

## How it works:

During a one-week Summer Camp, 30 selected postgraduate students will attend in-depth presentations about the pharmaceutical and chemical industry. Participants will work in small teams to generate an innovative idea that addresses a scientific challenge and develop the idea into a business plan. The teams will receive coaching and guidance from Merck managers and scientists as well as experienced retirees. The teams will present their business plans to a grand jury composed of Merck top management plus external experts. The jury will select the best business plan and present the winning team with the Innovation Cup award and a cash prize of EUR 20,000 plus EUR 5,000 for the runner-up. Options to implement the best business plans will be evaluated. On the first day of the Summer Camp, a conference with alumni from previous editions of the Innovation Cup will be organized.

## Further information:

Further information about the program and how to apply is available online:

[innovationcup.merckgroup.com](http://innovationcup.merckgroup.com)

If selected, you will be invited to sign the participants' agreement and attend the Innovation Cup Summer Camp near Frankfurt, Germany on June 26 – July 02, 2021. Travel, accommodation, and food expenses will be paid by Merck.

Not open to healthcare professionals.

## About Merck

Merck a leading science and technology company, operates in the fields of healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 52,000 employees work to make a positive difference to millions of people's lives every day by creating more joyful and sustainable ways to live. From advancing gene editing technologies and discovering unique ways to treat the most challenging diseases to enabling intelligent devices – the company is everywhere. In 2019, Merck generated sales of EUR 16.2 billion in 66 countries.

Scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the technological and scientific advances of Merck. This is how Merck has thrived since its founding in 1668. The founding family remains the majority owner of the publicly listed company. The company holds the global rights to the Merck name and brand. The only exceptions are the United States and Canada, where the company operates as EMD Serono in healthcare, MilliporeSigma in life science, and EMD Performance Materials.



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The Innovation Cup is bringing together a promising new generation of academic talents from the natural sciences, computer sciences, and business administration with Merck senior management, active researchers, and accomplished retirees. This meeting of curious minds is a creative and innovative platform aimed at advancing science and technology. The 2021 Innovation Cup will comprise teams working on the following topics: oncology, immuno-oncology, autoimmunity, drug discovery technologies, digitalization, pandemic threat.

## Apply now!

### Online application:

November 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021

### Summer Camp:

June 26 – July 02, 2021

[innovationcup.merckgroup.com](https://innovationcup.merckgroup.com)

## What's in it for me?

If you are a postgraduate student with an interest in the pharmaceutical, chemical and digital industry, the Innovation Cup will be your chance to gain in-depth knowledge about research and development, to network with top students from around the world, and to build a business case together with experienced professionals. A conference with alumni from previous editions of the Innovation Cup will be held on the first day of the Summer Camp. Selected top performing participants could get an offer for a permanent employment at Merck.

A EUR 20,000 prize will be awarded to the team that presents the most convincing business plan, plus EUR 5,000 for the runner-up. The Innovation Cup 2021 will take place near Frankfurt, Germany (June 26 – July 02, 2021). Travel, accommodation, and food expenses will be paid by Merck.



## Who can apply:

Merck invites advanced students in the natural sciences, computer sciences, and business administration from all over the world to apply to participate in the Innovation Cup. 30 students will be selected:

- **Sciences:** Postgraduate students in the natural sciences on their way toward a PhD or working as a postdoc in biology, chemistry, physics, medicine, biotech, bioinformatics, biochemistry, pharmacy, informatics, computer science, data science, engineering, or related fields
- **Business:** Advanced MBA students or recent MBA graduates with an interest pharmaceutical, chemical or digital business  
Not open to healthcare professionals

## What to expect:

During the one-week Summer Camp, participants will work together in small teams to:

- Learn the essentials about R&D within the pharmaceutical and chemical industry
- Understand how products are successfully discovered, developed, and brought to market
- Get to know Merck and learn about career options
- Work as part of a team to generate new ideas in the fields of: oncology, immuno-oncology, autoimmunity, drug discovery technologies, digitalization, pandemic threat
- Evaluate your ideas from a technical and business perspective and build a convincing business plan