# SPIN: Rise 2026 – Call for proposals FAQs

- **What is SPIN?**
  SPIN is a hybrid entrepreneurial training and pre-incubation programme which aims to equip Deep Tech researchers with the skills and knowledge to unlock the commercial potential of their work. This programme serves as a bridge between academic research and industrial impact, empowering researchers to explore pathways for Intellectual Property (IP) valorisation through licensing, industry partnerships and venture creation.

- **Who can apply?**
  Admissimibility, eligibility and exclusion criteria for applicants are defined in the SPIN: Rise 2026 call document. Proposers must be or become partners of 28DIGITAL once selected. For organisations that are not yet partners, please see partnership models for more information about joining 28DIGITAL.

- **How to participate?**
  You can participate by submitting a proposal for the delivery of a SPIN: Rise programme electronically via the 28DIGITAL submission system. Please read the SPIN: Rise 2026 document carefully for detailed guidelines.

- **When is the Call open?**
  - Call for proposals opening date: 16 January 2026
  - Submission deadline: 17 March 2026 at 17:00 CET (hard deadline, no extension will be granted).

- **What should the proposals present?**
  The proposals should present a 7-week hybrid programme for researchers, with a training and mentoring online component, followed by an in-person bootcamp. Proposals should define how they will support researchers with innovations at a low TRL in developing entrepreneurial skills and exploring the commercial potential and valorisation pathways for their Intellectual Property (IP).

- **What topic should the proposal be about?**
  Applicants should specify in their proposal **one** of the SPIN: Rise areas of interest, which they are looking to deliver the programme for. The fourth topic allows applicants to propose a sector of their choosing, in addition to the three already specified:
  1. **Green Innovation and Sustainable Technologies**
  2. **Dual-Use Innovation and Strategic Capabilities**
  3. **Health Technologies and Human-Centred Innovation**
  4. **Other topic**

- **Where should the programme take place?**

The in-person component of selected SPIN: Rise programmes should take place in an easily accessible European location, to facilitate travel logistics for participants.

- **When should the programme take place?**
Organisers commit to running SPIN: Rise programmes between September and December 2026. SPIN: Rise has a total duration of 7 weeks, from kick-off to closing event.

- **What happens after the proposal is selected?**
If your proposal is selected, 28DIGITAL will co-invest in your plan to jointly develop and deploy a SPIN: Rise programme in a hybrid format, as specified in the call document. Accepted proposals should be ready to start in May 2026.

- **What is the timeline for submission of a proposal?**
  - Submission system opens: 16 January 2026
  - Information session: February 2026
  - Proposal submission closes: 17 March 2026
  - Feedback to selected/rejected activities: 21 April 2026
  - Appeal window (5 days): 28 April 2026
  - Proposal adjustments window (5 business days): 28 April 2026
  - Activities start: 21 May 2026

- **What is the funding model?**
The total call value is €340,000 of EIT funding, to fund up to four proposals depending on the quality of the submissions. Maximum EIT funding per proposal: €85,000. The co-funding requirement for the Partner at the Activity level is minimally 30% of the total budget of the KIC Added Value Activity (KAVA).

- **How can I get support or clarifications?**
Applicants can contact the 28DIGITAL Team at **spin@28digital.eu**.