

# Application Stages



## Stage 1: Funding Call Launch

30 January 2026

DREAM 4 Health Funding Call 2026-3031 opens for submission of preliminary applications.

Applicants submit a preliminary application for review and shortlisting, including Proposed Activities, Team Composition, Indicative Budget and Milestones, and Due Diligence Self-Declaration Form.

**Deadline: 24 March 2026**

## Stage 2: Preliminary application review and shortlisting

From 25 March 2026 to 13 May 2026

- A committee will review eligible preliminary applications, checking for:
- Alignment with thematic areas
- Alignment with SEA DREAM objectives
- Indicative budget and milestones
- Principal Investigators and team's high-level skill set and capabilities.

A high-level due diligence check, and eligibility assessment will be conducted.

## Stage 3: Invitation to submit full application

By 14 May 2026

Successful applicants will be invited to submit a full application. Feedback on preliminary applications may be provided.

## Stage 4: Full application submission

Applicants will submit a comprehensive application covering:

- Principal, Deputy-, and Co- Principal Investigators details
- The Administering and Co-Appling Organisations details
- Proposed activities, including any Training and Development plans
- Ethical considerations, Human participants, Animal studies, and Data management plans, if applicable
- Research culture and Ecosystem
- Collaborations and Partnerships
- Milestones and Outputs
- Budget and justification for costs requested
- High-level due diligence self-declaration for any changes, including indication if applicant will require advanced funding

*Details on full application requirements will be updated prior to 30 January 2026.*

**Deadline 10 July 2026, 2pm ICT**

## Stage 5: Full application screening

From 13-24 July 2026

Screening will involve a review of the applications' completeness, eligibility, and high-level due diligence, if significant changes have been made since the preliminary application submission.

## Stage 6: Peer Review

From 27 July to 11 September 2026

Applications will be reviewed by experts in the relevant field, to provide comments on the scientific quality and merit of the proposed activities.

## Stage 7: Cost Challenge

From 27 July to 11 September 2026

A detailed assessment of the costs requested, and their justification, will be undertaken by SEA DREAM to ensure they meet our agreed policies and limits. Further information from applicants may be requested.

## Stage 8: Panel Interview and Evaluation

12-16 October 2026

Interviews with applicants (PI from Consortium Lead and one Co-PI from each Consortium Member) will be conducted by a Selection and Evaluation Interview Panel, who will score and rank applications according to criteria:

- Generating Impactful Research
- Nurturing Leadership
- Fostering Regional Collaboration and Programme Governance
- Strengthening Research Ecosystems
- Qualifications and Operational Feasibility

**See How we will evaluate your proposal**

## Stage 9: Detailed Due Diligence

From 19 October to 13 November 2026

SEA DREAM internal staff will conduct detailed due diligence checks on the Consortia recommended by the Selection and Evaluation Interview Panel. This will include checking the relevant financial and legal policies and practices of the applicants and organizations.

## Stage 10: Award Decision

By 27 November 2026

Final award decisions will be made by SEA DREAM's Steering Committee based on the recommendations by the Selection and Evaluation Interview Panel, and any relevant strategic priorities.

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