

# flexibility wins

MERCK

Submit your ideas for the Displaying Futures Award 2017

**With the Displaying Futures Award 2017, Merck expands boundaries in the Performance Materials field and fosters entrepreneurial spirit.**

**The 2017 award focuses on innovative, flexible hybrid electronic devices enabled by advanced materials.**

#### Ready to participate?

Have you stretched your imagination? Achieved a breakthrough innovation in the field of wearable health monitors or soft robotics and electronic skin? In sensors or electronic packaging? Are you dreaming of starting up your own company? If so, we want to hear from you!

We will select the best three teams out of applicants from all over the world. Each team will receive up to 50,000 USD to further explore its idea. Over the course of 12 months, each team will be supported according to its individual needs, for example in business plan development or prototype building. Your team can be part of the action – grab the chance!

#### What can you expect?

- Extensive mentorship from experts at Merck.
- Up to 50,000 USD in cash to further explore your idea.
- Access to proprietary materials and Merck's global network.
- A special business curriculum in selected areas to support your team at the beginning, the middle and the end of the 12-month period.

#### What do we expect from you?

We are committed to fully supporting the teams and therefore do not ask for equity or IP rights if a company is formed. However, our company would like to be offered a board seat and the opportunity to invest. We require the winning teams to spend their money according to the submitted proposal. All contracts are simple, transparent and available for all to see.

#### Who can participate?

Anyone can participate, however, we give preference to PhD candidates/postdocs and senior research scientists.

#### How do you apply?

Visit our website at [www.merckgroup.com/df-award](http://www.merckgroup.com/df-award)

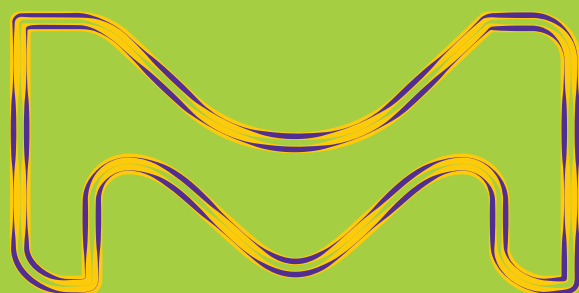
- Provide us with an executive summary of your idea, its technical background as well as the related IP situation.
- Elaborate the business potential of your idea and introduce your team.
- Include a short- and long-term milestone plan and briefly describe the expected use of money.
- Submit your application in English.

#### What happens when?

The application period opens on April 3 and closes on May 19, 2017. A jury of experts from Merck will select up to ten teams and ideas on the basis of innovativeness, business potential and social impact. The jury will be headed by Executive Vice President Dr. Michael Heckmeier, Head of the Display Materials business unit within the Performance Materials business sector of Merck.

We will invite the selected teams to pitch their ideas at the Merck Innovation Center in Darmstadt, Germany. The boot camp and pitch day for all teams are planned for June 2017. Travel costs will be reimbursed for two members of each team (up to 3,000 USD per team). The jury will select up to three winners for the Displaying Futures Award 2017 from these pitches.

Beyond the aforementioned support, the three winning teams will be invited in December 2017 for a midway pitch and a second boot camp. At the end of the 12 months, a final event will take place for all selected teams, including a pitch in front of potential investors.



**Merck KGaA**  
Performance Materials  
Frankfurter Str. 250 · 64271 Darmstadt · Germany  
[displayingfutures@merckgroup.com](mailto:displayingfutures@merckgroup.com) · [www.merckgroup.com/df-award](http://www.merckgroup.com/df-award)

## Apply and win!

Submit your application for the Displaying Futures Award 2017 from April 3 to May 19, 2017.

For more information contact us at:  
[displayingfutures@merckgroup.com](mailto:displayingfutures@merckgroup.com)  
[www.merckgroup.com/df-award](http://www.merckgroup.com/df-award)

