



UNIVERSITY INNOVATION PROGRAMME

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS EXPO LIVE?

Expo Live is an innovation and partnership programme launched by Expo 2020 Dubai to fund, accelerate and promote creative solutions that improve lives while preserving our planet.

WHAT IS THE EXPO LIVE UNIVERSITY INNOVATION PROGRAMME?

Expo Live's University Innovation Programme incentivizes creative thinking, problem solving and collaboration between university students in order to address global issues. The programme aims to incentivize creative thinking, problem solving and collaboration between university students in order to solve problems worth solving. The purpose of the programme is to engage university students, cultivate the innovation mindset and reward innovative, student-led projects.

The programme aims to be a short-cycle, grantmaking innovation competition focusing students and mentors on social impact challenges that are relevant to the UAE and our region. The objective is to reward innovative and promising conceptual solutions that can be accelerated through the innovation curve – moving from ideation to validation and prototyping. Our vision is to generate viable solutions, either through the development of commercial applications or further investment in research and development. The solutions must be aligned with the UAE's year of sustainability particularly in climate solutions.



HOW DOES THE EXPO LIVE UNIVERSITY INNOVATION WORK?

With annual submissions cycles opening at the beginning of each academic year, the programme aims to create a grassroots movement of innovation and build a community of socially charged students motivated to address global problems relevant to our region. The programme will offer a prize of **AED 25,000** Structured as a further research and/or development grant, no individual cash prizes will be offered.

WHAT OTHER BENEFITS WILL STUDENTS RECEIVE?

Beyond participation and grants, students will also have access to networking opportunities and communications exposure, as well as additional capacity-building options. Shortlisted students will have the opportunity to pitch during COP28.

WHO CAN APPLY?

This programme targets undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in any discipline at a UAE-based university.

The following criteria apply:

- No individual applications will be accepted
- Groups of 3 (no more, no less) supported by an academic mentor
- Each group will be eligible to submit one proposed solution per cycle
- An academic mentor can facilitate more than one group of students
- There are no restrictions on the number of applications that may be submitted by a university

Individual professors, think tanks, research centres, and private sector entities are not eligible to apply for this programme.



HOW TO APPLY?

Students interested in applying to the programme can submit their proposals by following the steps below:

1. Visit our website:
2. Click on apply now
3. Register your group on the website by following the instructions
4. Submit a short abstract explaining your proposed solution
5. Shortlisted groups will be invited to attend a workshop in preparation for the final event
6. Groups who pass the workshop will be invited to pitch their ideas in front of the Expo Live Evaluation Panel
7. The deadlines for each round of submissions for proposal abstracts are listed on the website

For more information, contact us at 054-7410136 or via email at expolive.uip@expocitydubai.ae

WHAT CRITERIA WILL WE USE TO EVALUATE AND SELECT WINNING IDEAS?

The University Innovation Programme seeks to fund creative ideas and help bring them to life by providing support during the demonstration, implementation and/or prototype stages.

Successful applicants will demonstrate how new innovations, or the innovative application of existing solutions, can positively impact the local and regional environment.

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. To what extent is the proposed solution, or its application, novel or innovative?
2. How feasible is the proposed solution?
3. What is the magnitude of its impact in UAE?
4. What is the strength of the proposed activities and implementation plan?
5. To what extent is the grant amount appropriate and applicable for the proposed activities?