

Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wirtschaft, Landesentwicklung und Energie

invest in bavaria

Bavaria.
Financing and Funding Opportunities for Companies.

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One of Bavaria's most popular traditions is the raising of the maypole.
On May 1st, communities across Bavaria erect a decorated pole—often painted blue and white and adorned with ornamental plaques—in a central location. Following an age-old tradition, the maypole is often raised by hand by the strongest men in town, without the help of machinery. The raising is accompanied by a community festival known as the Maibaumfest. With brass band music, food, and drink, guests and local residents gather to enjoy the festive atmosphere.

Dear Readers,

Bavaria has an excellent reputation as a business location and is attractive to companies from around the world. The Free State of Bavaria owes its success in particular to its highly qualified professionals, its many business-oriented science and research institutions, and its robust infrastructure. These conditions are further strengthened by effective public funding that benefits both established companies and founders.

Government support is currently at a top-tier level. To help you gain an overview of the funding programs available through the Free State of Bavaria, and to understand what support may be relevant for your specific project, Invest in Bavaria offers this brochure to entrepreneurs and investors.

On behalf of the Bavarian State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy, Invest in Bavaria supports companies from both Germany and abroad in establishing, expanding, and securing their business locations in Bavaria. From connecting you with relevant networks and institutions, to assisting in the search for suitable commercial sites, and advising on financing, funding, or the broader business environment—the international team at Invest in Bavaria is here to support you from the outset.

Take advantage of Invest in Bavaria's free, confidential, and personalized services. Contact the team to learn more about the available public support and your opportunities in Bavaria.

https://www.invest-in-bavaria.com/en

Notice

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How Can I Secure Funding?

Who Is Eligible for Funding?

Only companies with a registered office or branch in Bavaria are eligible to apply.
The project must be carried out primarily within the Free State of Bavaria (exception: programs for accessing international markets, such as the international trade fair participation program).

Who Should I Contact?

Different project management agencies are responsible for evaluating and implementing funding programs. For each of the programs listed in this brochure, the relevant agencies and their websites are provided under "Further Information." There you will also find the current program guidelines.

What Information Does the Project Management Agency Require?

To make an initial assessment of your project's eligibility for funding, the project management agency (the organization responsible for administering and managing the funding program) requires a project outline containing the most important details—such as the project timeline, total investment amount, financing plan, and a brief project description.

What Role Does the Size of My Company Play?

For many programs, the size of a company (see "SME Definition," where "SME" stands for "small and medium-sized companies") is a decisive factor in determining eligibility for funding or the level of funding. The classification is based on the SME definition of the European Commission, taking into account the type of company (independent companies, affiliated companies or partner companies).

Independent companies are those that neither hold 25% or more of the capital or voting rights in another company nor are themselves 25% or more owned by another entity. Exceptions to this threshold may apply in cases involving shareholders such as public investment corporations or nonprofit universities and research institutions.

SME Definition

	Employees	Annual turnover (in EUR)	or	Annual balance sheet total (in EUR)
Micro-company	< 10	≤ 2 million		≤ 2 million
Small company	< 50	≤ 10 million		≤ 10 million
Medium-sized company	< 250	≤ 50 million		≤ 43 million
Large company	≥ 250	> 50 million		> 43 million

→ For more information about your company's SME status, please contact the relevant project management agency.

What Should Be Considered Before Submitting an Application?

Submit your funding application **before** beginning your project. Grants are only awarded for projects that have not yet started at the time the application is received by the responsible project management agency (e.g. no supplier contracts are allowed to have been signed yet).

How Is Funding Provided?

Funding options range from non-repayable grants to low-interest loans and the assumption of guarantees. However, public funding is considered "help for self-help," meaning that only part of the project financing can be covered through funding.

Further Information and Support – Bavaria, Federal Government, EU

Where Can I Find More Information About Funding Programs?

This guide provides only an initial overview of Bavarian funding programs.
Additional programs and more detailed information about those listed here can be found in the Federal Government's funding database. It also includes all federal and EU-level programs:

→ Funding programs and financial assistance from the German federal government, the states, and the EU
www.foerderdatenbank.de

In addition, the start-up and funding guides at Bayern Innovativ support companies in finding consulting services, coaching, networks, as well as funding and financing opportunities.

→ Startup and funding guide at Bayern Innovativ GmbH
www.bayern-innovativ.de

The Bavarian Research Alliance (BayFOR) advises Bavarian companies and researchers on national and European funding opportunities for research, development, and innovation, and supports them with the application process.

→ Bayerische Forschungsallianz GmbH (BayFOR):
www.bayfor.org



Are You Planning a New Location or Site Expansion?

Bavarian Regional Funding Program for Commercial Enterprises (BRF) / Joint Task of the Federal and State Governments for the "Improvement of the Regional Economic Structure" (GRW)

What is funded?

Investments by commercial companies in tangible and intangible fixed assets, such as machinery or buildings.

How is funding provided?

Depending on the company's location and size, up to 45% of eligible costs may be funded (see table and map on page 13).
Funding may be provided in the form of:

- → Investment grants
- → Wage cost subsidies
- → Interest subsidies on loans from the Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern)

Requirements

- → Creation or safeguarding of jobs
- → Minimum investment of €200,000 in GRW-C, GRW-D areas and BRF priority areas, or €500,000 in other funding areas
- → Support for the transformation toward a sustainable and ecological economy
- → Significant regional economic effects
- → Inclusion in eligible business sectors

Higher funding rates may apply for the following transformation-related investments:

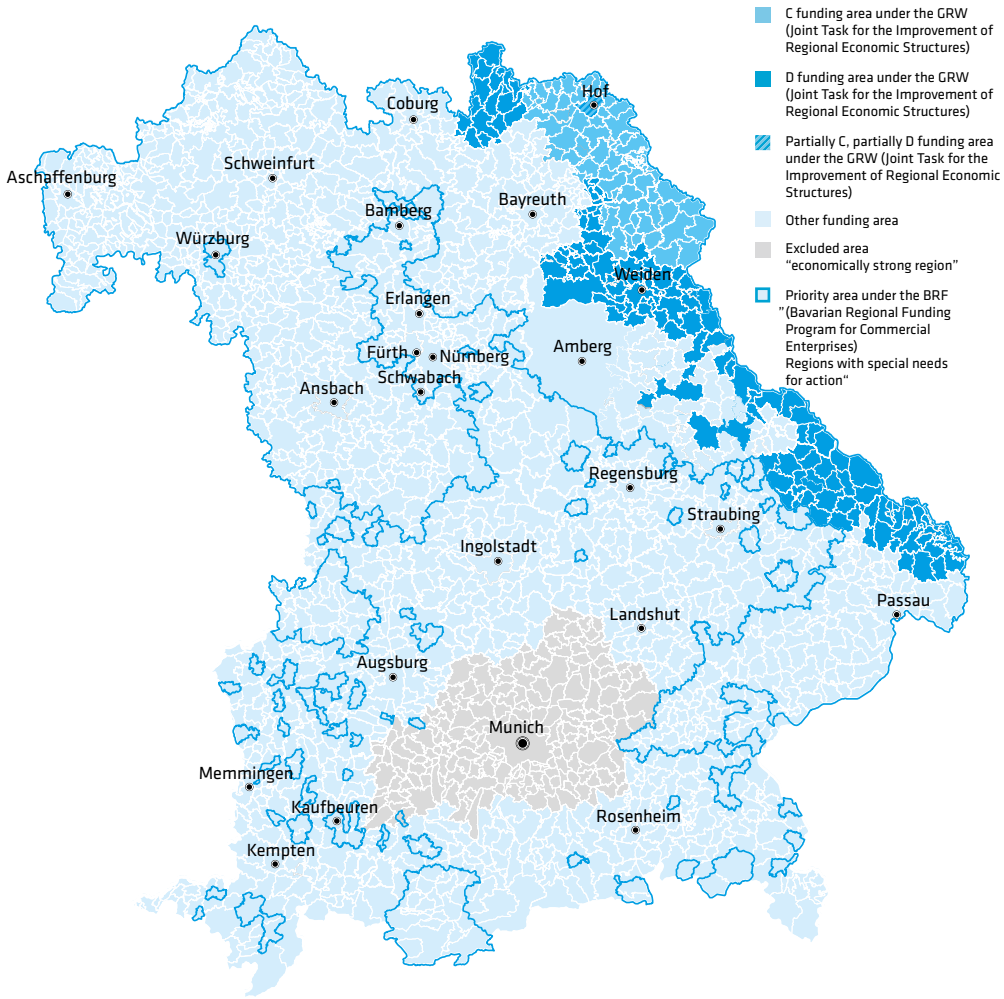
- → Investments to cover a company's own energy needs using renewable sources
- → Investments with significant energy efficiency effects
- → Investments with significant environmental protection effects

Further Information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

Advising and funding applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20:
www.bayernportal.de

Funding Areas of Bavarian Regional Development (valid as of January 1, 2022)



Maximum Funding Rates

	GRW-C	GRW-D	Other funding area / Priority area under the BRF	Excluded area Greater Munich Area
Small companies	45 %	20 %	20 %	–
Medium-sized companies	35 %	10 %	10 %	–
Large companies	25 %	Maximum de minimis aid amount	–	–

BRF Special Program "Threshold Investments in Micro-Companies"

Who is eligible for funding?	Companies with up to 10 employees.
What is funded?	Targeted support for investments by microenterprises where there is a financial need and the investment requires a significant commitment.
Requirements	Minimum investment amount of €100,000 in BRF priority areas and €250,000 in other funding areas; the Greater Munich Area is excluded.
Further Information	Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy **www.stmwi.bayern.de** Advising and applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20 **www.bayernportal.de**

Special Program Transformation@Bavaria (T@B)

Who is eligible for funding?	SMEs based in Bavaria.
What is funded?	Transformation and digitization projects. Eligible are investments in new digitization measures as well as in new, innovative processes in production, operations, and communication.
Requirements	The minimum investment amount is €200,000.
Further information	Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy **www.stmwi.bayern.de** Advising and applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20 **www.bayernportal.de**

Transformation@Bayern Special Program (T@B) – Focus Area: Chemical Recycling

Who is eligible for funding?	SMEs and large companies headquartered in Bavaria.
What is funded?	Investments in facilities in Bavaria for the chemical or biochemical recycling of plastic waste, as well as other innovative recycling facilities that recover plastics for use as raw materials and help close the carbon loop. Eligible projects must have reached a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of at least 8 and demonstrate climate and environmental benefits compared with conventional technology.
How is funding provided?	Grants of up to 20% for small companies and 10% for medium-sized companies, or 40–60% of the additional costs compared with a less environmentally friendly investment, depending on the size of the company.
Further information	Bayern Innovativ GmbH **www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/**

Special Program Energy Efficiency in Companies

Who is eligible for funding?

SMEs based in Bavaria; in exceptional individual cases, also large companies.

What is funded?

Energy-efficient investment measures are eligible for funding:

- → Technical systems (including building systems)
- → Building renovations
- → New construction of buildings
- → For large companies: only investments in machinery

Requirements

- → The project must significantly reduce the company's final energy demand.
- → Funding is primarily granted in BRF priority areas, and to a limited extent also in other regions, including the Greater Munich Area
- → Fulfillment of ERDF documentation requirements, particularly for large companies

What is funded?

Up to 5% surcharge on the standard funding rates, depending on the company's location and size (see map and table on page 13).

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

Advising and funding applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20
www.bayernportal.de

BayBioökonomie Scale-Up Funding Program

Who is eligible for funding?

SMEs and large companies headquartered in Bavaria.

What is funded?

Investments in production facilities that use renewable raw materials or biogenic residues and waste while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
Eligible projects must have reached a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of at least 8 and demonstrate climate and environmental benefits compared with conventional technology.

How is funding provided?

Grants of up to 20% for small companies and 10% for medium-sized companies, or 40–60% of the additional costs compared with a less environmentally friendly investment, depending on the size of the company.

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs,
Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

Advising and applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20
www.bayernportal.de

Tourism Funding Programs

What is funded?

Premium Tourism Initiative:
- → Quality improvements and innovations for guests in the upscale and high-end hotel sector

Tourism in Bavaria – Quality and Hospitality:
- → Modernization, renovation, equipment, and expansion measures at small commercial hotels and restaurants

Tourism in Bavaria – Accessible Hospitality:
- → Investments in accessibility by small and medium-sized companies in the hotel and restaurant sector

Who is eligible for funding

Companies in the hotel and restaurant sector.

How much funding is available?

Depending on the company's location and size, up to 45% of eligible costs (see map and table on page 13).

Requirements

Minimum investment amount:
- → €30,000 (Tourism in Bavaria)
- → €200,000 in BRF priority areas and €500,000 in other funding areas (Premium Tourism Initiative)

Number of beds:
- → Not specified (Tourism in Bavaria)
- → More than 10 (Premium Tourism Initiative)

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

Advising and funding applications are handled by the locally responsible district governments, Department 20
www.bayernportal.de

CISAF Federal Scheme for Net-Zero Technologies

What is funded?

Investment projects involving the manufacture of technologies in the following areas:
- → Solar
- → Onshore and offshore wind energy
- → Batteries and energy storage
- → Heat pumps and geothermal energy
- → Hydrogen
- → Sustainable biogas and biomethane
- → Carbon capture and storage (CCS) and decarbonization
- → Power grids
- → Nuclear fission energy
- • Sustainable alternative fuels
- • Hydropower technologies
- • Energy efficiency in energy systems
- • Renewable fuels of non-biological origin
- • Biotechnology-based climate and energy solutions
- • Key specific components of the technologies listed above, as specified in the relevant list
- • New or recovered critical raw materials used for the technologies listed above

How is funding provided?

Funding is granted in the form of direct grants or interest subsidies (theoretically also tax advantages).

How much funding is available?

The maximum funding amount depends on the company's size, location, and type of funding. In individual cases where competition between potential locations can be demonstrated, large companies may also be eligible for funding. The maximum aid rates permitted under state aid law range from 15% to 40%.

Further information

www.bmwk.de
Please note:
Funding is only available until December 31, 2030



Would You Like to Carry Out Your Own Research and Development Projects?

Please note the following principles of innovation funding:[1]

What qualifies as “innovation” in the funding landscape?

→ The technologies, products, and services to be developed—or their applications—must be new and go significantly beyond the current state of the art.

What is funded in a research and development project?

→ Personnel costs attributable to the project (e.g. engineers, master craftspersons), material costs, and external services (contract research, e.g. research services provided by a university) may be eligible for funding.

How is funding provided and what is the funding rate for a research and development project?

→ Depending on the level of innovation, between 25% and 50% of eligible costs may be funded.
→ The following are funding programs that are granted as non-repayable grants.

What types of projects are there?

→ Funding projects can or must be carried out as individual or collaborative projects.
An individual project is implemented solely by the applicant, whereas a collaborative project involves cooperation among multiple partners (companies, universities, research institutions).

Who provides guidance on the funding programs?

→ The project management agency is responsible for advising companies on submitting applications and implementing Bavarian technology funding programs. In most cases, this is the Project Management Agency Bavaria at Bayern Innovativ. The project management agencies are listed under “Further Information” for each program.
www.bayern-innovativ.de

Where can I find current funding calls?

→ The current funding calls can be found on the **pages of the funding guide**, as well as on the pages of the project management agencies mentioned in the chapters, or at:
www.fips.bayern.de

[1] These principles apply to many innovation funding programs, although some programs may deviate from these eligibility requirements.



Open-topic programs.

Bavarian Technology Funding Program Plus (BayTP+)

Who is eligible for funding?

- For development projects: Medium-sized companies in the commercial sector with fewer than 400 employees (group-wide), which have their headquarters, a branch, or a place of business in Bavaria
- For technology projects of exceptional strategic importance to Bavaria's research and technology landscape, larger companies are also eligible
- For application projects: SMEs

What is funded?

- Development of technologically new or significantly improved products, production processes, and knowledge-based services–from concept to fully functional prototype
- Technology projects of exceptional strategic importance to Bavaria's research and technology landscape

How is funding provided?

- The funding rate ranges from 25% to 50%

Further information

Bayern Innovativ GmbH
www.bayern-innovativ.de

Digitalbonus

Who is eligible for funding?

Small companies in the commercial sector

What is funded?

The development, introduction, or improvement of products, services, and processes, as well as migration and porting of IT systems and applications within the company – particularly through the use of robotics, artificial intelligence, digital twins, and advanced simulation technologies. The introduction or improvement of IT security processes within the company.

How is funding provided?

Financial support:

- Up to €7,500 grant under "Digitalbonus Standard"
- Up to €30,000 under "Digitalbonus Plus"

Eligible expenditures include services provided by external vendors, including the ICT software required to implement the measure. Consulting and training services related to the solution being introduced are eligible for up to 50% of total eligible costs. For robotics-related measures, the robot hardware is also eligible. For IT security-related measures, the necessary ICT hardware is also eligible. The funded measure must be implemented in Bavaria.

Further information

Digitalbonus Bavaria
www.digitalbonus.bayern

Innovation Vouchers

Who is eligible for funding?	SMEs as well as founders.
What is funded?	The planning, development, and implementation of new products, production processes, or services—or significant improvements to them—in the area of technical or technological innovation are supported. Projects with higher financial needs that require highly specialized support should also be made feasible.
How is funding provided?	The standard funding rate is 40% and can be increased by ten percentage points to a maximum of 60% in "regions with special needs for action" (see map on page 13), if a university or non-university research institution is commissioned (at least 50% of project/application costs), or in the case of micro-companies with fewer than ten employees and annual balance sheet total below €2 million. → Innovation Voucher Standard: Supports eligible costs of €4,000 – €30,000 • Innovation Voucher Special: Supports eligible costs of €30,000 – €80,000 with a fixed funding rate of 50%
Further Information	Bayern Innovativ GmbH **www.bayern-innovativ.de**

Bavarian Transformation and Research Foundation – Future Technologies for the Bavarian Economy

Who is eligible for funding?	Companies of all sizes and research institutions, each with headquarters or a branch in Bavaria, in jointly conducted cooperation projects.
What is funded?	Innovative projects for the research and development of technologies, processes, and services. Funding is generally open with regard to sector, topic, and technology. The following focus areas are particularly emphasized: → Digitalization → Energy and Environment → Mobility → Life Sciences → Process and Production Technology → Materials and Substances
How is funding provided?	The base funding rate, based on eligible costs for the overall project, is up to 50% for industrial research and up to 25% for experimental development. The funding rate may be increased by up to 10% through a cooperation bonus on the eligible costs of the overall project and by individual SME bonuses of up to 10% of the eligible costs of the respective SME.
Further information	Bavarian Transformation and Research Foundation **www.forschungsstiftung.de**

Topic-specific programs.

Bavarian Collaborative Research Program (BayVFP)

What is funded?

The BayVFP Collaborative Research Program is aimed at industry-led, pre-commercial collaborative projects and supports research and development projects in the following four areas:

- Mobility
- Materials and Substances
- Life Sciences
- Digitalization

Who is eligible for funding?

Collaborative projects: Cooperation between multiple companies and/or companies and research institutions is supported; multiple partners should cooperate along the value chain.

How is funding provided?

The following funding rates may be approved for eligible expenditures in all four funding areas:

- 50% for projects or studies in the case of industrial research
- 25% for projects or studies in the case of experimental development
- Implementation of funding measures is carried out via funding calls

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

BayVFP – Mobility – Innovative Drive Technologies (MIA)

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas:

- Engine technology (especially hydrogen and electric motors)
- Highly efficient transmission technology
- Energy and thermal management
- Hybrid technology (fuel cells)
- Tank and storage technologies, in particular battery technology (solid-state batteries)
- Systems designed to improve the use of the drive technologies listed above.

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 28**
and on the focus area “Innovative Drive Technologies” at the project management agency:
www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/

BayVFP – Mobility – Space (Bavarian Space Research Program – RaFo)

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas:

- Satellite navigation
- Earth observation
- Satellites, including small satellites and CubeSats)
- Launch systems and launch vehicles
- Use of space infrastructure and technologies
- In-orbit services
- Information and quantum technologies

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 28**
and on the focus area “Space Technology” at:
www.stmwi.bayern.de

BayVFP – Materials and Substances

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas:

- Materials for energy supply and storage
- Lightweight construction materials
- Materials for medical applications
- Substitution of resource-limited materials and recycling methods
- Innovative material-related process and production technologies
- Computer-aided methods and simulation techniques

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 26**
and on the focus area “Materials and Substances” at the project management agency:
www.ptj.de

BayVFP – Life Sciences – Medical Technology

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas, among others:

- Medical imaging and image processing
- Telemedicine and eHealth
- Methods of bioinformatics including biosignal analysis and synthesis
- Intelligent biomedical sensors and actuators in micro- and nanotechnology
- Laser applications and optical systems for diagnosis and therapy
- Methods of bioinformatics including biosignal analysis and synthesis
- Medical technology for minimally invasive surgery and interventions
- Medical device designs and instruments
- Biomaterials, tissue engineering, and implants
- Organ and orthopedic prosthetics
- Physical methods for preservation or selection procedures
- System-critical software for diagnosis and therapy
- Preventive methods for geriatrics and health maintenance

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 28**
and on the focus area “Medical Technology” at the project management agency:
www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/

BayVFP – Life Sciences – Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas:

- "White" (industrial) biotechnology
- "Red" (medical/pharmaceutical) biotechnology
- "Green" (agricultural) biotechnology
- Development of technology platforms and creation of competence networks between industry and research
- Processing methods for recovering important raw materials and closing material cycles
- Methods for soil remediation and wastewater treatment (bioremediation)

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 28**
and on the focus area "Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering" at the project management agency:
www.ptj.de

BayVFP – Digitalization – Information and Communication Technology

What is funded?

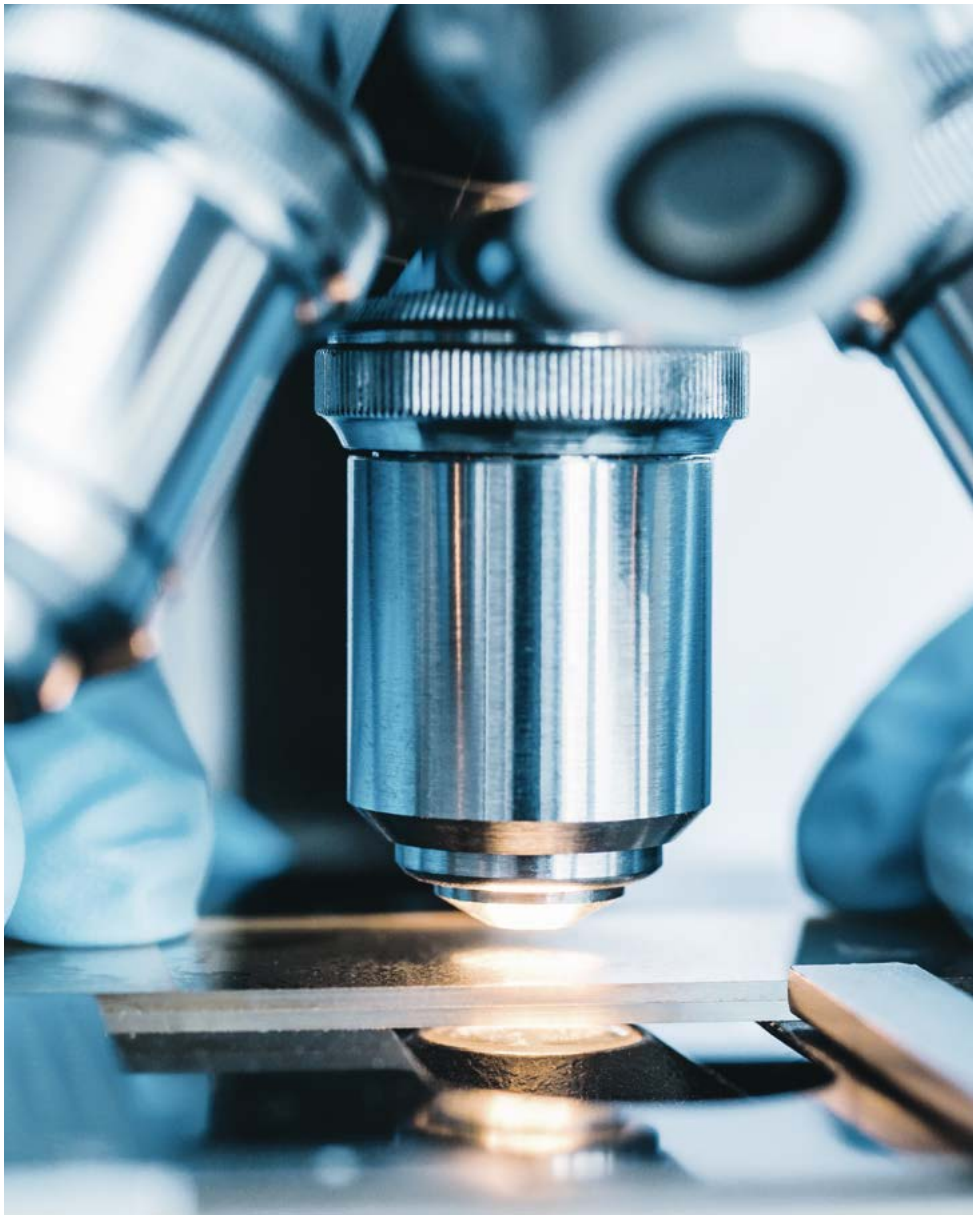
Research and development in the following areas:

- Hardware and software engineering
- Data and knowledge management
- Human-machine communication
- Real-time and embedded systems
- Data networks for smart infrastructure, such as energy and mobility systems
- Automation and intelligent production
- Communications networks
- Technical IT services
- IT security
- Quantum technology

Cross-cutting topics such as reliability, robustness, and quality assurance methods are also included.

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 26**
and on the focus area "ICT Technology" at the project management agency VDI/VDE Innovation+Technik GmbH:
www.iuk-bayern.de



BayVFP – Digitalization – Electronic Systems

What is funded?

Research and development in the following areas:

- Design of complex electronic and IT systems
- Systems integration
- Manufacturing technologies for electronic systems
- Nanoelectronics, microelectronics, optoelectronics, and power electronics
- Microsystems
- Sensors and actuators
- Mechatronic systems
- Measurement and control technology
- Development of electronic devices and assemblies
- Quantum technology

Cross-cutting topics are also included, such as safety, reliability, robustness, quality assurance methods, and functional and field testing of electronic systems.

Further information

More details on BayVFP can be found on **page 28**
and on the focus area "Electronic Systems" at the project management agency VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH:
www.elsys-bayern.de

Bavarian Energy Research Program

Who is eligible for funding?

Individual company projects; not research institutions or universities.

What is funded?

- Research, development, and application of new energy and energy efficiency technologies
- Energy efficiency measures and investments in energy-saving technologies intended for the demonstration and introduction of new technologies or technological approaches
- Technical feasibility studies prior to industrial research or experimental development

How is funding provided?

Of the eligible costs:

- Up to 50% for research projects
- Up to 35% for development projects
- Up to 40% or 50% for demonstration projects

Further information

Project Management Agency Jülich
www.ptj.de/bayern-energie


Are You
Interested in
Financing Options?

Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern) – Loans in Combination with Risk Mitigation

How is funding provided?	Long-term, low-interest loans in combination with risk mitigation (release from liability and guarantees). The loan products are applied for through the applicant's primary bank.
Who is eligible for funding?	For most programs: Medium-sized companies engaged in commercial or freelance activities and with a business location or branch in Bavaria.
What is funded?	Financing options for: → **Growth**: Investments that can be capitalized as fixed assets (e.g. acquisition of land and buildings, construction-related costs, business and office equipment), purchase of goods, working capital (e.g. personnel costs, rent, consulting costs) → **Innovation**: Innovation and digitalization projects, innovative companies → **Energy and environment**: Energy-efficient renovation of commercial buildings, energy efficiency in production facilities and processes, renewable energy and heating networks, other environmental protection measures → **Other financing**; e.g. contract guarantees, syndicated financing
Further information	Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern) **www.lfa.de**



Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern) – LfA Transformation Fund Bavaria

How is funding provided?	The LfA invests as a co-investor up to €10 million in companies. Private investors must participate on the same terms and contribute at least the same amount as the LfA Transformation Fund Bavaria (pari passu). The fund may also invest in other investment funds that invest in companies undergoing transformation or support the transformation of Bavaria's economy. This expressly includes investment funds focused on venture capital. The fund is intended to strengthen the equity base of these companies and acts as an equity investor. Applications are submitted via the Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern).
Who is eligible for funding?	Medium-sized companies in Bavaria.
What is funded?	Transformation projects in the context of digitalization (including AI), climate change, and mobility transition. Working capital and investments can be co-financed as part of the projects.
Further information	Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern) – LfA Transformation Fund Bavaria **www.lfa.de**

Bavarian Investment Corporation (Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH – BayBG)

How is funding provided?	BayBG provides equity capital through minority stakes and mezzanine financing, with customized solutions of up to €10 million.
Who is eligible for funding?	Medium-sized companies, especially in Bavaria.
What is funded?	BayBG supports companies with: → **Growth initiatives**, such as expanding their product portfolio or entering new markets → **Turnarounds**, including restructuring measures during challenging periods → **Business succession**
Further information	Bavarian Investment Corporation (Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH – BayBG) **www.baybg.de**

Bayern Kapital GmbH – Growth and Scale-Up Fund

How is funding provided?	Bayern Kapital provides equity through open and/or typical silent participations. The investment ranges from €2 million to €50 million per portfolio company across multiple funding rounds. Condition: Independent private investors participate under the same terms and in equal amounts (pari passu). In addition, Bayern Kapital offers expertise and a broad network of market-leading companies, industry experts, and investors.
Who is eligible for funding?	Innovative, technology-driven, growth-oriented SMEs across all industries in Bavaria.
What is funded?	The fund provides equity capital for financing investments and working capital as part of an innovation project. It also helps finance, for example, the (further) development of new products, processes, and technical services in preparation for the product or service offering, including market launch, or the expansion, sales, and implementation of internationalization strategies.
Further information	Bavaria Capital (Bayern Kapital) – Later Stage **www.bayernkapital.de**



Would You Like to Tap Into New Markets?

Market development in Bavaria/Germany.

Trade Fair Participation Program of Bayern Innovativ GmbH

Who is eligible for funding?	SMEs based in Bavaria.
What is funded?	Trade fair organization and partial cost coverage by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs. The program primarily supports trade fairs in Germany.
Further information	Bayern Innovativ GmbH **www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/**

Accessing international markets.

Delegation Trips

What is funded?	The Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs offers annual delegation trips to promising markets for Bavarian companies–with or without political accompaniment. The participating companies' interests and objectives are at the heart of the program. Participants are able to establish new contacts in person and build networks with embassies, associations, foreign chambers of commerce, and companies. This gives companies firsthand insight into potential markets and direct access to new business and government contacts to support their export activities. The Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs covers the general costs of the trip; participants are only responsible for their personal travel expenses (flight, hotel, visa). Bayern International organizes an attractive economic program and handles all travel logistics.
Further information	Bayern International GmbH **www.bayern-international.de**

Business Delegation Trips

What is funded?	With Bayern International's business trips, you gain quick insights into promising international markets. In cooperation with local partners–such as embassies, Bavarian representations, foreign chambers of commerce, and other multipliers–these business trips offer opportunities to establish contacts with potential business partners. Programs include location briefings, company visits, meetings with associations, ministries, or participation in trade fairs/conferences. This helps you better understand the environment and conditions in your target country.
Further information	Bayern International GmbH **www.bayern-international.de**

Trade Fair Participation Program of Bayern International GmbH

What is funded?

Bavarian SMEs and start-ups can exhibit at international trade fairs under the umbrella of the Bavarian joint stand.
What to expect:

- → Complete trade show organization
- → Turnkey exhibition booth on-site
- → Uniform booth design
- → Lounge with communication area and premium placement
- → Market and industry information plus on-site briefing
- → Competent on-site support and interpreting service

Your participation in Bavarian joint stands is financially supported by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Further information

Bayern International GmbH
www.bayern-international.de

Go International

Who is eligible for funding?

SMEs with a place of business in Bavaria.

What is funded?

The development of internationalization strategies for the target market and specific measures for implementation—such as trade fairs, exhibitions, market entry consulting, advertising, business partner searches, or employee training. The project is supported by the Bavarian chambers of industry and commerce and the chambers of crafts, and is funded by the Free State of Bavaria and the EU's ERDF program.

How is funding provided?

Measures for accessing up to two new target markets can be supported with a subsidy of up to 40% (Greater Munich Area: 25%), with a maximum of €30,000 (Greater Munich Area: up to €20,000) per company and target market.

Further information

Bavarian Foreign Trade Portal – Go International
weltweit-erfolgreich.de

Bavaria – Fit for Partnership

What is funded?

The program helps you market innovations and technologies from Bavaria and position them as solutions to challenges in international markets.
International professionals and executives from business and public administration are invited to Bavaria for hands-on, industry-specific training. During these visits, they are introduced to your company, your products, and your solutions. The specific topics are developed by Bayern International in cooperation with expert partners in Germany and abroad, as well as Bavarian companies, tailored to the needs of the Bavarian economy.
"Bavaria – Fit for Partnership" is an international training program aimed at promoting exports and is financed by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Further information

Bayern International GmbH
www.bayern-international.de

Development Cooperation

What is funded?

The Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs supports knowledge transfer and network-building for professionals and executives from partner countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Key focus areas include renewable energy, environmental and climate protection, and food security. Each year, around 15 seminars are organized. Bavarian companies voluntarily take part in these seminars—either in Bavaria or in the partner countries.
In Bavaria, they offer site visits, explain production processes, and present their products and services. In the partner countries, professional lectures are given and company visits are arranged. This allows Bavarian companies to build deeper relationships with professionals and executives from the partner countries.

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.stmwi.bayern.de

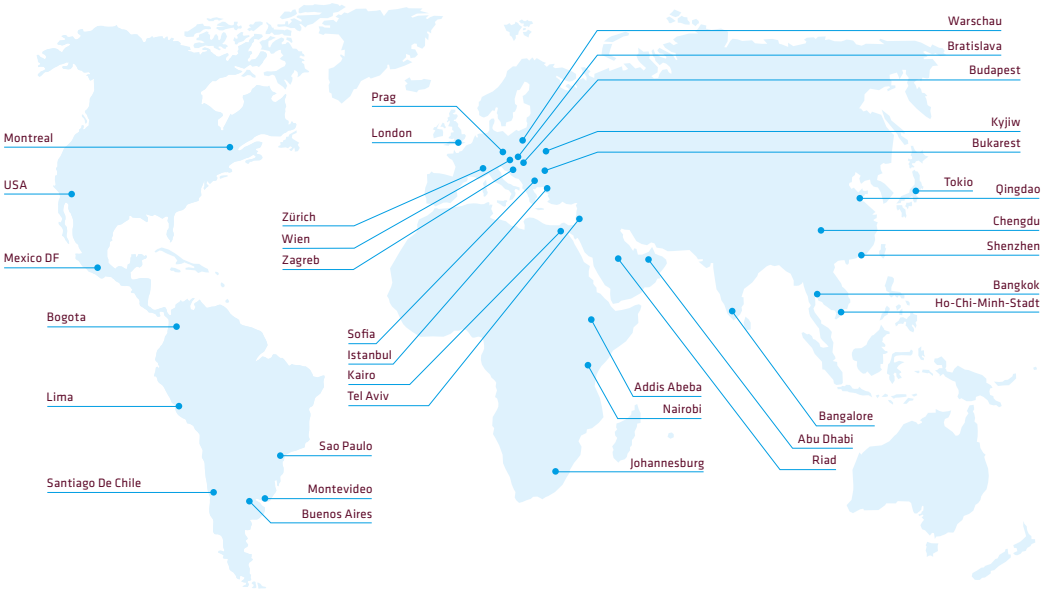
International Representations

What is funded?

Worldwide contacts: Since the mid-1990s, the Free State of Bavaria has built an international network of over 30 foreign representations. These serve Bavarian companies as German-speaking local contacts. They provide advice, information, and networking support–helping you tap into new export markets or develop and expand sales structures abroad.

Further information

Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy
www.bavariaworldwide.de



→ More information about the Bavarian foreign representations can be found on the interactive map provided by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy:

www.stmwi.bayern.de



Are You a Start-Up or Planning to Establish a Company?



In addition to the funding and financing options described in the previous chapters—which generally also apply to start-ups—there are further offerings tailored specifically to start-ups:

FLÜGGE

What is funded?

The program supports the pre-start and early-start phases of innovative business formation, particularly the development of market-ready innovative products and business models, and preparing them for launch. Specific examples include:

- Safeguarding an innovative—possibly digital—business model that leads to a sustainable company formation
- Projects that could not be completed under the EXIST funding program due to special technological challenges
- Technologically innovative and high-risk projects that are not eligible for support under the "EXIST Founder Grant"

How is funding provided?

- Monthly stipend for founders: €2,500 plus €150 per dependent child
- Reimbursement of university expenditures up to 50% of the total stipends issued for the project

Further information

Bayern Innovativ GmbH
www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/

Start Strong – With a Grant!

Who is eligible for funding?

Technology-oriented business start-ups in the field of digitalization are supported. The company must have a particularly future-proof, innovative business model, and the founding must have taken place no more than two years ago.

What is funded?

Funding is provided primarily for expenses related to rent and personnel, product launch, and research and development.

How is funding provided?

Funding covers 50% of eligible expenses for a period of one year, up to a maximum of €36,000.

Further information

Gründerland Bavaria
www.gruenderland.bayern

Early-Stage Fund of Bayern Kapital: Seed Fund

Who is eligible for funding?

Young Bavarian tech companies in the early stages of product development (max. 2 years old).

How is funding provided?

Support is provided in the form of equity investment from the fund (ticket size up to €750,000), along with access to a strong network of multipliers and accelerators.

Further information

Bayern Kapital GmbH – Early Stage
www.bayernkapital.de

Bayern Kapital Early-Stage Funds: Innovation Fund and ERDF II Innovation Fund

Who is eligible for funding?

Young Bavarian tech companies in the development phase (from the time of founding). An innovative business model and an internationally scalable growth strategy are required.

How is funding provided?

Support is provided through equity investments by the funds, with investment amounts of up to €8 million.

Further information

Bayern Kapital GmbH – Early Stage
www.bayernkapital.de

Bavarian Investment Corporation (Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH – BayBG)

How is funding provided?

BayBG provides equity capital through minority stakes and mezzanine financing, with customized solutions of up to €10 million.

Who is eligible for funding?

Start-ups, small and young companies, and business successions—especially in Bavaria.

What is funded?

Depending on the project, BayBG offers individual support options:

- As a venture capital provider, BayBG can act as lead investor, co-investor, or private counterpart for public funds.
- Small and young companies benefit from commitments primarily made as silent partnerships. These investments may be used, for example, for investments, working capital, or company takeovers.
- BayBG supports business successions with tailored solutions.
  One common model is the takeover of a company by executives (Management-Buy-Out = MBO), possibly supplemented by external managers (Management-Buy-In = MBI).

Further information

Bavarian Investment Corporation (Bayerische Beteiligungsgesellschaft mbH – BayBG)
www.baybg.de

ESA Business Incubation Centre (BIC) Bavaria

Who is eligible for funding?

Companies with innovative products and digital core competencies, either immediately before their founding or founded no more than three years ago.

What is funded?

Innovation and incubation in the commercial use of space technologies and/or infrastructures at the locations Oberpfaffenhofen, Ottobrunn, Neubiberg, Würzburg, and Nuremberg.

How is funding provided?

Financial support in the form of a €60,000 grant, as well as technical assistance and consulting.

Further information

ESA Business Incubation Centre Bavaria
www.esa-bic.de

BayStartUP

How is funding provided?

BayStartUP is Bavaria's start-up network for start-ups, investors, and industry. As the central institution for start-up financing in Bavaria, it supports innovative founders in building their companies and securing capital.
The following are offered:

- Business plan competitions with prize money totaling more than €85,000
- Workshops for start-ups
- Financing coaching that comprehensively prepares start-ups for their next funding round
- An active investor network with access to over 300 business angels and around 100 venture capital investors
- Cooperation between start-ups and industrial companies
- Start-up trade fairs and events (Start-up Demo Nights, pitch opportunities, investor conferences)

Further information

BayStartUP GmbH
www.baystartup.de

Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern) – Start-up and Business Succession

How is funding provided?

Long-term, low-interest loans combined with risk mitigation (liability waivers and guarantees). The loan product is applied for through the applicant's primary bank.

Who is eligible for funding?

Founding of commercial or freelance businesses, including business takeovers and active investments in Bavaria, within a 5-year start-up phase.

What is funded?

The following are eligible for financing:

- Investments in fixed assets, such as the purchase of land and buildings, construction and related costs, and operating and office equipment
- Purchases of goods and inventory
- Working capital, such as personnel costs, rent, and consulting fees

Further information

Bavarian Development Bank (LfA Förderbank Bayern)
www.lfa.de

Bavarian Program for the Promotion of Technology-Oriented Start-Ups (BayTOU)

Who is eligible for funding?	→ Individuals planning to start a technology-driven business → Technology-driven companies that have been in operation for less than six years, have fewer than ten employees, and meet the SME criteria
What is funded?	→ Development projects related to the launch of technology-driven companies → Concept development projects involving the creation of a viable, fully developed technology concept ready for evaluation
How is funding provided?	→ Up to 45% of eligible costs for development projects → For software development projects, grants are capped at €150,000 → Up to 35% of eligible costs for concept development projects, with a maximum of €26,000 for technology-related work during the concept phase
Further information	Bayern Innovativ GmbH **www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/**





Would You Like to Build Your Network?

Contacts to Other Companies and Institutions: Clusters and Other Industry-Specific Networks

What clusters and other networks are available?

Under the motto "Strong in Bavaria's Clusters #EfficientlyConnected," the Bavarian State Government supports 17 clusters and additional technology networks in key sectors and technology fields of the Bavarian economy. The task of clusters—as well as numerous other innovation networks—is to connect companies within a sector and with research institutions in order to deliberately promote the exchange of knowledge and ideas.

Who can participate?	Bavarian companies of all sizes—from specialized suppliers to producers to service providers—and research institutions. Small and medium-sized companies in particular stand to benefit.
What is supported?	Joining a cluster provides access to a close-knit expert network and offers advantages in the following areas: → Networking and collaboration → Technology scouting and knowledge transfer → Funding guidance and support → International expansion and business location marketing
Further information	**Bavarian Cluster Initiative (Cluster-Offensive Bayern) – Bavarian State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy** There is also a number of other industry-specific and technology-oriented networks that operate across Bavaria or in specific regions: **www.bayern-innovativ.de/en/**

Bavarian Clusters and a Selection of Thematically Related Innovation Networks:



Bayerisches
Staatsministerium für
Wirtschaft, Landes-
entwicklung und Energie

invest
in
bavaria

Contact

Invest in Bavaria –
The Business Promotion Agency of the Free State of Bavaria at
Bayern International GmbH

Rosenheimer Str. 143C
81671 Munich | Germany
Telephone: +49 89 24210-7500
Fax: +49 89 24210-7557
welcome@invest-in-bavaria.de

www.invest-in-bavaria.com/en