

# **Guidelines for the donation reinforcement program, cf chapter 286, item 50, laid down by the Ministry of Education and Research on 22 December 2005.**

## **1. Introduction**

In conformity with the proposition in Report no 20 (2004-2005) to the Storting, *Commitment to Research*, a program has been established under which the State will contribute with 25 percent as a donation to reinforce the element of private research funding.

## **2. Allocation criteria, administration and method of calculation**

- The donation and the donation reinforcement must be used for long-term basic research.
- The donor may be enterprises, private individuals or foundations. Donations from NGO's, as defined in section 6-50 of the Norwegian Taxation Act, are also comprised by the program.
- The program only applies to donations given to the Research Council of Norway, the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, universities or university colleges entitled to award doctorates. If the donation is given to a university college entitled to award doctorates, the donation must be linked to this part of the college's activities.
- The donation must amount to at least NOK 5 million and must have been granted after 1 August 2004, but for foundations and NGO's after 1 June 2006.
- The donor may not subject research results to a clause on proprietary or other rights.
- The donation may not be used to commission research for direct use in the donor's own business activities. The donation is consequently not to be regarded for tax purposes as an income-related expense. The donor will only be allowed a deduction for the amount donated in his income tax if the requirements under section 6-42 of the Taxation Act have been met.
- The donor may not at the same time avail himself of the SkatteFunn-scheme for the amount donated.
- The donation reinforcement amounts to 25 percent of the amount donated.

## **3. Responsibility for managing the donation reinforcement program**

The Research Council of Norway will be responsible for managing the donation reinforcement scheme and will keep accounts for the payments.

The Research Council of Norway will be responsible for checking formalities in connection with the donee's request for payment.

## **4. Procedure**

The donor shall apply directly to the institution which is to receive the donation. The donor and the donee will agree, within the framework mentioned above, on what the donation is to be used for, how the donor's name should be linked to the donation, if applicable, how the

funds should be managed, how the donor will be kept informed of the use and management of the donation, etc.

As soon as the donee has registered the payment of the donation, he will forward a request to the Research Council of Norway for payment of the donation reinforcement amount, attaching copies of the agreement with the donor. This request must contain the following information:

- What the donation is to be used for
- The amount of the donation
- How the donation meets the criteria for triggering a donation reinforcement, cf item 2.1

The donee must guarantee that the donation and the donation reinforcement will be used in conformity with these guidelines, hereunder that the funds will be used for long-term basic research.

The Research Council of Norway will send a grant letter to the donee.

## **5. Registration and payment of donation reinforcements**

Registration of incoming requests and payments must be made pursuant to the financial routines of the Research Council of Norway.

The Research Council shall transfer the donation reinforcement to the donee as soon as the amount is covered by appropriations to the donation reinforcement program, cf Chapter 286, item 50 of the Government Budget.

Payments shall be made in the same order as the Research Council received the request. Payments may only be made from 2 January 2006 and for donations from foundations and NGO's from 2 January 2007.

If the requirements to a donation reinforcement have not been met, the Research Council may claim reimbursement of any wrongfully disbursed donation reinforcement.

## **6. Reports, audits and the administrator's control**

The donee shall submit a report on the use of the donation and the donation reinforcement, with accounts, to the Research Council of Norway when the funds have been exhausted, with a copy to the donor. In case of donations exceeding NOK 50 million, a report must in addition be submitted once a year. In cases where the Auditor General is not in charge of the ordinary audits, the accounts must be certified by a state-authorized public accountant or a registered public accountant. The Auditor General may check that the donation reinforcement received has been used in conformity with the guidelines.

The Research Council shall be entitled to control the accounts to ensure that the money has been used in conformity with the allocation criteria. Any supervisory measures shall be appropriately documented.