



# Qualification of SMEs

(Individual operations)

**STAR'UP PME**  
Start smart.

PORTUGAL  
**2030**

## Qualification of SMEs (Individual operations)

### Areas of Intervention

Individual operations promoted by SMEs for business training aimed at qualifying and digitizing business models through the use of immaterial competitiveness factors.

### Eligible operations

- a) Organizational innovation, management and logistics;
- b) Digitization and digital transformation, including cybersecurity and data protection;
- c) Brand creation and design;
- d) Capacity building for the development of products, services and processes;
- e) Property protection;
- f) Property protection;
- g) Knowledge and technology transfer;
- h) Sustainability and eco-innovation.

### Duration of operations

24 months.

### Geographical area

Covered Mainland NUTS II regions (North, Center, Lisbon, Alentejo and Algarve).

**Note:** The location of the operation corresponds to the region where the beneficiary's establishment in which the investment will be made is located.

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### Financing rate

Co-financing Fund	Maximum co-financing rate
PITD – 12.000.000€	50%
PR Lisboa – 5.000.000€	40%
PR Algarve – 1.000.000€	50%
<b>Total – 18.000.000€</b>	

### Minimum and maximum investment amounts

Operations eligible for support must have a **minimum total eligible expenditure of 200,000 euros** and an intervention in **at least 2 immaterial areas of competitiveness** justifying the integrated approach supported by a strategic analysis of the company.

### Eligible entities

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), of any nature and in any legal form, with organized accounts.

### Eligible expenses

1. Costs of equipment necessary for the application of new organizational methods, including software, provided that they are used in the operation and during its implementation, and only if they are used exclusively in the beneficiary's establishment;
2. Salary costs for hiring qualified human resources, including the basic salary and the employer's compulsory social charges.

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Only the hiring of **up to 2 new qualified human resources (with a level of qualification equal to or greater than 6)** with specific skills in the innovation activities of the application is considered eligible, insofar as they are used in the project and during its implementation, with a **maximum limit of 2,250 euros for the basic monthly salary** and the following conditions must be met:

- a) It must correspond to salary costs during the execution of the project and for a maximum period of 24 months;
- b) It must be based on the existence of an employment contract between the worker and the beneficiary;
- c) The date of hiring is after the date of submission of the application;
- d) The workers to be hired have not had an employment relationship with the beneficiary company or its partner or associated companies during the 12 months prior to the date of the application;
- e) There is a net creation of jobs;

f) It does not correspond to jobs held by managers, directors and/or partners of the beneficiary companies;

- 3. Costs of specialized consultancy services, provided by external consultants, which do not constitute a continuous or periodic activity, nor are they related to the normal functioning of the beneficiaries, including expenses with the intervention of certified accountants or statutory auditors, in the validation of the expenditure of payment requests, costs associated with the certification of products, processes or services, costs of designing and registering new brands, costs associated with the domiciliation and subscription of applications, adherence to electronic platforms or inclusion in directories and search engines;
- 4. Costs of obtaining, validating and defending patents and other industrial property registrations;
- 5. This Notice does not cover the eligibility of investments with any costs incurred prior to the date of the application, including feasibility studies;
- 6. The costs of the intervention of certified accountants or statutory auditors, in validating the expenditure of payment requests, included in point c) of the previous Point, may not exceed 5,000 euros.

**Qualification of SMEs  
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## **Target audience**

Micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

# STAR'Γ\_PME

Start smart.



+351 808 500 130



+351 211 451 532



+351 221 451 003



info@start-pme.com



www.start-pme.com

LISBOA	Av. D. João II, Lote 1.07.2.1, Piso 0, 1990-096 Lisboa
PORTO	Praça Mouzinho de Albuquerque Nº 113 , 5º Andar, 4100-359 Porto
BRAGA	Avenida da Liberdade, Nº 615, 1º andar, 4710-251 Braga
PORTALEGRE	Rua 1º de Maio, Nº 81, Loja E, Piso 1, 7300-205 Portalegre
FARO	Campus da Penha, 8000-139, Faro
AÇORES	Avenida D. João III, Nº33, fração GH/GI, 9500-789 Ponta Delgada
MADEIRA	Rua das Mercês, 41, 9000-224 Funchal
RIO DE JANEIRO	Praça XV de Novembro, Nº 20, 20010-010 Rio de Janeiro
SÃO PAULO	Avenida Paulista, Nº 854, 10º andar, 01403-000 São Paulo

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Equações Exhaustivas Lda.

NIF 517467836  
Rua 1º de Maio, nº 81, Loja E,  
Piso 1 7300-205 Portalegre

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