

SME Innovation Vouchers 2019

Would your company benefit from:

Collaboration with the University of Surrey?

Access to cutting-edge academic expertise and state-of-the-art facilities?

Help to overcome business challenges?

Support to develop and grow your business?

Fully-funded Access to Academic Expertise and Resources

The University of Surrey's 2019 Innovation Voucher Scheme funds collaborative projects between small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and our world-leading academics.

Each project should tackle a genuine challenge faced by an SME - an issue which can only be resolved through expert know-how or the use of specialist equipment - and must be delivered by the University of Surrey.

We will work with you to understand your business needs and match you with relevant academics to scope an innovative project with clearly-defined tasks and outcomes.

Proposals may address, for example, specific barriers, develop or test new products or introduce new processes, helping your organisation to innovate and grow.

Each voucher fully covers the cost of the services provided by the University and is expected to be valued at between £5,000 and £10,000. Innovative projects requiring larger amounts may be considered where the value can be justified.

The scheme is time-limited - applications will be assessed on a rolling basis and ALL projects must be completed by **31 July 2019**.

To Apply

Please contact the scheme manager, Dan Bance, at businessdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk to discuss your business needs and potential areas of collaboration with the University of Surrey. Dan will then guide you through the application process.

For further information, please email Dan Bance:
businessdevelopment@surrey.ac.uk



Aims and Objectives of the Scheme

The 2019 Innovation Voucher Scheme aims to cultivate closer ties between UK SMEs and the University of Surrey. The vouchers allow SMEs to address complex challenges, drive product innovation and accelerate business growth by harnessing the University's world-leading academic expertise and state-of-the-art facilities.

Examples of the University of Surrey's diverse Areas of Academic Expertise:

Enterprise Innovation and Transformation

- Business model innovation
- Scaling up
- Lean/Agile experimentation
- Leadership and change
- Sustainable enterprise
- Strategy and entrepreneurship

Engineering and Physical Sciences

- Electronic/mechanical engineering
- Computing/IT/Cybersecurity
- Advanced materials
- Energy systems
- Environmental sustainability

Health and Medical Sciences

- Clinical research
- Biosciences & medicine
- Veterinary medicine
- Experimental biology
- Health sciences
- Consumer behaviour

Eligible Companies

To apply for an Innovation Voucher your company must be a micro, small or medium-sized business located in the UK with fewer than 250 employees and an annual turnover of less than £50m or a balance sheet total of under £43m. None of the University staff members or interns (or their families) delivering the project can have an interest in the beneficiary company, e.g. be a shareholder or director.

Voucher Allocation

The total number of vouchers is limited. Only one voucher will be allocated per company or project at the discretion of the scheme administrators. The voucher will be used by the University to cover in full the costs of the services provided to the beneficiary company. No money will be paid to the participating company, which is responsible for its own costs or contribution towards the project.

State Aid (De Minimis) Regulations

The Innovation Vouchers Scheme is subject to European State Aid (De Minimis) regulations which state that beneficiary companies must not receive more than €200k (c. £185k) of De Minimis aid over a rolling, 3-year fiscal period.