

## EIT STEM Tech Talent Induction

### Building Future-Ready STEM Talent – Call for Proposals FAQs

#### **What is EIT STEM Tech Talent Induction?**

EIT STEM Tech Talent Induction is an EIT initiative that aims to strengthen Europe's STEM talent pipeline by facilitating access to STEM education and careers for learners at different stages of their educational and professional journeys. This Call funds induction training that introduces learners to STEM subjects, technologies, skills or career pathways, helps them build initial competences, and inspires them to take their next steps in STEM learning, training or employment.

#### **What type of activities can be funded?**

The Call takes a flexible approach. Training can be delivered online, in person or in blended formats, for example as short introductory courses, STEM modules embedded in VET or higher education curricula, industry challenges and hackathons, regional STEM labs, bridge and re-induction programmes, or platform-based training. Courses are expected to include at least 10 hours of structured learning.

#### **Which STEM fields are covered?**

Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics (ISCED 05); Information and Communication Technologies (ISCED 06); and Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction (ISCED 07). Interdisciplinary activities are also welcome with a clear and substantive STEM component.

#### **Who are the target learners?**

The primary focus is on learners at ISCED levels 3–5, with particular attention to Vocational Education and Training (VET). However, ISCED Levels 6–7 – Bachelor's and Master's Education as well as Adult Learning and Lifelong Learning are also accepted. Projects are also expected to engage groups underrepresented in STEM. The Initiative aims to reach 30% of learners from RIS countries and 40% women and girls.

#### **When does the call open and close?**

The Call opens on 14 October 2026 and closes on 14 December 2026. Applicants are expected to receive the results in mid-February 2027. Projects are expected to start on 1 April 2027 and end by 31 December 2027.

#### **Who can apply?**

Applications must come from a consortium that includes at least one education provider (e.g. VET providers, schools, training providers, universities, NGOs, EdTech) and at least one business or industry partner (e.g. companies, startups, industry associations, digital innovation hubs, research centres). Any legal entity may take part, but to receive funding, beneficiaries must be established in an EU Member State, a country associated

to Horizon Europe or another eligible country listed in the Call. Membership of the 28DIGITAL KIC Partnership is not required.

**What is the funding model?**

The total budget is up to EUR 2,000,000, and up to 25 projects will be funded with a maximum of EUR 80,000 of EIT funding each. Funding reimburses actual costs and is paid in four instalments, linked to the approval of project deliverables and reports.

**How many learners must a project reach?**

Each project is expected to reach at least 1,200 participants. Applicants should propose a realistic, evidence-based target at or above this minimum.

**Which requirements should applicants pay attention to?**

All training must comply with the EIT STEM Tech Talent Induction core quality standard requirements, set out in the Annex section of the Call. At the end of the design phase, each programme undergoes a quality check before training is delivered.

**What is the proposal submission process?**

Your organisation needs a Participant Identification Code (PIC) from the EU Funding & Tenders Portal. Proposals must then be submitted in English via the submission system before the deadline.

**What makes a strong proposal?**

Strong proposals typically demonstrate:

- a clearly identified skills need and training co-created with industry
- a learning designed around the target learners with clear intended learning outcomes
- reaching underrepresented groups in STEM
- ambitious but realistic around participation targets
- have the potential to reuse, replicate or scale the training beyond the project
- have a feasible work plan and budget, and a consortium with the right expertise

**How are proposals evaluated?**

Proposals will be assessed based on: Excellence, Impact, and Quality and Efficiency of Implementation and lastly Strategic Fit.

**What happens if an application is incomplete?**

Incomplete applications, or applications submitted after the deadline, will be considered inadmissible.

**Can proposals be modified after submission?**

No. Only proposals selected for funding may be asked to make adjustments after the evaluation, within a set deadline.

**Will there be information sessions?**

Yes. Two online webinars will take place on 26 October 2026 and 19 November 2026.

Info session 1: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_-oNXtE6gTGCgpx8S0g9bew](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_-oNXtE6gTGCgpx8S0g9bew)

Info session 2: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_pT2izA77TqmBev8\\_Qd\\_R4w](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_pT2izA77TqmBev8_Qd_R4w)

**How can I get support or clarifications?**

Applicants can contact the 28DIGITAL team at [proposal\\_support@28digital.eu](mailto:proposal_support@28digital.eu) or Oana Neagu, Education Lead and Contact Point for the Call at [oana.neagu@28digital.eu](mailto:oana.neagu@28digital.eu)