

Education and Outreach Announcement of Opportunity

Closing Date: 5pm, 22nd September 2017

Introduction

The UK Space Agency is making up to £140K available to organisations that are seeking to run schemes that support the education and outreach aims and objectives of the UK Space Agency's education programme.

Background

The UK Space Agency [Education and Skills Strategy](#) supports the aims of the UK Space Agency (set out in the [UK Civil Space Strategy](#)) by encouraging the use of space as an inspiring context for learning as well as by addressing the skills needs of the space sector and by raising awareness of the UK's space programme.

The UK Space Agency's education programme provides a range of opportunities for inspiring learning and interest in UK space activities and STEM subjects in general.

Purpose of the AO

The purpose of this AO is to support the Agency's education aims and objectives and to build upon the Agency's investment in a number of areas:

- Earth Observation
- Satellite Launch Programme (UK spaceports and launchers)
- James Webb Space Telescope
- Other programme areas may also be proposed, but will be given a lower priority in this round of funding (examples include space applications, human spaceflight, exploration, other areas of space science)

Proposals may link to any element of these areas, including:

- Computing and digital programmes
- Engineering
- Science
- Other topics where space provides the context for learning

£140K is available in total in the scheme. We expect to award between 2 and 4 grants.

Projects may be targeted at specific audiences and may include:

- Curriculum enrichment activities
- Activities to promote careers in the space sector
- Informal education activities
- Public engagement activities

Successful projects must:

- Support the education aims of the UK Space Agency
- Include a comprehensive evaluation strategy.
- Be completed by 31 March 2018. It is expected that awarding of grants will not be until mid-October so please make sure you take this into account in your proposal. There *might* be the potential to extend the project into the 2018/19 financial year, but the money for this is cannot be guaranteed at this time. We welcome proposals for projects that could be extended into future years in the event of further funding being available.

Details of the Grant

- 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.
- Grants awarded will be subject to standard BEIS grant terms and conditions.

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:

- The impact of the project
- The size of the audience that will be reached
- The validity of the evaluation strategy that will be used
- The extent of alignment of the project to the UK Space Agency's education and outreach aims
- Value for money
- Track record of previous related projects

Judges will look favourably upon projects that leverage other sources of funding.

How to Apply

Applicants should complete the **application form** and a **full proposal** and send both to the UK Space Agency **by the closing date as indicated above**.

All applications received will be reviewed and successful applicants will be notified.

The full proposal must be no more than 10 sides of A4, with a font size no smaller than 11pt, and in .doc or .pdf format. There is no prescribed form or document template, but proposals should include:

- A description of your project plans, including delivery mechanisms
- Sources and status of other funding
- Budget breakdown
- Evidence/reasoning for audience figures
- Schedule
- Evaluation strategy
- List of any partner organisations
- Plans to extend the project if successful

Submitting your application:

Please complete and submit the Education Grant Scheme application form **and** your full proposal to **Susan Buckle** either by e-mail (susan.buckle@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to:

Susan Buckle
UK Space Agency
Polaris House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
SN2 1SZ

By 5pm, 22nd September 2017

Any other material submitted will not be included in the grant assessment.