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Reference:

Expression of Interest

About Aerospace Unlocking Potential

Aerospace UP is aimed at giving SMEs across the midlands access to grants and the combined expertise of the University of Nottingham, one of Europe's best aerospace universities and the Midlands Aerospace Alliance (MAA), one of the world's biggest aerospace cluster bodies, to improve their business through innovation in all aspects of their enterprise.

Part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Aerospace UP project aims to develop the region's supply chain and help businesses deliver new products or services, implement novel technologies or processes, or generate intellectual property.

Am I eligible?

- You must be an SME within one of the following areas*:
 - Black Country,
 - Coventry and Warwickshire,
 - Greater Birmingham and Solihull (includes northern Worcestershire),
 - Stoke and Staffordshire,
 - D2N2 (Derby and Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire),
 - SEMLEP (Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Northern Buckinghamshire),
 - Greater Lincolnshire (includes Rutland)
 - Leicester and Leicestershire
- Active in, or looking to diversify into the aerospace supply chain
- The activity funded should enable the business to develop new innovative products/processes

*If unsure, visit <http://www.ukassistedareamap.com/ieindex.html> to check which LEP area your Company is based in

→ To receive confirmation of eligibility, please contact our delivery team at AerospaceUP@nottingham.ac.uk to complete the Aerospace UP SME Enrolment Form.

How much funding is available from Aerospace UP?

For companies based in the following LEP areas:	Intervention rate:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black Country• Coventry and Warwickshire• D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire)• Greater Birmingham and Solihull (includes northern Worcestershire)	A grant of 42.67% is available on eligible project spend between £2,343 and approximately £234,356. This equates to a grant of between £1,000 and approximately £100,000. Project spend can exceed the offered grant amount but it will be capped at the agreed grant amount.



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEMLEP (Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire, Northern Buckinghamshire) • Leicester and Leicestershire 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stoke and Staffordshire • Greater Lincolnshire 	<p>A grant of 52.9% is available on eligible project spend between £1,890 and approximately £189,035. This equates to a grant of between £1,000 and approximately £100,000. Project spend can exceed the offered grant amount but it will be capped at the agreed grant amount.</p>

Once approved, a date by which all grant monies must be reclaimed from the University will be outlined in the Aerospace UP Innovation Agreement. This will be no later than 31st March 2023.

The length of the proposed project can be range from 1 month to 10 months. However, due to the programme ending on 30th June 2023, a project starting on e.g. 1st August 2022 would only have funding available for 8 months until 31st March 2023.

The grant for this project is delivered under EU GBER rules for State Aid (Article 25). Smaller grants may be delivered under De Minimis but you will be informed if this is the case during the application process.

What is the process?

Projects (excluding Placement Projects) to be funded will be determined by a two-stage selection process.

This Expression of Interest requires provisional information about the proposed project to enable the selection of those applications which will be invited to make a full proposal for funding. As a general rule, appendices should not be added, but pictures/diagrams may be appended, if this will aid understanding.

We strongly encourage you contact either one of the Business Development Managers at the University of Nottingham or a Technology Manager at the Midlands Aerospace Alliance for assistance in completing the form. Contact Details are:

University of Nottingham – AerospaceUP@nottingham.ac.uk

Midlands Aerospace Alliance – AerospaceUP@midlandsaerospace.org.uk

If successful at the Expression of Interest stage, the Full Proposal stage will require more details including project description, work breakdown schedule, expenditure schedule and project plan. Dependent on the complexity of the proposed project, representatives from the applicant may be required to make a presentation and answer questions at a panel meeting.

Please note that applicants should allow a minimum of 3 months for the progression of applications through the entire process, although each project will be different and your Aerospace UP contact will provide clearer updates on the timescales once your application has been received.

Aerospace Unlocking Potential – Innovation Grant for SMEs – Expression of Interest

1. Applicant Details	
1.1 Full Contact Name	
1.2 Business Name	
1.3 Business Address (including postcode)	
1.4 Company Registration No or Unique Tax Reference (UTR)	
1.5 Business telephone	
1.6 Business e-mail address	
1.7 Nature of Business	
1.8 Is your business VAT registered?	
1.9 If 'Yes', please enter your VAT Registration number (VAT registered businesses must show all costs on this application form exclusive of VAT)	
1.10 How did you hear about this grant scheme?	
1.11 How does your business currently fit into the aerospace supply chain? If not currently a part of the aerospace supply chain, explain how your project will help you diversify into it.	

2. Overview of the proposed project (Answers to each question in this section should aim to be typically no more than 500 words.)	
2.1 Project Name	
2.2 Please provide an overview of the proposed project, including the overall objectives, expected outcomes and the research and development involved?	

2.3 What is the new product, service or process that this project will enable you to introduce, and why do you consider it to be innovative?	
2.4 Provide a brief outline of the timescale and any key milestones/deliverables of the project.	

3. Grant Requirement		
3.1 Why is support needed (What additionality will the grant provide and/or what would be done if no grant was offered)?		
3.2 Anticipated Start Date		
3.3 Project Duration All projects must be completed by 31 st March 2023 ^t		
3.4 Outline the indicative total cost of the project and the grant required (This needs to be net of VAT if you are VAT registered)	Total Project Cost	£
	Grant Requested	£
3.5 Please provide a list of the expected costs and approximate value.		
Expenditure Type*	Total Cost	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	
	£	

*Existing staff costs are not eligible and cannot be included against the project. The project expenditure can only be used to bring in, where applicable, new/additional expertise to the company for the duration of, and to work solely on the project

4. Outputs – What do you expected to achieve as a result of your project?
<p>Criteria: A product is new to the market/company if there is no other product available on a market/at the company that offers the same functionality, or the design or technology that the new product uses is fundamentally different from the design or technology of</p>

already existing products. Products can be tangible or intangible (incl. services and processes which leads to a product). Multiple sales of a single new product counts as a single Output.

Will the proposed project lead to the creation of:

1. A product which is new to the firm? Yes/No

- a. If yes, please provide a brief description of the new product and how it fits the criteria above.

2. A product which is new to the market? Yes/No

- a. If yes, please provide a brief description of the new product and how it fits the criteria above.

Key points to note:

5. Funding rules and requirements

Before making a grant application, it is important you understand there are certain rules and regulations which must be followed as part of the requirements of the funder. These will be discussed in more detail if invited to submit a full proposal and will include:

The company will be required to pay its suppliers for all items/services that are purchased as part of the approved project, and demonstrate that the monies have left the company bank account before claiming the grant element. It is therefore imperative that the necessary funds will be available to cover these costs prior to applying.

The company will be required to provide the University of Nottingham with evidence of each item/service purchased as part of a monthly/quarterly claim submission. Examples of the evidence required include certified invoices, BACs, bank statements.

Activity cannot be supported that has already taken place, or grants be provided covering items already purchased or ordered, prior to the confirmed project start date.

Businesses registered for VAT can only claim costs exclusive of VAT (only non-recoverable VAT is eligible).

For any item over £24,999, [ESIF National Procurement Requirements](#) (Pg. 44) will need to be followed.

The award of a grant cannot be guaranteed until application and review processes have been completed and an Aerospace UP Innovation Agreement has been signed by both the Company and the University of Nottingham.

Please speak to us if you require clarification of any of these points.

6. Declaration:

To the best of my knowledge, I confirm that the information supplied on this form is correct and complete.

Name			
Position in Organisation			
Signature		Date	