

Call:

The Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship Prize 2020

With Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship Prize, Innovation Fund Denmark (IFD) seeks to celebrate the exceptional entrepreneurs, who have created verifiable value.

Aim

IFD wishes to honour and reward an entrepreneurial team who, with an innovative product, service or new process, has created a successful company with verifiable business value and value creation in the form of growth and employment and/or solutions to societal challenges. The company may e.g. have had significant / increasing sales and earnings due to the investment, attracted further hard money investment, exhibited extensive dissemination and solution of a widespread challenge for a large user group or similar.

The winners of the Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship are expected to act as an inspirational role model for other knowledge-based entrepreneurs, e.g. by demonstrating learnings from errors or accidents in the entrepreneurial career, and passing on experience to the entrepreneurial environment etc.

The prize should thereby spur further growth and employment in Denmark and/or solutions to substantial Danish societal challenges. Furthermore, it should encourage knowledge-based entrepreneurship.

The Prize

- The prize is awarded to one start-up/entrepreneurial company and may be awarded to a team of up to three people in the company.
- The prize winners will each receive a personal merit award of DKK 100,000.

IFD presents the Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship Prize at a special event at the beginning of 2020.

Nomination

Nominations for the Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship Prize may be submitted by companies, individuals, stakeholders from the entrepreneurship ecosystem, universities, research institutions, technology transfer organisations, GTS (Advanced Technology Group) institutions, as well as relevant trade organisations or public institutions.

Candidates cannot submit a nomination in their own name.

Nominations of both women and men are encouraged.

Nominations are submitted through e-grant, IFD's online application system, and should contain a motivational statement, including an exact description of the level of innovation, knowledge transfer, value creation in the short- and long-term and business potential. The candidate's or candidates' specific and quantitative contribution should be made clear, as should the reason why they are considered to be positive role models in relation to knowledge-based entrepreneurship.

Relevant documentation such as patents and patent applications, publications, commercial or other data documenting any claimed impact as well as the candidate's CV should be included in the nomination.

The prize can only be awarded to entrepreneurs who have received an IFD investment through the *InnoBooster*, *InnoFounder* and/or *InnoExplorer* programmes. The project should be ongoing or be concluded after November 3, 2014.

Assessment criteria

The entrepreneurs should have created great value or have the potential to create great value for Danish society in the way of specific and verifiable results. It should also demonstrate the value of knowledge-based entrepreneurship.

Nominated candidates, who have all previously received investment from IFD, will be assessed specifically on the basis of

- I. Novelty and level of innovation of the entrepreneur's solution

- II. The documented contribution to value creation for Denmark, either as economic growth and employment and/or solution of societal challenges, business potential and the dissemination potential of the solution.
- III. The candidate's or the candidates' potential to act as an efficient role model and source of inspiration for knowledge-based and value-creating entrepreneurship.

Assessment process

The nominated candidates for the Knowledge-based Entrepreneurship Prize are scientifically assessed by members of IFD's InnoBooster, InnoFounder, InnoExplorer, Industrial Researcher and Grand Solutions teams and management, who will recommend candidates to the IFD Board of Directors who will select the winner.

Nomination deadline

Deadline for submitting nominations is 5 November 2019 at 12:00 CET.
The nomination form is available on e-grant.

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