

Innovate UK Funding Calls

Edition: December 2017
(v2 – updated 13.12.17)

Innovate UK focuses on thematic areas that are most likely to generate UK economic growth and which address global challenges and opportunities – and on competencies and technologies which enable innovation in these areas.

In making investments they apply four key criteria:

- Is there a large (global) market opportunity?
- Does the UK have the capability to develop and exploit the technology?
- Is the idea 'ready' – is the timing right?
- Can Innovate UK make a difference?

Most of these calls are costed on a total project basis, with the funder then meeting a percentage of that cost. The percentage will depend on a number of factors including the length of the project, the total project cost and the size of the company.

Calls are announced on a regular basis and this document is updated monthly. If you have an idea or a challenge that meets the criteria for funding and where you think the University can help, come and talk to us. You can contact the Business Team at: businessteam@contacts.bham.ac.uk

Further detail for all of the following calls can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-funding-innovation>

To make this document as informative as possible the following colour coding relates to competition deadlines:

Deadlines which have past

Competition deadlines occurring this month

Competitions which are opening shortly

Competition deadlines which occur outside of this month



Emerging and Enabling Technologies

Emerging Technologies finds and proves early stage technologies, often from the research base; Enabling Technologies supports underpinning technologies that have the potential to disrupt a broad swathe of products and services across many sectors

No current calls

Health and Life Sciences



Innovate UK's Health and Life Sciences sector group has a focus on agriculture and food and healthcare, underpinned by technologies developed in bioscience and medical research and enabled by expertise in engineering and physical sciences

NEW

**Biomedical Catalyst
round 4: late stage
award**

Call budget: £8 million

Lead applicant: UK-based

Scope

- The aim of the Biomedical Catalyst is to support the development of innovative healthcare products, technologies and processes. These can include:
 - disease prevention and proactive management of health and chronic conditions
 - earlier and better detection and diagnosis of disease, leading to better patient outcomes
 - tailored treatments that either change the underlying disease or offer potential cures
- **The aim of this award is to support projects which test a well-developed concept and show its effectiveness in an environment that is relevant to the use if the product or**

<p>SME</p> <p>Academic-led projects should be submitted via MRC.</p>	<p>process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Biomedical Catalyst has 4 types of funding award: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ feasibility ○ primer ○ early stage ○ late stage ▪ This competition is designed to help SMEs developing a product or process to provide an innovative solution to a health and care challenge. <p>Funding and decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects must be led by a UK-based SME and can be in collaboration with other UK SMEs or Research Organisations ▪ For all research organisations: that maximum level of project participation is 50% of total eligible project costs. ▪ Projects are expected to range in size from £200,000 to £4million and last between 12 and 36 months.
<p>Competition closes</p>	<p>7 February 2018</p>
<p>*NEW*</p> <p>Biomedical Catalyst round 4: primer award</p> <p>Call budget: £4 million</p> <p>Lead applicant: UK-based SME</p> <p>Academic-led projects should be submitted via MRC.</p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The aim of the Biomedical Catalyst is to support the development of innovative healthcare products, technologies and processes. ▪ This is a competition for a primer award. The aim of this award is to conduct a technical evaluation of your idea through to proof of concept in a model system. <p>Funding and decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects must be led by a UK-based SME and can be in collaboration with other UK SMEs or Research Organisations ▪ For all research organisations: that maximum level of project participation is 50% of total eligible project costs. ▪ Projects are expected to range in size from £200,000 to £4million and last between 12 and 36 months.
<p>Competition closes</p>	<p>7 February 2018</p>



Infrastructure Systems

The Infrastructure Systems sector group covers the major global market opportunities in optimising transport and energy systems and integrating these with other systems such as health and digital in an urban context

<p>*NEW*</p> <p>Sector competition: Infrastructure Systems (Strand 2)</p> <p>Call budget: £19 million (across Infrastructure Systems and Manufacturing Materials)</p> <p>Lead applicant: Any UK business or RTO</p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The aim of this Infrastructure Systems strand is to encourage innovation in infrastructure systems that provide critical services for our economy, environment and society. ▪ Proposals must improve business growth and productivity or create export opportunities for at least one UK SME involved in the project. <p>Competition themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Smart Infrastructure – bringing the digital and physical worlds together ▪ Urban Living – address challenges citizens face in urban areas ▪ Energy supply and systems – innovations that improve value proposition, energy affordability and security, and reduce emissions ▪ Connected transport - solutions that move people and goods more efficiently, and make transport more secure, user-centric and accessible <p>Funding and deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applications must be led by a business or RTO all projects must include at least one SME. ▪ SMEs can be the sole applicants for projects lasting less than one-year and under
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	<p>£100,000 (all other projects must include at least 2 collaborative partners).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects can be between 3-months and 3-years in duration with costs between £25,000 and £3 million. Between 70% and 25% of total project costs will be funded depending on project type and business size. For all research organisations the maximum level of participation is 30% of eligible project costs.
Competition deadline	31 January 2018
<p>*NEW*</p> <p><u>Innovation Loans: Infrastructure Systems</u></p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovate UK is to provide up to £10 million in loans to small to medium enterprises (SMEs) for innovative infrastructure systems projects. The aim of this competition is to offer a loan to help SMEs overcome barriers to scaling up innovation in infrastructure systems. It will enable businesses to demonstrate first commercial deployment at scale and take their innovations to market by proving that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the innovation delivers the expected outcomes there is a clear market opportunity for their business applicants are ready to scale up their business and their innovation Projects must show significant late stage innovation (experimental development stage) The four priority areas are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> smart infrastructure urban living energy supply and systems connected transport <p>Loan and deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loans will be offered between £100,000 and £1million. Innovation loans will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Available for up to 3-years ('availability period') Extended for up to 2-years ('extension period') Repayable over a maximum of 5-years ('repayment period') Interest will be charged at the rate of 3.7% per annum on outstanding amounts, payable quarterly in arrears.
Registration closes	10 January 2018
Competition closes	17 January 2018
<p><u>Aerospace Technology Institute (ATI) Strategic Research and Technology Projects</u></p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovate UK acts as the delivery partner for ATI R&D programmes Innovate UK and ATI are looking for ideas about the broader opportunities that might be offered by the programme, as well as to support long-term planning <p>Strategic themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> aircraft of the future: Strengthening the UK's whole-aircraft design and system integration capability, positioning it for future generations of civil aircraft smart, connected and more electric aircraft: Developing UK advanced systems technologies to capture high-value opportunities in current and future aircraft aerostructures of the future: Ensuring the UK is a global leader in the development of large complex structures, particularly wings propulsion of the future: Advancing a new generation of more efficient propulsion technologies, particularly within large turbofan <p>Funding and deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects may focus on industrial research or experimental development. 2017 dates - http://www.ati.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/14/2016/11/2017-SRC-Submission-and-Decision-Dates.pdf
Competition deadline	The programme is open to suggestions through to 31 st March 2020



Manufacturing and Materials

Focuses on the development, validation and application of cross-cutting manufacturing and materials technologies and processes to drive productivity and growth

<p>*NEW*</p> <p><u>Sector Competition: Manufacturing and Materials (Strand 1)</u></p> <p>Call budget: £19 million (across Infrastructure Systems and Manufacturing Materials)</p> <p>Lead applicant: Any UK business or RTO</p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The aim of this Manufacturing and Materials strand is to encourage innovation in Manufacturing and Materials for significant changes in productivity and in cutting-edge innovations with significant potential for encouraging growth in all parts of the UK economy. <p>Competition themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • nanotechnology and nanomaterials • composite materials • coatings, thin films and surfaces • metals and metallurgy • ceramics • polymers • non-metallics • electronic and sensing materials • resource efficiency • assembly and joining • forming technologies • chemical and bio process • surface engineering • CAD/CAM/CAE/simulation, digital manufacturing • electronics manufacturing • sensor and instrument (design and manufacture) • material recovery and treatment • additive manufacturing and 3D printing <p>Funding and deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Applications must be led by a business or RTO all projects must include at least one SME. ▪ SMEs can be the sole applicants for projects lasting less than one-year and under £100,000 (all other projects must include at least 2 collaborative partners). ▪ Projects can be between 3-months and 3-years in duration with costs between £25,000 and £3 million. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Between 70% and 25% of total project costs will be funded depending on project type and business size. ▪ For all research organisations the maximum level of participation is 30% of eligible project costs.
<p>Competition deadline</p>	<p>31 January 2018</p>



Open programme

Accessible to all businesses and academics undertaking innovation, irrespective of the technology or sector in which they are working

<p>*NEW*</p> <p><u>Sector Competition:</u></p> <p><u>Open</u></p> <p>Call budget: £19 million</p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This competition is open to the best business-led cutting-edge or disruptive ideas or concepts with a view to commercialisation. ▪ To be in scope, a proposal must demonstrate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a clear game-changing and/or disruptive innovative idea leading to novel, new products, processes or services that are significantly ahead of others in the field ○ a strong and deliverable business plan that addresses (and documents) market potential and needs ○ a team, business arrangement or working structure with the necessary skills and experience to run and complete the project successfully and on time ○ awareness of all the main risks the project will face with realistic management, mitigation and impact minimisation plans for each ○ sound, practical financial plans and timelines that represent good value for money ○ a clear, evidence based plan to deliver significant economic impact, return on investment (ROI) and growth through commercialisation, as soon as possible following project completion <p>Funding and Deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects must be led by UK-business of any size and must include at least one SME. ▪ Between 70% and 25% of total project costs will be funded depending on project type and business size. ▪ Projects should last between 6 and 36 months. Total eligible project costs should range from £25,000 to £1 million depending on the type of R&D to be undertaken.
<p>Competition Closes</p>	<p>28 February 2018</p>
<p><u>Knowledge Transfer Partnerships</u></p> <p>Funding available throughout the year</p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KTPs offer businesses the opportunity to work in partnership with a University to obtain knowledge and expertise. Projects are designed to meet business challenges and embed sustainable innovation ▪ The knowledge sought is embedded into the company through a project undertaken by a recently qualified graduate (known as the KTP associate) recruited specifically to work on that project <p>Funding and deadlines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Innovate UK part-funds the KTP. SMEs contribute 33% of the project costs, and larger companies contribute 50% ▪ Deadlines now align with the main Innovate UK call deadline. <p>Deadlines for 2017/2018 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Health and Life Sciences – 12 April 2017, 6 December 2017, 18 April 2018 ○ Emerging and Enabling Technologies – 10 May 2017 and 8 November 2017 ○ Manufacturing Materials – 12 July 2017 and 31 January 2018 ○ Open – 9 August 2017 and 28 February 2018 ○ Infrastructure Systems – 13 September 2017 and 31 January 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be sure to follow @UniBham_KTP on Twitter for regular updates on UoB KTPs



Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund

The Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund provides funding and support to UK businesses and researchers. The fund is part of the government's £4.7 billion increase in research and development over 4 years.

<p><u>IDP14: accelerating the transition to zero emission vehicles (research and development)</u></p> <p>Call budget: £18 million</p> <p>Lead applicant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UK business 	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government's ambition is that nearly all cars and vans on our roads are zero emission by 2050. Innovate UK are looking to fund projects that address the following technical areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> electric machines and power electronics energy storage and energy management lightweight vehicle and powertrain structures highly disruptive zero emission technologies propulsion for zero emission medium and heavy goods vehicles Technologies in scope include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the electrification of conventional powertrains in passenger cars, such as waste heat recovery systems and hybridisation e-powertrains solutions where the project does not include costs related to any conventional engine research and development (R&D) work zero emission technologies focus on exploitation routes on conventional powered vehicles, such as light weighting projects Projects should focus on on-highway vehicles category L, M, N and O (trailers for HGVs). <p>Medium and heavy good vehicles (over 7.5 tonnes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovate UK will support projects which focus on the electrification of the main vehicle power source and auxiliary power system i.e. for refrigeration and projects focusing on electrifying the trailer unit <p>Funding and Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must be led by a UK business and all projects must work in collaboration with others. R&D projects are expected to be focused on industrial research or experimental development. Projects should last between 12 and 36 months with total costs between £250,000 and £4million. Between 70% and 25% of total project costs will funded depending on project type and business size.
<p>Competition Deadline</p>	<p>13 December 2017</p>
<p><u>IDP14: accelerating the transition to zero emission vehicles (feasibility studies)</u></p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government's ambition is that nearly all cars and vans on our roads are zero emission by 2050. Innovate UK are looking to fund projects that address the following technical areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> electric machines and power electronics energy storage and energy management lightweight vehicle and powertrain structures highly disruptive zero emission technologies propulsion for zero emission medium and heavy goods vehicles Technologies in scope include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the electrification of conventional powertrains in passenger cars, such as waste heat recovery systems and hybridisation e-powertrains solutions where the project does not include costs related to any conventional engine research and development (R&D) work zero emission technologies focus on exploitation routes on conventional powered vehicles, such as light weighting projects Projects should focus on on-highway vehicles category L, M, N and O (trailers for HGVs). <p>Medium and heavy good vehicles (over 7.5 tonnes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovate UK will support projects which focus on the electrification of the main

	<p>vehicle power source and auxiliary power system i.e. for refrigeration and projects focusing on electrifying the trailer unit</p> <p>Funding and Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects must be led by a UK business and all projects must work in collaboration with others. R&D projects are expected to be focused on industrial research or experimental development. Projects should last up to 12 months with total costs up to £250,000. Between 70% and 50% of total project costs will be funded depending on project type and business size.
Competition Deadline	13 December 2017



Faraday Challenges

No current calls



Other funding calls

Other funding opportunities including SBRI, Catapult funding, Newton funding etc.

<p>*NEW*</p> <p><u>SBRI: nuclear advanced modular reactors, feasibility and development</u></p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is to invest up to £44 million (excluding VAT) to establish an advanced modular reactor (AMR) feasibility and development programme. This competition has 2 phases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1: funding (up to £4 million, excluding VAT) to undertake a series of feasibility studies for AMR designs. Contracts are worth up to £300,000 (excluding VAT) and will last up to 8 months Phase 2: subject to government approval, a share of up to £40 million (excluding VAT) could be available for selected projects from phase 1 to undertake development activities Projects should create partnerships that can help to develop an innovative supply chain of the future. <p>Funding and decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lead organisations should have experience in nuclear reactor technologies, however all applicants are encouraged to work with innovative organisations from inside and outside the nuclear sector. Projects will receive 100% funding from BEIS.
Competition Closes	7 February 2018
<p><u>Electric vehicle charging, sustainable energy solutions</u></p>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of this competition is to support the development of an integrated and scalable low carbon EV charging solution. The solution should incorporate renewable on-site generation, battery storage, bi-directional smart meters and an innovative software system. Each of the technological components should complement one another. This will create a closed-loop, innovative EV charging solution with smart grid, vehicle-to-grid and capacity management capabilities. Applications must attribute at least 50% of the contract value directly and exclusively to R&D services. R&D can cover exploring solutions and design. It can

	<p>also include prototyping and field-testing the product or service.</p> <p>Funding and Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects can be led by an organisation of any size and work in collaboration with other. ▪ This programme will be delivered in two phases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1: R&D Contract <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A feasibility study resulting in technical and commercial specification/feasibility. ○ Projects are expected to be up to £20,000 (inc. VAT) and last up to 6 months. Phase 2: prototype development and testing resulting in installation of the prototype to test functionality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ R&D contracts will be awarded to applicants successful in Phase 1 ○ Project costs are expected to be up to £100,000 (inc. VAT) ○ Projects will develop a prototype and undertake field-testing
Registration Closes	7 February 2018
Competition Closes	14 February 2018
<u>5G Testbeds and Trials Programme: Phase 1</u>	<p>Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Innovate UK are looking to fund projects which help support the development of the UK's "5G ecosystem" by addressing one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Explore the potential for 5G to deliver benefits for business ○ Develop new 5G applications ○ Develop and explore new business models around key 5G technologies ○ Reduce the commercial risks associated with investment in 5G ▪ Projects should focus on providing testbed facilities and undertaking trials. <p>Funding and Decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects must be led by a UK organisation and projects can work in collaboration with others. Consortiums should be industry led. ▪ The grant element of the project must be delivered by 31 March 2019 ▪ Between 60% and 40% of total project costs will funded depending on business size. ▪ The total subcontracting cost is limited to a maximum of 30% of total project costs.
Registration Closes	6 December 2017
Competition Closes	13 December 2017