

Specification of bench fee

The Faculty of Technical Sciences uses bench fees to pay for shared research facilities and research support. The bench fee applies to all researchers (incl. post docs and PhD students) in the faculty's departments and research centers.

The bench fee is calculated at department level based on full-time employment, FTE, and cover the cost of:

- Common or shared laboratory expenses and consumables
- Use and maintenance of shared equipment
- Research facility management and basic utilities
- Basic technical support
- Basic IT support

The bench fee does not cover all indirect costs related to research projects. Costs that are not covered by the bench fee include administrative costs, PhD tuition fees, salary for technical support staff working directly for the research project, purchase of new project-specific instruments or infrastructure, building costs or rent.

Kind regards

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Calculation of bench fees for Tech departments for applications to the Novo Nordisk Foundation – estimates 2021

Costs per VIP+PHD per month DR1, Public Sector Consultancy departments, estimate 2021

	Common or shared laboratory expenses and consumables	Research facility management and basic utilities	Use and maintenance of shared equipment	Basic technical support	Basic IT support	Total per VIP per month
ECOS	2.282		913	5.536	982	9.713
ENVS	3.363		2.088	7.634	982	14.067
AGRO	6.681		1.829	11.998	982	21.490
ANIS	12.330		4.117	17.888	982	35.317
FOOD	3.258		3.919	2.231	982	10.390
QGG	187		174	1.167	982	2.509

Costs per VIP+PHD (Excl. Engineering-VIP) per month DR1, Engineering departments, estimate 2021

	Common or shared laboratory expenses and consumables	Research facility management and basic utilities	Use and maintenance of shared equipment	Basic technical support	Basic IT support	Total per VIP per month
BCE	7.272		2.280	6.582	982	17.115
ECE	3.729		678	2.923	982	8.313
CAE	2.623		1.402	1.928	982	6.936
MPE	4.691		6.064	6.225	982	17.962

Bench fees apply to all research projects and are covered by external funding (via overheads or direct budget posts), or department co-financing in cases where the research is internally funded or where the external funding source cannot cover bench fees.

The costs included in the bench fee are calculated by distributing costs at the relevant departments (average monthly posted costs in 2020/21) equally across all researchers (i.e., number of FTE researchers incl. post docs and PhD students).

The bench fee does not cover all indirect costs related to research projects. Costs that are not covered by the bench fee include administrative costs, PhD tuition fees, salary for technical support staff working directly for the research project, purchase of new project-specific instruments or infrastructure, building costs or rent.

The cost categories cover:

Common or shared laboratory expenses and consumables:

Includes operating expenses in shared laboratories or other research facilities (e.g., costs for basic laboratory materials and gasses delivered by department).

Research facility management and basic utilities:

Includes cleaning and basic usage (electricity, heating and water) for research area per FTE researcher (estimated average usage). Cost does not include rent or other building expenses.

Use and maintenance of shared equipment:

Includes depreciation and costs for maintaining laboratory instruments and machines that are shared at department level and not paid directly by research projects.

Basic technical support:

Includes basic technical support delivered by departments, such as safety monitoring and training, handling of chemicals, cleaning of glassware etc. Cost does not include administrative support.

Basic IT support

Includes basic services from NAT-TECH and AU-IT support, such as machine and software installation, continuous IT support, and basic licenses.