

How it works:

During a one-week Summer Camp, 42 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 KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and its affiliates managers and scientists as well as experienced retirees. The teams will present their business plans to a grand jury composed of top management of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and its affiliates 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 and EUR 3,000 for the runner-ups. 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.emdgroup.com

If selected, you will be invited to sign the participants' agreement and attend the Innovation Summer Camp near Frankfurt am Main, Germany on June 10 - 16, 2023. Travel, accommodation, and food expenses will be paid by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

Not open to healthcare professionals.

About Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany, a leading science and technology company, operates in the fields of healthcare, life science and performance materials. Around 60,348 employees with 142 nationalities work together 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 2021, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and its affiliates generated sales of EUR 19.7 billion.

Scientific exploration and responsible entrepreneurship have been key to the technological and scientific advances of Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany. This is how the company 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 Electronics.



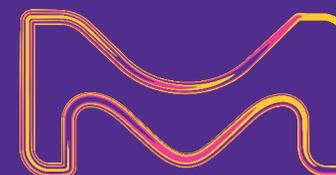
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Organized by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany



**INNOVATION
CUP 2023**





The Innovation Cup is bringing together a promising new generation of academic talents from the natural sciences, computer sciences, and business administration with Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany senior management, active researchers, and accomplished retirees. This meeting of minds is a creative and innovative platform aimed at advancing science and technology. The 2023 Innovation Cup will comprise teams working on the following topics: oncology, autoimmunity, medicinal chemistry, protein engineering, artificial intelligence/machine learning, neuromorphic computing, and smart manufacturing.

Apply now!

Online application:

November 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023

Summer Camp:

June 10 - 16, 2023

innovationcup.emdgroup.com

What's in it for me?

If you are a postgraduate student with an interest in the pharmaceutical and chemical 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 KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany or any of its affiliates. All participants will also get a free ticket for the Curious2024-Future Insight Conference (www.curiousfutureinsight.org).

A EUR 20,000 prize will be awarded to the team that presents the most convincing business plan, plus EUR 5,000 and EUR 3,000 for the runner-ups. The Innovation Cup 2023 will take place near Frankfurt am Main, Germany (June 10 - 16, 2023). Travel, accommodation, and food expenses will be paid by Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.



Who can apply:

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany 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. 42 students will be selected:

- **Sciences:** Postgraduate students in the natural sciences on their way towards 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 in the pharmaceutical and chemical 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 KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany and its affiliates and learn about career options
- Work as part of a team to generate new ideas in the fields of: oncology, autoimmunity, medicinal chemistry, protein engineering, artificial intelligence/machine learning, neuromorphic computing, and smart manufacturing.
- Evaluate your ideas from a technical and business perspective and build a convincing business plan