

**UK Space Agency
Aurora Science Outreach AO**



Aurora Science Outreach Announcement of Opportunity

Closing Date: 12th September 2014

Background

The UK Space Agency is making up to £50k available for Aurora Science Outreach opportunities. A key goal in the current UK Space Strategy is to increase awareness among the general public of the UK's space programmes and of the role that space plays in everyday life.

The Aurora programme provides a range of opportunities for inspiring learning and interest in UK space activities and science in general. The objectives of the outreach programme are:

- Encourage children to take up and excel at STEM subjects;
- Raise awareness of careers in space-related industries and research
- Raise wider awareness of the UK's space exploration programme.

Purpose of the AO

The purpose of this AO is to highlight the Aurora Exploration Programme to Mars with specific reference to European missions.

Projects may be targeted at specific audiences and may include:

- Delivery of curriculum enrichment activities
- Delivery of activities to promote careers in the space sector
- Development of web or social media outreach content

Criteria and Review

Proposals will be judged by a Review Panel led by the UK Space Agency and supported by representatives of the UK space community. The review criteria will include:

- Quality and practicality of the proposals
- Size of the audience that will be reached
- Value for Money

A preference will be given to projects that will reach an audience hitherto unaware of the UK's space programme.



Aurora Science Announcement of Opportunity

Notes for Guidance, Terms and Conditions



1. Aims of the Announcement of Opportunity

The AO is intended to help members of the UK space community in their efforts to harness the inspirational value of space in education and outreach within the UK.

The UK Space Agency aims to demonstrate the achievements of the UK in space and the relevance of space to the UK's citizens. The AO will therefore support activities which:

Capitalise on the inspirational value of space to engage relevant audiences

Demonstrate new techniques which can be repeated for larger audiences

Enable a space-related element of a larger activity

2. Eligibility

The AO will be open to bids from individuals and organisations based in the UK. Bidders must be able to provide audited accounts (and hence individuals must have support of their sponsoring organisation or work in partnership with an organisation that can receive the funds).

Eligible organisations include academic or research institutions (including schools, universities, research councils, UK Space Agency partners), charities, trusts, companies *including not-for-profit).

Applicants will have to nominate a referee who can support the application.

3. Grants

We welcome bids that may be used to help attract funding from other sponsors.

Grants **may** cover all types of expenses, including contributions to salaries, costs of materials, travel and subsistence.

Grants **may not** cover fees for people already in paid employment where the proposed work could be reasonably undertaken as part of their normal duties; unclear costings and those which do not appear to be based on valid estimates; expensive items (e.g. equipment or buildings) unless they are intrinsic to the success of the project; projects that would go ahead even without UK Space Agency funds.

4. Criteria and Review

Proposals will be judged by a Review Panel led by the UK Space Agency and supported by representatives of the UK space community. The judging criteria includes:

- the quality and practicality of the proposals,
- the size of the audience that will be reached,
- the extent of alignment to the Aurora Exploration Programme
- Value for Money

Activities **include** (but are not limited to): school resources, online and media materials, lecture materials, pilot outreach or education projects.

Relevant audiences include: young people, students, the public, teachers, opinion formers, the media (including traditional, internet and social media). Other than in exceptional circumstances, audiences should mainly be UK residents or organisations.

Bids that would leverage funding from other organisations will be looked on favourably.

For education projects, we strongly recommend that you discuss your plans with the UK's space education office, ESERO-UK, to ensure that your proposed activities can be disseminated by them if appropriate and to check how your proposal may complement other activities already underway. Please contact Dr. Allan Clements, the Manager of ESERO-UK, at a.clements@nationalstemcentre.org.uk or on 01904 328377, regarding your proposed project. Further information relating to ESERO-UK may be found on the ESERO-UK website <http://www.esero.org.uk/>

Proposals will be referred to a Review Panel, who will score each proposal against the set criteria and rank the proposals according to their scores. The Review Panel will meet to discuss and finalise marks and to allocate funds, with the top ranking awards most likely to be funded. Note: Some successful awards may not be funded to the full amount requested to enable us to support as many worthy applications as possible.

The Application Process

Submitting your application:

All proposals should be submitted no later than 16:00 12th September 2014. Please note we cannot accept proposals for retrospective funding, including those projects with a start date after the closing date for proposals but before the funding decisions are announced.

Please complete and submit your proposal by email to Charlotte Blake-Kerry at charlotte.blakekerry@ukspaceagency.bis.qsi.gov.uk. An acknowledgement of receipt will be sent within one working day.

Notification of awards

Applicants will be advised of the results in writing as soon as possible after the Review Panel has met. **The Review Panel's decision is final.**

Awards will be given in the form of a contract/grant from UK Space Agency to the lead organisation.

It is expected that awards will be announced October 2014.

Payment is usually made in arrears, on completion of your project and receipt of your completed final report and invoices/receipts indicating how the funding has been used.

'Staged payments' may be made, especially if your project requires payments against invoices for large items or against certain milestones. These should be arranged with us as soon as you are told that your proposal has been successful and before you start spending against the award.

Publicity

The UK Space Agency may request the involvement of successful applicants in wider publicity activities, such as press releases. Applicants must agree to provide the UK Space Agency with access to any materials generated by their projects, at the final report stage, and a means by which to make such materials publicly available wherever possible.

