

m⁴ Award 2025

create the future of medicine



Bayerisches Staatsministerium für
Wirtschaft, Landesentwicklung und Energie
www.stmwi.bayern.de

m4 Award 2025 – create the future of medicine



It is the vision of the Bavarian biotechnology cluster to establish itself as one of the world's leading locations for precision medicine - the medicine of the future.



m⁴ Award



Bio^M - Accelerating Medical Innovation



Vision

Bavaria
the place for the medicine of the future

Mission

Bio^M creates a unique ecosystem in biotechnology & medicine to accelerate innovation, growth and value creation in Bavaria



Bio^M - Biotechnology Cluster Management in a nutshell



Non-profit organization funded by the state of Bavaria

Connecting life science players from academia to pharma since 1997

Representing Bavarian biotechnology world-wide

Attracting international investors and industrial partners

Supporting start-ups and SME

Coaching for founders

Providing incubator space especially for pre-seed activities (MAxL)



Bio^M for Start-ups - from idea to success



Start-Up Coaching

100+ sessions per year



Mentor Circle

80+ mentors



BioEntrepreneur Bootcamp

90 teams since 2011



Pitch Training

2 trainings per year



BioAngels Investors Network

300+ contacts



m⁴ Award

32 projects, 17 spin-offs



**Munich Accelerator Life
Sciences & Medicine – MAxL**

Munich Accelerator Life Sciences & Medicine: MAxL



Unique co-creation start-up incubator for the future of medicine and planetary health located at European hotspot for biotech (Innovation and Founder Center Martinsried)



Teams to get **productive exchange with peers**, early buyer contact, project development according to industry standards, access to essential network and resources, access to financing



Exclusive high-end infrastructure: shared lab space, co-working and community space pre-seed and early start-up teams from Bavaria and beyond



Public-private financing model (2023-2027: 8.5 Mio. EUR from Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs)



MAxL support program: education, events, community



Best of breed pre-seed / early startup teams, restrictive selection process



Structured incubation process



Partnerships with pharma, big biotech, deeptech and other industry players and strategic partners, CROs and investors

MUNICH ACCELERATOR
LIFE SCIENCES & MEDICINE



m⁴ Award - strengthening the Bavarian life science sector with spin-offs



- The m⁴ Award was initiated by Bio^M and is funded since 2011 by the Bavarian State Ministry for Economic Affairs, Regional Development and Energy (StMWi)
- The StMWi supports measures to intensify and accelerate the positive development of the life sciences in Bavaria to strengthen the competitiveness of the Bavarian economy
- Goal of the m⁴ Award is the accelerated transfer of excellent research results in medical biotechnology into innovative products and technologies and successful exploitation in the form of successful spin-offs / startups



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m⁴ Award – at a glance



2011

initiated by Bio^M

500k

funding per project

24

months funding period

7

calls

290+

applications

33

funded projects

17

spin-offs

1

affiliate programme:
Medical Valley Award

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m⁴ Award – 17 spin-offs since 2011

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medigene



TUBULIS

smartban

T-CURX



Toleris



... and more to come...!

m⁴ Award – 17 spin-offs since 2011

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**> 400 Mio EUR private capital
raised so far**

Tubulis – a m⁴ Award success story



Write your own success story and apply now!



- Teams of scientists at Bavarian universities, university clinics and non-university research institutions are eligible to apply. The receiving institution is the recipient of the grant.
- Research and development projects that can no longer be assigned to basic research are eligible for funding. Only individual projects with spin-off potential are funded, no joint projects.

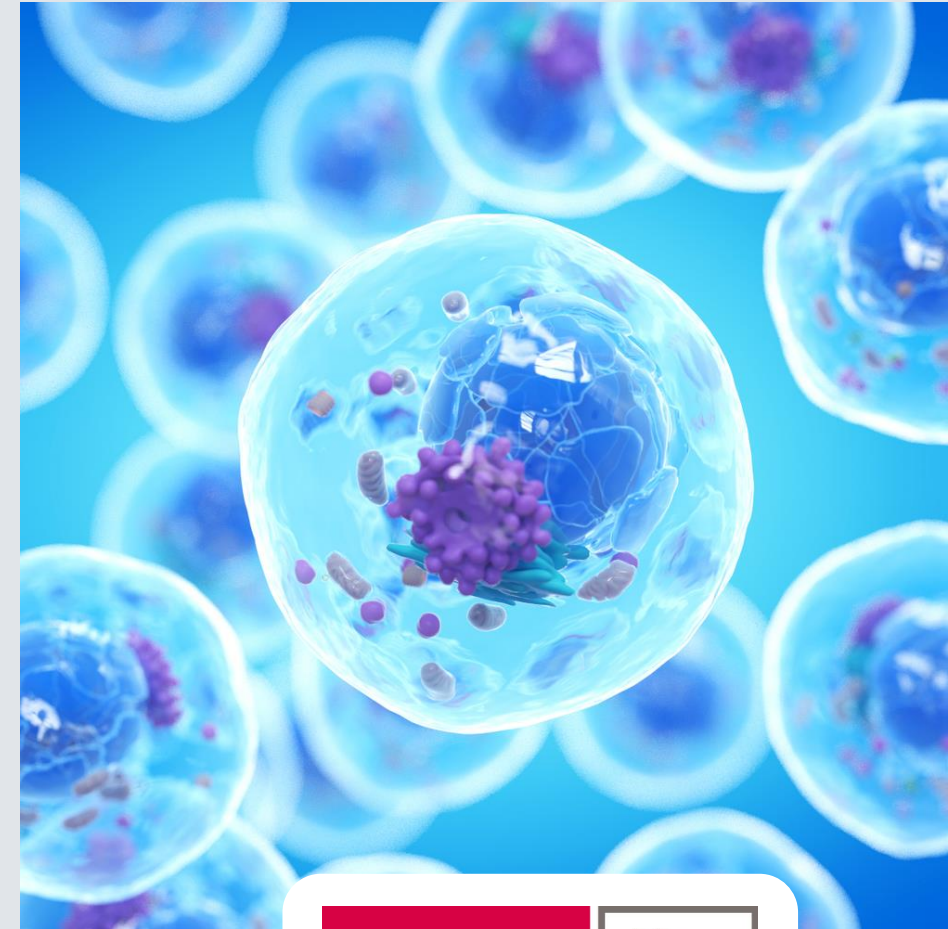


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Topics

- innovative **therapeutics** (all modalities, including NCEs, biologicals, ATMPs, vaccines)
- innovative **platform technologies in drug discovery and development** (including approaches based on the application of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning)
- innovative **platform technologies in the field of prediction, prognosis, or diagnostics** in biotechnology (including approaches based on the application of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning)
- innovative approaches in the field of **digital health** in biotechnology (especially if there is potential for reimbursement by the cost bearers within the framework of the DVG Digital Care Act).



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Process



Stage I: Apply with a short project description (5 pages, German or English) via our application portal. The applications are checked formally and thematically in an internal selection meeting and recommendations are made for the creation of a full project outline. You will receive comprehensive advice from Bio^M.



Stage II: Apply with a full project outline (15 pages, German) via our application portal. The m⁴ Award jury of industry experts and investors assesses the applications, selected projects are invited to a jury presentation.



Present your project to the m⁴ Award jury. Based on the applications and the presentations, the m⁴ Award jury recommends up to 5 promising projects for funding.



The **5 selected winner projects formally apply** via the project management agency Jülich (PtJ).

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Application platform



<https://m4award2025.alpha-awards.com/ui/auth>



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Herzlich willkommen im Registrierungsportal des m4 Award.

Bitte registrieren Sie sich, um Ihre Bewerbung
einzureichen!

Im Anschluss an die Registrierung erhalten Sie
eine Registrierungsmail.

Bitte bestätigen Sie diese und füllen Sie das
Profil aus.

LOGIN

Login

Registrieren

[Passwort vergessen?](#)

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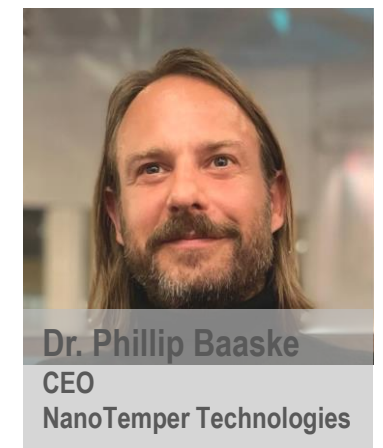
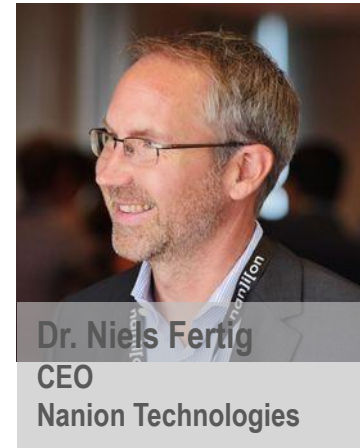
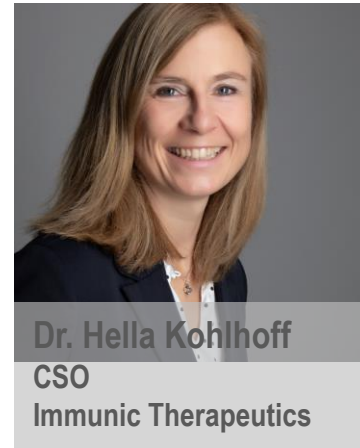
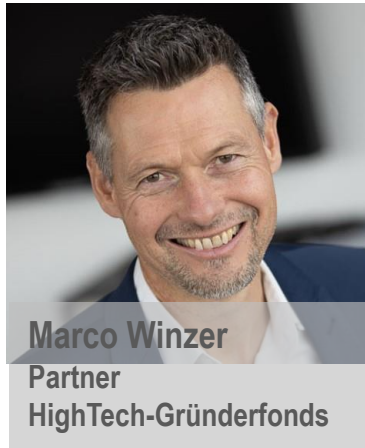


Important deadlines

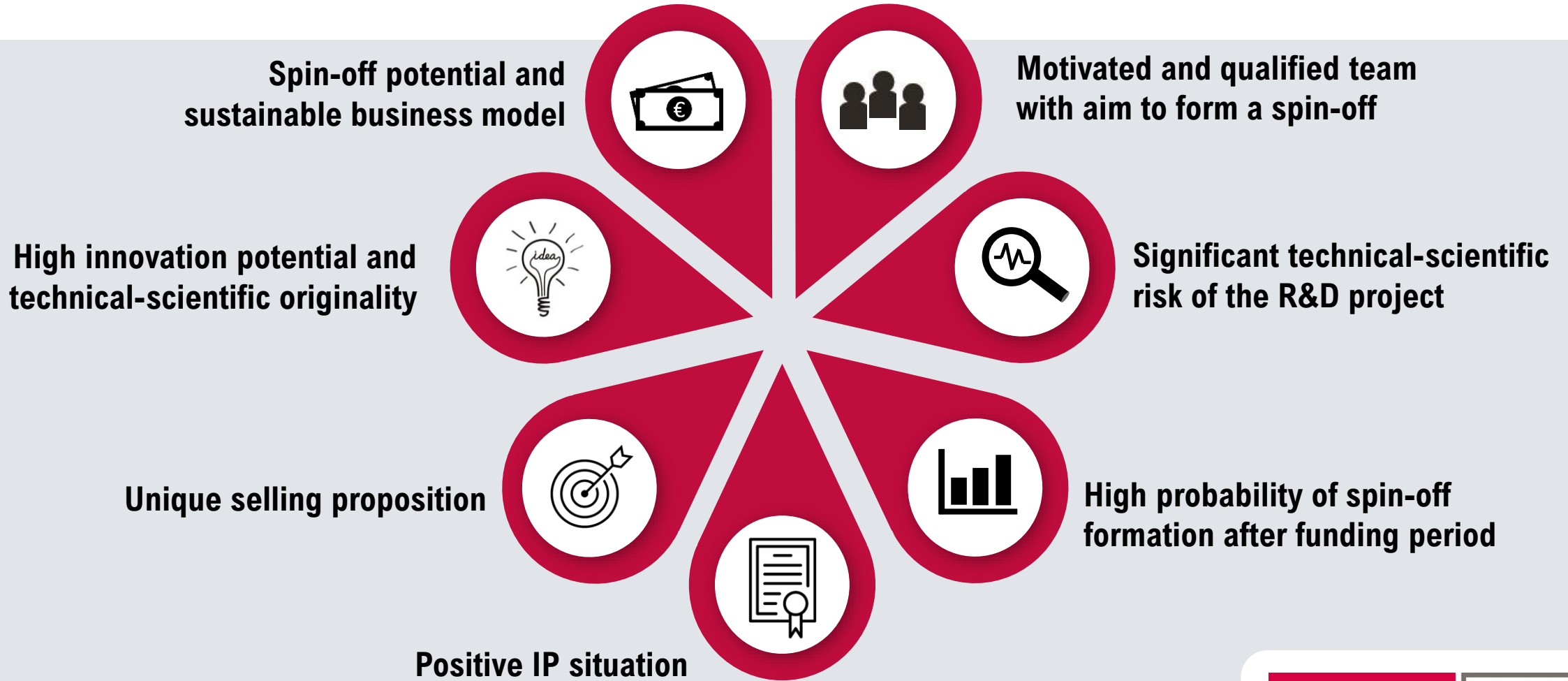
- Deadline short project descriptions (stage I) **November 21, 2024**
- Information event stage II January 9, 2025
- Deadline project outlines (stage II) **February 13, 2025**
- Pitch training for jury presentation KW 19
- Jury presentation **May 13, 2025**
- Award ceremony July 2, 2025
- PtJ applications of 5 winners July-Sept, 2025
- Project start **November 2025 (tbc)**



m⁴ Award jury



Selection criteria



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Funding amount, funding rate and duration

- A **maximum of €500,000** in funding per project.
- **State universities:** allocation (Zuweisung); full financing or partial financing with **up to 100%** of the eligible expenses within the framework of project funding
- **Non-university research institutions and university clinics:** Partial financing through grants as part of project funding (**up to 90%** of eligible expenses or costs)
- Funding period should not exceed **24 months** (possibly extension by 6 months in the event of unforeseeable delays)
- Start of the funding period: 1st of the month in which personnel expenses are incurred. Expenditures or costs incurred beforehand cannot be taken into account.
- Up to **5 winning teams per competition round** can be supported.

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Eligible expenses or costs

- **Personnel expenses**; these should outweigh the other project-related expenses
- **Other operating expenses (material, supplies, etc.)** that arise directly from research and development activities
- **Expenditure on contract research**, technical knowledge (but: expenditure on contract research must not exceed personnel expenditure)
- **Expenses for intellectual property rights** acquired directly or under license from third parties
- **Expenditure for consulting** and equivalent services that are used exclusively for the research and development project (external services)
- **Expenditures for instruments and equipment** to the extent and for as long as they are used for the research project.
- **Travel expenses** amounting to up to 2% of personnel expenses according to BayRKG
- **Not eligible:** expenses for rent, other depreciation and administrative overheads.



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Stage I: short project description

I. Executive Summary

II. Profile of the future Spin-Off

- Business idea and business model
- Market and competition
- Unique selling propositions (USPs)
- IP situation and IP strategy
- Founder team

III. Outline of the planned R&D project

- Development status and scientific-technical work goals of the project
- Work plan and financial planning
- Project team R&D project

Follow the link to the application platform on www.m4-award.org:

5 pages, Arial 11, spacing 1.5 lines; German or English

Additional material:
CV of project leader



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Intellectual Property Rights (IP) – contact your TTO!



- In stage II, the responsible technology transfer office or the receiving institution must confirm that
 - (a) any existing intellectual property rights or patent applications relevant to the project (insofar as these are held by the receiving institution) - are free of third-party rights, and
 - (b) both the project-relevant existing intellectual property rights and new inventions/property rights or know-how generated during the funding period are made available to the future spin-off exclusively at standard market conditions in accordance with the funding principles for the m⁴ Award.
- Therefore, please contact your technology transfer office already at an early stage and clarify whether they will support your spin-off project!
- Intellectual property rights / patents or proprietary know-how are usually a necessary condition for commercialization in the high-tech sector!



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Your contact



We are happy to support you regarding your application!



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Your contact in Regensburg and Würzburg



We are happy to support you regarding your application!



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