

## Universcience launches Univers-Tech, a call for innovation projects

*“Tasked by the government to provide a public service with the aim of ensuring access to science and technology for all, Universcience is a unique cultural organisation focusing on three values: openness, universality and innovation. With its accent on sharing, Universcience is launching a call for innovative projects which can be related to any structure or theme. Because we prioritise the visitor in our museographic approach, our call for projects is intended to encourage innovative proposals that bring genuine added value to our public and their visitor experience. We are relying on the ability of the Cité des sciences et de l’industrie and the Palais de la découverte to inspire project creators in the same way as they appeal to our visitors.”* Bruno Maquart, chair of Universcience.

**Universcience is launching a call for projects with the aim of encouraging the dissemination and presentation to the general public of innovative ventures in the fields of science, technology and the digital sector.**

This competition is aimed at start-ups, research centres and universities, and more generally any players developing innovative services and technologies suitable for presentation to the general public visiting the Universcience facilities (Cité des sciences et de l’industrie and Palais de la découverte).

### **Project themes open to any domain**

Any theme may be selected. Rather than the subject, innovation and appeal to the general public will be the criteria for selection. As a guide, projects could cover the following themes:

- utilities / personal services
- augmented reality
- virtual reality
- geopositioning
- artificial intelligence
- digital industrial technology
- connected objects (IoT)

or any other digital and/or technological and/or scientific subject.

There will be a particular focus on projects aimed at young people, elderly people, foreign populations and tourists, as well as the disabled. To be eligible, the projects must be in their design or production phase and must ultimately be ready for presentation to the general public in material or immaterial form (in the case of software).

### **Selection criteria focused on innovation and the visitor experience**

The projects submitted will be assessed by the panel according to the following criteria:

- the scientific, technological or industrial quality of the creation
- innovative virtues; originality of the concept
- project maturity; economic viability
- potential for the improvement of the Universcience visitor experience
- in the case of computer projects, the possibility of interfacing with other applications (web, web applications, iOS or Android native applications).

### **The schedule of the call for projects is as follows**

**PHASE 1:** Submission of entries. The deadline for entries is 31/05/2018 at 11:59 pm.

**PHASE 2:** A committee will preselect 10 projects to be presented to the panel of qualified judges representing Universcience.

All project creators will be notified of the committee's decision on the selection or non-selection of their project for presentation to the panel, which will be scheduled approximately 15 calendar days after notification.

**PHASE 3:** Choice of two winners by the panel. The 10 creators of preselected projects will attend to defend their project before the panel, who, after consideration, will choose 2 at most.

**PHASE 4:** Presentation of the winning projects to the visitors of Universcience.

The two winners will have 6 months maximum to present their finalised project to the visitors of Universcience for one year following the date of installation onsite. Each winner will receive a prize of 20,000 euros.

The Univers-Tech application dossier can be downloaded from the Internet site of Universcience:

*<http://www.universcience.fr/fr/professionnels/appel-a-projets-innovants/>*

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