



Innovate
UK

Cyber security academic startup accelerator programme 2023-24: phase 1

Applicant briefing

Date: **29 March 2023**

The webinar will start at 1pm

- We are currently on mute, whilst waiting for more people to join
- The briefing will be recorded and available to refer to through the IFS date page
- PDFs of the presentation will also be available on request
- For more information on the competition process, please go to: [Competition briefing: applicant information - YouTube](#)

Welcome and Introductions

Abbie Wood – Portfolio Manager, Competitions Team

Agata Samojlowicz – Deputy Challenge Director, Digital Security by Design

Georgios Papadakis – Senior Innovation Lead, Digital Security by Design

Robin Kennedy – Knowledge Transfer Manager, Cyber Security
(Innovate UK KTN)

Emma Fadlon – Investment Projects Lead (Innovate UK KTN)

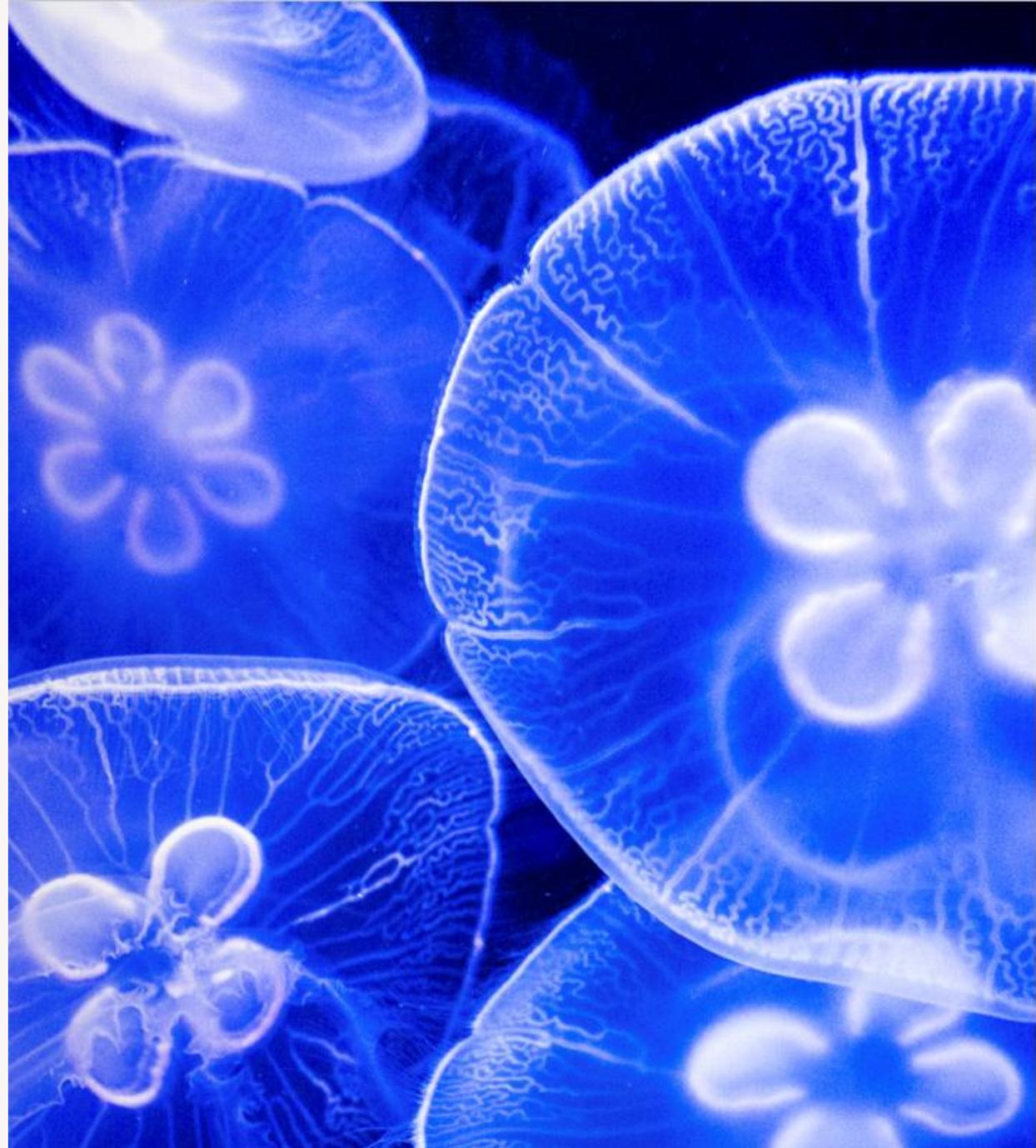
Simon Yarwood – Knowledge Transfer Manager, Industrial Technologies
(Innovate UK KTN)

Rebecca Bryant – Head of Regional Engagement, Cyber Security (DSIT)

Robert Ware – Programme Manager - Cyber Security (DSIT)



Cyber ASAP Background



Cyber Security Academic Startup Accelerator Programme (CyberASAP) is **the only pre-seed accelerator** programme in the cyber security ecosystem.

CyberASAP is funded by the UK **Department for Science, Innovation and Technology** and delivered in partnership by **Innovate UK** and **Innovate UK KTN**.

Since its inception in 2017, CyberASAP has helped more than **100 teams** from universities **across the UK** to develop their innovations.

CyberASAP alumni have secured **more than £19m in further funding** to help accelerate the commercialisation of their cyber security ideas.

The CyberASAP aims to **increase the amount of academic research being commercialised** within UK universities in respect to cyber security through a **bespoke programme of support.**

We define 'cyber security' to mean protecting from unauthorised access, harm or misuse to any or all the following:

- information systems, including hardware, software and associated infrastructure
- data on such systems
- services provided by information systems

This includes harm caused intentionally by the operator of the system, or accidentally, as a result of failing to follow security procedures.

Individuals based in a UK academic institution can apply for a share of up to **£800,000** to join the cyber security academic startup accelerator programme 2023-2024 (CyberASAP)

Scope



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This competition offers two funding strands:

- Security of Digital Technologies at the Periphery (SDTaP) – commercialisation strand is open to eligible researchers from academic institutions that are active consortium members of the [Privacy, Ethics, Trust, Reliability, Acceptability and Security \(PETRAS\)](#)
 - Eligible researchers are those who have been funded from PETRAS as part of a research project.
 - This strand offers commercialisation support for UKRI-funded project-based research results with promising innovation potential and societal impact.
 - Applicable projects extend across the PETRAS current project portfolio as well as the legacy project portfolio of the PETRAS IoT Research Hub.
- CyberASAP – open: for eligible individuals from academic institutions that are not eligible for the SDTaP – commercialisation strand

To be eligible for funding you must:

- be based in a UK academic institution
- have a cyber security idea
- be interested in the commercialisation of your idea
- have the support of your academic institution's technology transfer office, or equivalent
- not act in any way to gain selective commercial or economic advantage from the outputs of this project

Your project must include:

- the area of your research
- the problem you are solving
- your proposed solution
- your initial market validation plan

We are not funding projects:

- that are not related to cyber security
- that are defence focused
- from academic institutions outside the UK
- that have no intention to commercialise
- that have an academic lead that has already led and completed a previous CyberASAP project
- which are classed as State aid under EC regulations or a subsidy under the EU-UK TCA
- with undertakings which gain a selective economic or commercial advantage from the funding

CyberASAP is a 1-year programme with 2 Phases

Phase 1 will last up to 4 months, split into 2 stages:

- An initial 2 months for **value proposition** development activities, followed by a presentation to an independent judging panel who will select teams to go to stage 2
- A further 2 months for **market validation** activities

- If we award you funding, you must be dedicated to the project for the **2-month value proposition** building activity from **9 May 2023**
- If we decide you can continue to the **market validation** activity you must be dedicated for the additional **2 months until 8 September 2023**

'Dedicated to the project' means you must:

- **attend 2 days of in-person events and 3 days of online events** as part of the initial 2-month value proposition activity
- be able and be permitted to work on your project for **at least 2 days** a week in order to make it a success

Planned dates for the value proposition:

- **9 and 10 May 2023:** value proposition bootcamp, a 2 day in person event
- **16 May 2023 1pm to 3pm:** webinar for Technology Transfer Officers or equivalent as an online event
- **31 May and 1 June 2023:** value proposition mid-stage review, a 2 day online event
- **22 and 23 June 2023:** value proposition pitch to selection panel, teams must pitch at a slot on one of these two days as an online event

Innovate UK KTN will hold informal weekly 1 hour **drop-in sessions**, likely to be Friday mornings

Before the formal start of the programme an informal **introduction session** is planned for the week commencing 1 May 2023.

The events will be organised by [Innovate UK KTN](#).

Successful applicants will be contacted by Innovate UK KTN with full details, including confirmed dates.

If selected to undertake the additional 2 months for **market validation**, you must commit to attend 2 days of in person events and 3 days of online events.

The planned dates are:

- **4 and 5 July 2023:** market validation bootcamp, a 2 day in person event
- **25 and 26 July 2023:** market validation mid-stage review, a 2 day online event
- **5 and 6 September 2023:** market validation pitch to selection panel, teams must pitch at a slot on one of these two days, it is an online event

Participants in **phase 1** with ideas that demonstrate the most potential for commercialisation will be invited to apply to participate in **phase 2**, where funding is available to develop a **proof of concept** for the product or service.

Eligibility criteria



Eligibility criteria

Project eligibility	<p>The lead organisation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• be based in a UK academic institution• have a cyber security idea• be interested in the commercialisation of your idea• have the support of your academic institution's technology transfer office, or equivalent• not act in any way to gain selective commercial or economic advantage from the outputs of this project
Total project costs	up to £32,000 for the two stages (up to £16,000 for each stage)
Project length	4 months
Project start	9 May 2023

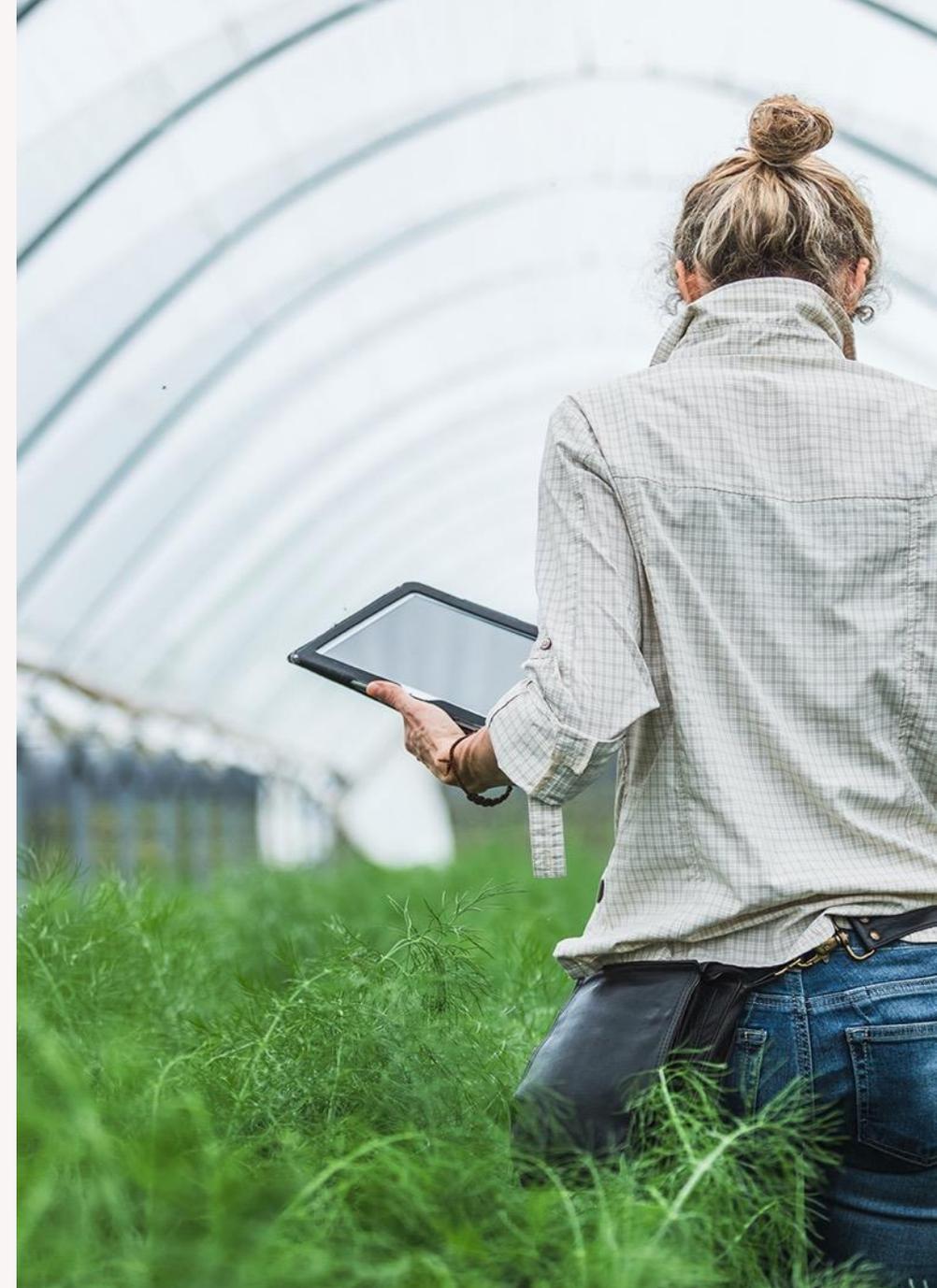
Funding

This competition provides funding that is not classed by Innovate UK as a subsidy.

You can claim **100%** funding for your eligible project costs.

Eligible costs can only cover:

- salary
- programme related travel within the UK
- accommodation if necessary
- subsistence



Conditions of Award

Further information about the Subsidy Control Act 2022 requirements can be found within the [Subsidy Control Act 2022](https://legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2022/28/contents) (legislation.gov.uk)

‘No subsidy’ status is only granted to organisations which declare that they will not use the funding:

- in any way which gives them selective economic or commercial advantage
- in any way which would determine the funding as a subsidy as defined by the Subsidy Control Act 2022 (legislation.gov.uk)

It is the responsibility of the lead organisation to make sure all collaborators in the project remain compliant with these requirements.

It is important to note that it is the activity that an organisation is engaged in as part of the project and not its intentions, that defines whether any support provided could be considered a subsidy.

Further Information

If you are unsure about your obligations under the Subsidy Control Act 2022 regime you should take independent legal advice. We cannot advise on individual eligibility or legal obligations.

Other Innovate UK projects

If you have an outstanding final claim or Independent Accountant Report (IAR) on a live Innovate UK project, you will not be eligible to apply to this competition, as a lead or a partner organisation.

We will not award you any further funding if you:

- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and were awarded funding by Innovate UK, but did not make a substantial effort to exploit that award
- applied to a previous competition as the lead or sole company and failed to comply with grant terms and conditions.

Previously submitted applications

Previously submitted application	Not a previously submitted application
Not materially different from one you have submitted before (but it can be updated based on the assessors' feedback)	<p>A brand-new application, project or idea that you have not previously submitted into an Innovate UK competition</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A previously submitted or ineligible application which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has been updated based on assessor feedback• <u>and</u> is materially different from the application submitted before• <u>and</u> fits with the scope of this competition

Key Dates

Timeline	Dates
Competition Opens	27 March 2023
Briefing Event	29 March 2023
Submission Deadline (11am)	19 April 2023
Applicants informed	26 April 2023

Innovation Funding Service (IFS)

Funding opportunity

Cyber security academic startup accelerator programme: phase one

Opportunity status:	Open
Funders:	Innovate UK
Co-funders:	The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
Funding type:	Grant
Total fund:	£800,000
Publication date:	27 March 2023
Opening date:	27 March 2023 9:30am UK time
Closing date:	19 April 2023 11:00am UK time

Last updated: 27 March 2023

See the [full opportunity details on the Innovation Funding Service](#).

Individuals based in a UK academic institution can apply for a share of up to £800,000 to join the cyber security academic startup accelerator programme 2023 to 2024 (CyberASAP).

Funding competition

Cyber security academic startup accelerator programme: phase 1

Individuals based in a UK academic institution can apply for a share of up to £800,000 to join the cyber security academic startup accelerator programme 2023-2024 (CyberASAP).

Competition opens: Monday 27 March 2023

Competition closes: Wednesday 19 April 2023 11:00am

[Start new application](#)

Or go to [your dashboard](#) to continue an existing application.

Summary

[Eligibility](#)

[Scope](#)

[Dates](#)

[How to apply](#)

[Supporting information](#)

Description

The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) will work with Innovate UK, part of UK Research and Innovation, to invest up to £800,000 in innovative cyber security projects coming from an academic research base.

The aim of this competition is to identify the most promising commercial opportunities in academia in respect to cyber security. Your proposal must include the area of your research, the problem that you are solving and your proposed solution.

The Cyber Security Academic Startup Accelerator Programme (CyberASAP) is a 1-year programme.

This is phase 1 of a 2-phase competition.

Application Questions

Question

1. Applicant location (not scored)
2. Public description (not scored)
3. Select funding strand (multiple choice) (not scored)
4. Need or challenge
5. Approach and innovation
6. Commercialisation
7. Team and resources (not scored)
8. Market validation
9. Costs (not scored)

Submit your application early!

Customer Support can help resolve any issues you might have when submitting but only if they are contacted before the deadline.

Once the deadline has passed, your application cannot be submitted.



Conditional offer of awarding

If you receive a notification saying you have been successful, you will have some further steps to complete in Project Setup.

These are:

- Name and contact details of your project manager (applicant leading the project)
- Name and contact details of your university finance lead
- Monitoring Officer allocation
- Your university's bank details
- Grant Offer Letter

Additional Support



Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

- We are on a mission to embed Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion in everything we do, internally and externally.
- We believe that great ideas can, and do, come from anyone and everyone.
- We know that diversity and inclusion in businesses contributes to enhanced innovation, satisfaction, performance, and ultimately, commercial success.
- So, if you would like any support, please contact our Customer Support Service Team on support@iuk.ukri.org or at **0300 321 4357**.



What to Expect

1.

Contact our Customer Support Services Team as early as possible – we suggest at least 15 working days before the deadline

2.

Complete a request form which will be sent to our partner Diversity & Ability (D&A)

3.

D&A will conduct a Discovery Conversation with you and make reasonable adjustments recommendations

4.

D&A will organise and deliver bespoke reasonable adjustments for and with you

5.

Submit your application – please do so well ahead of the deadline as extensions cannot be provided

Q&A



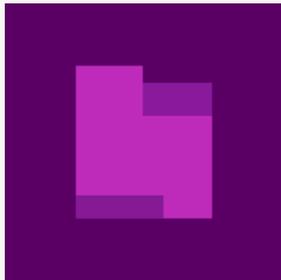
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Contact

Customer Support Services

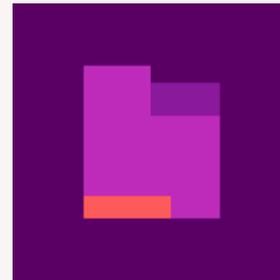
0300 321 4357 (Monday - Friday 9-5pm)

support@iuk.ukri.org



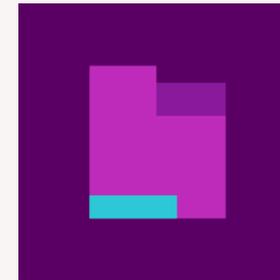
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