

## NWO domain TTW cleanroom regulation

Advanced, expensive infrastructure is vital for research and development, and the use of cleanrooms can be crucially important in this respect. In view of the nature of this specialised infrastructure, NWO domain Applied and Engineering Sciences (NWO domain TTW) decided in consultation with the research field to review, in line with existing legislation, how the financial complexity and challenges associated with the use of cleanrooms could be made simpler in terms of remuneration and declarations. As a result of this review, NWO domain TTW has compiled the following cleanroom regulation with respect to declarations and remuneration.

### Aim

The aim of the cleanroom regulation is to simplify and clarify costs related to cleanroom use so that it is easier for researchers to include these costs in research proposal budgets. This decreases the administrative burden for researchers and funding bodies so that more time and energy can be devoted to research and innovation, which is ultimately what we are here for.

### Coverage

The cleanroom regulation covers the actual costs that are fundable within research financed by indirect government funding. This includes consumables, materials and the use of specialist personnel. Research institutions remain responsible for the basic infrastructure (NWO Act).

### Remuneration

The remuneration for the use of the cleanroom infrastructure within projects funded by NWO domain TTW assuming the temporary personnel appointed to the NWO domain TTW project:

- Maximum €82/hour\*
- Minimum annual budget 10 k€/year\*\*
- Maximum annual budget 25 k€/year\*\*\*

### Determination of hourly rate

NWO domain TTW has based the hourly rate on the average hourly rate for the cleanrooms of the technical universities within the NanoLabNL locations. NanoLabNL is part of the Roadmap for Large-Scale Research Facilities and as such it received funding on 1 July 2014 from the State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science (OCW) and the chair of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO). In this capacity, NanoLabNL functions as the national cleanroom infrastructure within which high-value, expensive infrastructure for the entire Dutch research community is offered.

The hourly rate used by NWO domain TTW for the cleanroom regulation is in agreement with the public rate as stated on [www.nanolabnl.nl](http://www.nanolabnl.nl). For the further simplification of the cleanroom regulation NWO domain TTW therefore follows the NanoLabNL rate that is determined once every two years.

### \*Maximum hourly rate

The hourly rate is a maximum based on the actual costs. If the actual costs for the use of the cleanroom are lower than this then only this lower actual rate can be used. If the hourly rate for a cleanroom is unexpectedly higher than the maximum set then NWO domain TTW can and shall remunerate solely the costs up to the maximum amount.

**\*\*Minimum annual budget**

In exceptional cases the disproportionate use of research infrastructure can be financed from indirect government funding. Therefore a minimum of 10 k€/year applies. Under this threshold value no remuneration will take place and above this threshold the costs will be fully remunerated.

**\*\*\* Maximum annual budget**

The maximum amount that can be declared per year with respect to cleanroom costs is 25 k€/year.

**Condition**

If you wish to make use of the cleanroom regulation then you should state this in the research proposal under the project budget. The number of hours needed against the prevailing (maximum) hourly rate should be stated under the material credit. If requested, the institution the applicant works at must be able to provide an audit statement approved by the accountant which demonstrates that the actual costs are equal to the rate used (up to the maximum of the cleanroom regulation rate).

**Scope**

This cleanroom regulation replaces all old and current 'cleanroom regulations'.