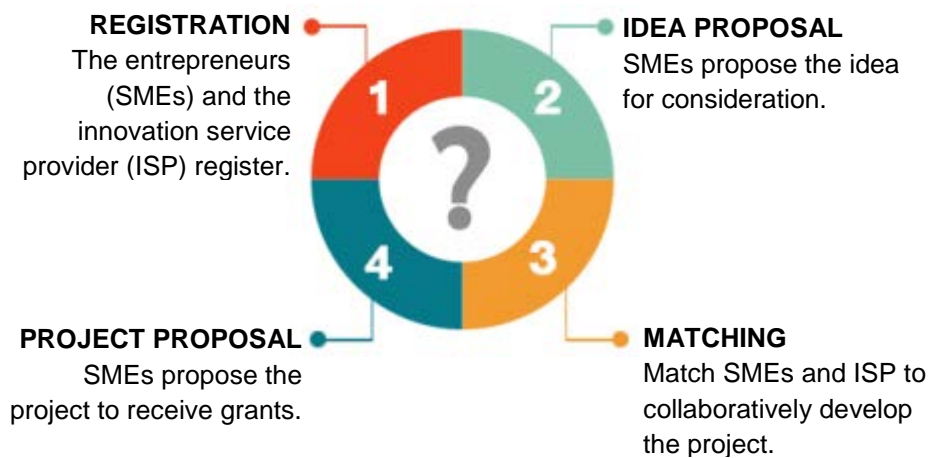


INNOVATION COUPON

National Innovation Agency (NIA), The Federation of Thai Industries (F.T.I) and Thai Chamber of Commerce (TCC) have operated the pilot scale project to support grants for the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in order to develop technology and innovation which have positive effects to business and society. They provide subsidies in the form of grants called “innovation coupon” whose limit is up to 1.5 million Baht. The project that proposes for the support must be the collaboration between SMEs and innovation service provider (ISP).

HOW TO APPLY FOR A GRANT



QUALIFICATIONS OF PARTICIPANT

Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs)

- Be a small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) as specified by the Ministry of Industry which determines the conditions by the value of the permanent security and/or the amount of the employment of the particular enterprise as shown in the table.
- Be a legal entity that registers in Thailand which possesses the capital stocks from 51 per cent of the particular legal entity. The stocks must be held by the individual who has Thai nationality and shows the valid guaranteed letter of the legal entity issued by the Department of Business Development, the Ministry of Commerce and/or related departments. The letter is valid for up to 60 days.
- Have the ability to manage and accomplish the innovation project according to the objectives of the grant.
- Not be a grantee who gets the support from any other associations in the same project during the project proposal to the grant consideration period. Except that particular grant covers the expense that is not duplicated with the expense proposed in this project.
- Must have the potential to operate and develop the innovation project regarding the innovation project proposal until the project is accomplished within 2 years and have in-cash matching budget

to develop the innovation project which is not less than 25 per cent of the total project value after passing the consideration of NIA. Each participant can apply for a grant up to 2 projects.

- Not be a bankrupt regarding the civil lawsuit sentence or the convict in the prosecution case which might affect the ability to accomplish the innovation project as per conditions.
- In case it is found later on that there are conflicts related to the innovation project such as intellectual property violations, forgery or any other cases, the participant must be the only person who is responsible for the civil lawsuit and prosecution cases.

Innovation Service Provider (ISP)

- Be an expert from the private/government educational or research institutes who specializes at least 1 from 2 aspects in the following fields.
 - Engineering, science or agricultural industry such as Computer Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, Mechatronics and Robotics Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Infrastructure Engineering, Electronics Engineering, Telecommunication Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, Chemical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Production Engineering, Agricultural Engineering, Water Resources Engineering, Soil and Water Resources Engineering, Logistics Engineering, Materials Handling Engineering, Security Engineering, Petroleum Engineering, Petrochemical Engineering, Software Engineering, Information and Communication Technology Engineering, Shore Engineering and Environment Engineering, etc.
 - Administration and Management such as Economics, Marketing, Finance and Accounting, Business Administration and Human Resources Management, International Business, etc.
- Hold at least a Bachelor's degree or equivalent and have not less than 3-year work experience in the field that registers.
- The innovation service provider (ISP) who is in the private association and lack the academic qualification must deliver the guaranteed letter that shows not less than 5-year work experience in the field that registers. The guaranteed letter must be verified and signed by the authorized person in the particular association in order to approve to join the project.
- Have the achievement and can show the achievement that corresponds to the job description of the field that registers in the project. The achievement must be creative and ease to be manipulated to adapt and develop the related work.
- Ready to join the activities in the project as appropriate or at least 9 man-day per project.

CONDITIONS OF GRANTS

- NIA will provide grants in the form of "coupon". The expense that is provided to the small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) includes stipends such as the stipends of the innovation service provider (ISP), project consultant, feasibility analysis, etc. However, it excludes the stipends of the board and authorized person who sign on behalf of the legal entity. The stipend will be paid to the temporary employees who directly work for the innovation coupon project as per actual expense. This excludes the employees who work in the other sections which are not related to the project, the project owner, the permanent employees and operational and material

costs related to the innovation coupon project as following listed: the consumable which is not more than 50 per cent of the cost, direct materials which is not more than 50 per cent of the cost, the costs of analysis, testing standard guarantee, license (if any) or royalty fees in technology transfer (if any) which must be estimated from NIA beforehand. NIA will support no more than 50 per cent of the mentioned costs according to the costs estimated by NIA and no more than 50 per cent of the hardware costs as listed in the project proposal that receives the grant in the innovation coupon project.

- NIA will support no more than 75 per cent of the total project budget. The approval is according to the list that has been considered to support. The small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) must invest 25 per cent of the total project budget that receives from NIA. The enterprise will get the coupon installment as per innovation coupon conditions except the case that NIA approves case by case (refer to the regulations of National Innovation Committee related to innovation project development and support of 2553 B.E. and second issue, 2557 B.E.).
- The grantee will get the support up to 1.5 million Baht per project. Except in case that NIA approves case by case.
- In case that the participant needs the support for the innovation acquisition service (IAS) in international and domestic areas, NIA will support no more than 200,000 Baht per project for the feasibility analysis costs. However, if the project is feasible, NIA will support technology matching costs which are for license (if any) or royalty fees.
- In case that the overseas technology is needed, NIA can consider the technology matching grant which is not more than 50 per cent of actual expense or not more than 100,000 Baht per legal entity. The mentioned expense includes no more than 4-night domestic accommodations, international economy class air tickets, domestic allowances and stipends of no more than 3 experts who join the group.

MORE INFORMATION

<http://coupon.nia.or.th/>