Measures to support companies

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STATE OF FRIBOURG
ETAT DE FRIBOURG
STAAT FREIBURG

Development Agency FDA
Promotion économique PromFR
Wirtschaftsförderung WIF

Support to Fribourg Companies

Non-repayable Grants >

Loans / Capital >

Coaching / Consulting >

START-UP

New markets

Seed

Venture capital

Fri Up

R&D, job grants, rent

Cautionnement Romand
(Western Switzerland's loan guarantee)

SME

platinn

Cantonal loan guarantee

Investment, studies, processes

LARGE COMPANIES

The Canton of Fribourg proposes a multitude of benefits to Fribourg companies, whether they be start-ups, SMEs or large companies with over 150 employees (FTE).

Some support measures have been designed to benefit all companies (linkage and referral service, the platinn network for coaching and strategic consulting, Cautionnement Romand (loan guarantee association), technology platforms, clusters and competence centers), while others are exclusively targeted at a certain category of companies (coordination, participation in covering rental costs, HR measures, process optimization, new markets, seed capital, venture capital, interest subsidies, tax incentives).

Only companies that meet the criteria of non-distortion of competition, along with that of innovation, value creation, and regional economic impact are eligible to benefit from the latter category of support measures. These criteria are defined in the Law on Economic Promotion (LPEc).

The granting of financial support and its overall value is assessed based on a business plan. Financial support of companies can be in the form of non-repayable grants or capital- or loan-financing measures.

SUPPORT MEASURES

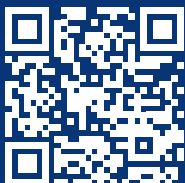| SUPPORT MEASURES	Start-up	SME	Large Company	Exclusive Support	TERMS AND CONDITIONS
PROJECT SUPPORT					
Advice and counsel (office space, buildings/land, work permits, schools, etc.)	✓	✓	✓		The FDA will direct you to the competent specialists from the private sector and public administration
Coordination	✓	✓	✓	✳	The FDA will coordinate your innovation or development project
COACHING					
Start-up support (Fri Up)	✓				Fri Up provides free advice to start-up companies and supports innovative projects
Coaching for companies (platinn)		✓	✓		platinn assists companies in their projects for innovation (business, partnerships, organization, financing)
PREMISES					
Fri Up hosting	✓				Fri Up proposes work space at advantageous prices
Rental subsidies	✓	✓		✳	Max. 50% of rental fees excluding charges for utilities (max. 3 years)
HR					
Grants for the creation of new jobs	✓	✓	✓	✳	Max. CHF 10,000 per job created during the first 3 to 5 years
Grants for training	✓	✓	✓	✳	Max. CHF 15,000 per job during the first 3 to 5 years
R&D					
R&D project (Innosuisse or validated by expert)	✓	✓		✳	Max. 50% of the company's costs (max. CHF 100,000)
Inter-company R&D project		✓	✓	✳	Max. 65% through the New Regional Policy, max. CHF 120,000
PROCESS OPTIMIZATION					
Industry 4.0 studies		✓		✳	Max. 50% of the fees (max. CHF 50,000) once every 3 years
Energy-efficiency analyses		✓		✳	
New business models (e.g., blockchain)	✓	✓		✳	
NEW MARKETS					
Market studies	✓	(✓)		✳	Max. 50% of costs (max. CHF 30,000 over 3 years) as a rule for companies with max. 50 FTE
Participation at trade fairs and exhibitions	✓	(✓)		✳	
Certifications, filing or extension of patents	✓	(✓)		✳	
FINANCING					
Seed capital (start up loan)	✓			✳	Loan as a rule for max. CHF 100,000 to develop prototype or conduct a market study
Venture capital	✓			✳	Acquisition of share-holding interests: max. CHF 750,000 for innovative or high-value-added projects
Western Switzerland's Loan Guarantee (Cautionnement Romand)	✓	✓	✓		Loan guarantee for investment, takeover, or transfer of a company (except agriculture)
Cantonal Loan Guarantee		✓	✓	✳	Loan guarantee for strategic investments linked to a company's takeover or acquisition
Interest subsidies		✓	✓	✳	Max. 1/3 of the interest charges at the market rate during 3 to 5 years
TAX INCENTIVES					
Cantonal and communal (municipal) tax relief measures	✓	✓	✓	✳	Partial or total tax exemptions are possible under certain conditions (max. 10 years)
Federal tax relief measures (depending on location)	✓	✓	✓	✳	Company must meet federal criteria and be established in one of the eligible municipalities
TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS					
BCC: Biofactory Competence Center	✓	✓	✓		Provides training, services, and research partnerships for the biopharmaceutical industry
SLL: Smart Living Lab	✓	✓	✓		Interdisciplinary research projects with researchers and companies in construction technologies
SICHH: Swiss Integrative Center for Human Health	✓	✓	✓		Provides solutions in the domains of medical technology, biotech, food tech and pharma
INNOSQUARE	✓	✓	✓		Fosters interaction between companies and institutions of higher learning (cf. clusters and competence centers)
CLUSTERS					Offer services fostering common know-how and companies' competitiveness:
Building Innovation Cluster	✓	✓	✓		Sustainable construction sector
Food & Nutrition Cluster	✓	✓	✓		Agri-food sector
Swiss Plastics Cluster	✓	✓	✓		Plastics sector
COMPETENCE CENTERS					Applied research programs between companies and academic institutions:
iPrint	✓	✓	✓		International competence center for digital printing processes and coating (training, research, and technological cooperation)
Plastics Innovation Competence Center	✓	✓	✓		Supports the plastics industry by developing innovative solutions
Rosas Center Fribourg	✓	✓	✓		Supports companies with respect to safety, security, reliability and maintainability of systems

START-UP

SME

LARGE COMPANY
As a rule, enterprises with over 150 FTEs

EXCLUSIVE SUPPORT ✳
Support provided exclusively to companies meeting the criteria of the Law on Economic Promotion (LPEc)

Law on Economic Promotion LPEc:
http://bdlf.fr.ch/data/900.1/fr (French version)

http://bdlf.fr.ch/data/900.1/de (German version)

Regulation on Economic Promotion RPEc:
http://bdlf.fr.ch/data/900.11/fr (French version)

http://bdlf.fr.ch/data/900.11/de (German version)

The Fribourg Development Agency FDA will be glad to provide you with any further information you may require, details on the various measures of support provided, and introduction to the right partner.

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