COVID-19 Fast Track for Computing Time Call

Computing time on National Computer Facilities is a funding scheme that grants researchers and research groups access to national advanced computational facilities, CPU and GPU cores including the necessary storage, software and technical expertise.

Fighting COVID-19 requires extensive research contributing to our understanding of the coronavirus (COVID-19) and our ability to respond to the pandemic.

Given the urgency and overall public importance of COVID-19 research, NWO and SURF launch a COVID-19 Fast Track as part of this Compute Call. For research on this topic, a shortened application process will operate, aiming to provide access to national high performance computing and data infrastructure for research.

Who can apply?

Every researcher affiliated with one of the institutions (listed here) also eligible for the regular call for Computing Time can apply for this special accelerated application track.

When to apply?

The Fast Track is currently available and is valid up to and including 30 June 2020.

Budget

The available budget for the COVID-19 Fast Track is limited to a maximum of 20% of the budget of the call Computing Time on National Computer Facilities 2020.

What can be applied for?

The same national advanced facilities are available as described in the regular call for Computing Time. The computing facilities are: HPC Cloud CPU/GPU, Lisa compute cluster, Cartesius Supercomputer (or successor) CPU/GPU, Data Processing (Grid/Spider) and/or Custom Cloud Solutions (Kubernetes/MS4). The necessary storage, assistance with software setup and technical expertise can also requested with each of these facilities.

Please be aware that this call is exclusively focussing on studies supplementary to existing RIVM and WHO studies. At the moment RIVM and WHO are overwhelmed by COVID-19 research. Therefore, the studies applied for should not interfere with or duplicate the RIVM and WHO studies, nor should they call on resources of these organizations.

How to apply?

- Applicants can apply directly via SURF for the COVID-19 Fast Track for Computing Time by filling out the digital application form on the SURF website. You can create an application account directly in the request portal.
- Describe in your proposal how your proposed work contributes to our understanding of COVID-19 and/or improves the nation's ability to respond to the pandemic. You are asked to motivate your choice of subject. Please demonstrate that the proposed study is supplementary to existing RIVM and WHO studies and will not duplicate or interfere with those studies, nor call on resources of these organizations.
- Your application will also be send to NWO for Fast Track assessment of your motivation and description of our subject.
- SURF aims to inform applicants about approval of grants within working 3 days after submission of their proposal.
- It is expected that applicants who receive resources will publish their results in the open scientific literature.

Questions?

SURFsara can provide assistance to researchers interested in filling out an application. Please contact helpdesk@surfsara.nl in case you require such assistance and please mention the 'COVID-19 Fast Track'.