Declaration of Potential “Conflict of Interest” (COI) for Applicants 2025

**(One separate document for every person named on the application)**

A conflict of interest is a situation in which financial or other personal considerations have the potential to compromise or bias professional judgment and objectivity.

**Any private, personal or commercial interests relating to an application for funding to the FNR must be declared in an accompanying document included as an application attachment.**

## What constitutes a conflict of interest for an applicant?

In this case, a conflict of interest is a situation in which a person named on the FNR application (or a senior member of the lead organisation who may be involved in the management of the grant) is in a position to develop personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their capacity as grant holder, or has interests which might influence their objectivity in conducting the research or reporting the findings.

## How to manage conflicts?

Where the applicant or the public research institution considers that an **interest** does give rise to a clear conflict, a proposed plan for managing that conflict should be included in the accompanying document to be submitted together with the application to the FNR. If new conflicts arise once an award has been made these should be declared and managed using the same established processes.

Interests declared will be scrutinised by FNR staff and drawn to the attention of members of panels or boards making the decision on funding. Conditions relating to how conflicts should be managed may be attached to awards.

## What interests should be declared by the applicants?

Applicants should declare any interests which ***anyone named on the application*** (or a senior member of the lead organisation who may be involved in the management of the grant) has with any individual, organisation, project partner or supplier involved in the research, or any interest that might be perceived to influence the applicant’s objectivity in conducting the research. Every individual needs to fill out a separate form.

## Who signs the declaration?

Every individual named on the application signs his/her own form. The forms must be filled out and signed regardless of something being present that needs to be declared.

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| **1. Personal Remuneration (paid or unpaid) from organisations or project partners involved in the proposed research (other than the named employing organisation)** |
| Consultancies and other external appointments, both past and present, from organisations other than that listed within the application as the employer.  Example: a consultancy, directorship or significant research collaboration with a company that develops a drug, treatment or piece of equipment that will be evaluated or used during the research.  If nothing will be declared, insert “*No potential COI present*” |
| **2. Significant Shareholdings or other Financial Interests in organisations which are involved in or might benefit from the research** |
| Include the name of the company and the nature of the interests. Indirect shareholder interests (e.g. via unit trusts or pension funds managed by others) need not be declared.  Example: shareholdings with a market value equal to or greater than €10,000 or represent more than 1% of the total issued capital.  If nothing will be declared, insert “*No potential COI present*” |
| **3. Research Support (financial or in kind) from commercial organisations involved in the grant or which might benefit from the outcome of the research that are not mentioned in the application** |
| Also include ownership of intellectual property whose value may be affected by the outcome of the research.  If nothing will be declared, insert “*No potential COI present*” |
| **4. Un-remunerated involvement with any organisation named on the application or which might benefit from the research or its outcomes** |
| This may include non-executive and advisory positions, directorships and other positions of authority.  If nothing will be declared, insert “*No potential COI present*” |
| **5. Family** |
| Declarations should also include any relevant known interests of immediate family members and any persons living in the same household. Applicants should also consider whether they need to disclose relevant known interests of any other person with whom they have a relationship which is likely to appear, to a reasonable person, to influence his/her independence and objectivity. Please indicate which category of interest applies. Family members do not need to be identified, either by name or their relationship to the applicants.  Example: a family member or close friend who works in sales for (or has a significant financial interest in) a company that is a potential supplier of major equipment or materials that will be purchased using the grant funding.  If nothing will be declared, insert “*No potential COI present*” |

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Name and Date Signature