SYNAPSE Open Call – FAQs

When is the deadline for SYNAPSE Open Call submission?
The SYNAPSE Open Call closes on December 19th, 2025, 17:00 CET (Brussels time). Late submissions will not be accepted.

Who can apply to SYNAPSE Open Call?
✔ Organizations operating digital infrastructure with an interest in adopting and using advanced and innovative cybersecurity solutions (Open Call Beneficiary Type A).
✔ SMEs operating on the supply-side of cybersecurity technological solutions and services (Open Call Beneficiary Type B).

How much is the maximum grant amount?
The SYNAPSE budget for the Open Call, totally 700,000€, will be distributed as follows:
✔ The one selected end-user (Open Call Beneficiary Type A) will be funded with up to 300,000€.
✔ The two selected SMEs (Open Call Beneficiaries Type B) will be funded with up to 200,000€ each.
Financial support will be granted as a lump sum and will be calculated as 100% of the eligible costs, which include Personnel costs, Travel and subsistence costs, Equipment costs (depreciation) and Other goods, works and services costs. A flat rate of 10% for overheads will be applied.

How do I submit a proposal?
All proposals must be submitted via the F6S platform. You must complete the online form and upload the required documents.

What kind of documents are required from applicants at this stage of the application process?
At the application stage, applicants must submit only two documents: a) the Proposal, and b) the Proposal's Budget. The two templates can be found on the SYNAPSE website.

Do the instructions provided count toward the 6-page limit of the Proposal Submission Template?
No. Applicants should remove the instructional text from the Proposal Submission Template before submission.

Can I submit the proposal in a language other than English?
No. English is the only accepted language for submission. Proposals not written in English will be rejected.

Can a proposal be submitted by a consortium?
No. Only individual entities are eligible to apply. Consortium applications will not be accepted.

How will the intellectual property rights associated with the tools provided be handled within the scope of SYNAPSE Open Call?
Results are owned by the third party that generates them. In the case of joint ownership with a SYNAPSE beneficiary, the joint owners shall endeavour in good

faith, within 3 months from the generation of the joint result to sign a written joint ownership agreement regarding the allocation of ownership, the terms of exercising, exploiting, protecting and cost sharing of protection of the jointly owned result.

From which countries can an entity apply for SYNAPSE Open Call?
Entities are eligible to apply if they are legally established in one of the following:
● EU Member States.
● Associated Countries (as listed in the most recent update published by the European Commission).
● Third Countries (as specified in the latest eligible country list published by the European Commission).

What are the evaluation criteria?
Proposals will be evaluated based on Excellence, Impact and Implementation. Each criterion is scored 0–5. There is a minimum threshold of 3.0 (out of 5.0) per criterion, as well as an overall threshold (sum of all three) 10.0 (out of 15.0). Proposals that don't meet both thresholds are not eligible for funding.

When will I be informed about the application's results?
All applicants will be informed of the results of the evaluation process by email in January 2025. The selected projects will also be published on the information channels of the SYNAPSE project.

In case I am selected, when do I start the project?
Selected applicants will start execution in February 2026.

How and when will the selected proposals get paid?
Payments shall be made in three (3) installments: up to thirty-five percent (35%) at M3 of Open Call, up to thirty-five percent (35%) at M6 of Open Call and up to thirty percent (30%) at M9. The payment schedule may be subject to revision in the contract and successful completion of the deliverables.