

Principia Mission Education and Outreach Announcement of Opportunity

Closing Date: 27 March 2015

Introduction

Following the announcement from the Chancellor of the Exchequer of additional funding, the UK Space Agency is making up to £100K available to organisations that are seeking to run schemes that support the education and outreach opportunities of British ESA astronaut Tim Peake's Principia Mission.

This opportunity will be supplemented in due course by a further announcement for schools.

Tim Peake will be living and working on board the International Space Station from November 2015 – May 2016. As the first official British astronaut, this mission presents a unique opportunity to inspire and engage the British public with space, and particularly to encourage young people to get involved in STEM.

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.

A programme of education and outreach activities has been set up to support Tim's mission and are intended to help deliver these objectives.

We envisage this programme to be a national celebration for everyone in the UK to engage with, inspiring greater interest and understanding of STEM in general and UK space matters in general.

The programme is wide ranging and already encompasses activities across a range of topics, including food, coding, plant growth and fitness – in each case trying to present STEM topics in new and inspiring ways. The Association for Science and Discovery Centres (ASDC) is working on a set of activities for families to run at sites across the UK and plans are being made to enable schools to make a live contact with Tim during his mission.

All of the projects are being supported by education resources, which are being made freely available via the ESERO-UK website (www.esero.org.uk/timpeake).

Purpose of the AO

The purpose of this AO is to further extend the reach and impact of the UK Space Agency's Tim Peake education and outreach programme.

£100K is available in this scheme. We expect to award between 2 and 10 grants.

Successful applications must:

- Support the education aims of the UK Space Agency
- Be directly linked to Tim Peake's mission to the ISS
- Encourage participation in STEM subjects
- Be completed by Tuesday 31 January 2017

Projects may also promote or include:

- delivery of curriculum enrichment activities
- delivery of activities to promote careers in the space sector

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 extent of alignment of the project to the UK Space Agency's education and outreach aims, particularly with regard to Tim Peake's Principia mission.
- Value for money
- Track record of previous related projects
- Requirements on Tim's time for the project to succeed. Note that Tim's time is in very high demand and is extremely limited in all phases of the mission (pre-flight, on-orbit and post-flight). Proposals that need a lot of his time are unlikely to be successful.

Note that there will be no possibility to upload objects to the ISS as part of these projects.

We would welcome concepts that reach audiences through innovative and unconventional means.

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

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

Applicants that are already in receipt of funds from the UK Space Agency in support of Tim Peake's mission (either directly, or through our partner organisations) are not excluded applying, but the judges will take such funding into consideration.

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.

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Notes for Guidance, Terms and Conditions

1. AIMS OF THE SCHEME

The scheme is intended to help organisations across the UK in their efforts to harness the inspirational value of Tim Peake's Principia mission 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 UK citizens. We also believe that space has an important role to play in inspiring and educating the next generation. The scheme will therefore support activities that:

- Capitalise on the inspirational value of space to engage relevant audiences
- Develop and/or deliver space-related curriculum enrichment activities
- Deliver activities to promote careers in the space sector

2. ELIGIBILITY

The scheme will be open to bids from organisations and individuals who:

- are based in the UK
- have audited accounts
- have support of their sponsoring organisation or work in partnership with an organisation which can receive the funds
- can nominate a referee who can support their application

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

Relevant audiences include young people, students, the public, teachers, and subsets of these groups (such as girls, regional communities and cultural groups) across the UK.

Please note that we cannot accept applications for retrospective funding, including those projects with a start date between the closing date for applications and the announcement of funding decisions.

3. RULES & REGULATIONS

- 1) The UK Space Agency shall not be liable to any person in relation to the project (to the extent permitted by law).
- 2) The grant holder will be responsible for the organisation and running of the project and any issues which may arise from it.
- 3) The grant holder will put in place and maintain adequate insurance policies to cover all the liabilities which may arise from the project. The grant holder will carry out a full risk assessment for the project and take appropriate steps to mitigate any risks to third parties arising from the project.
- 4) The grant holder must acknowledge the UK Space Agency in any publicity, advertising or news release relating to the project and in materials generated by the project, such as publications, using an Agency logo where possible. The grant holder shall send examples of publicity materials and publications to the UK Space Agency.
- 5) No assets acquired with the grant are to be written off, disposed of, or put to a different purpose than that specified in the application form, without the prior agreement of the UK Space Agency. All proceeds from the disposal of assets acquired with grant funding must be returned to the UK Space Agency unless otherwise agreed in advance.
- 6) The grant will not be used to fund activity that may be party-political in intention, use or presentation.
- 7) The grant will not be used to propagate a particular religion.
- 8) The grant holder must identify the value and purpose of the grant separately in the Institution's audited Annual Report and Accounts and must make these audited accounts accessible to the UK Space Agency for seven years after the grant is awarded.
- 9) The grant applicants must have regard to HM Treasury guidelines in the procurement of goods and services for which it receives the grant so as to secure best value for money.
- 10) There is no limit on the size of a bid. The total funding available in this scheme is £100k.
- 11) Grants **may** cover all types of expenses, including:
 - contributions to salaries
 - costs of materials
 - travel and subsistence.
- 12) 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. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be judged in a two stage process. Applicants should complete the preliminary application form and return it to the UK Space Agency **no later than 9am on Friday 27 March 2015**.

All applications received will be reviewed and a long list of proposals will be selected by **Thursday 2 April 2015**. Applications on the long list will be invited to submit a full, detailed proposal of their scheme to the UK Space Agency by **Friday 17 April**.

Submitting your application:

Please complete and submit the Principia Grant Scheme preliminary application form to **Libby Jackson** either by e-mail (libby.jackson@ukspaceagency.bis.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to:

Libby Jackson, UK Space Agency, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, SN2 1SZ.

Please Note:

A **maximum** of two additional sides of A4 may be included with the preliminary application form, e.g. text, diagrams or photographs, to support your application.

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

We must also receive a signature (by post or electronically) on the application form from an administrative authority for your organisation (head of department, head teacher or someone else in a senior position in your organisation).