

A-1008 - AI Tools for Education Clarification Questions and Responses

| QUESTION NUMBER | DATE RECEIVED | QUESTION | RESPONSE | DATE RESPONDED |
|-----------------|---------------|--|--|----------------|
| 1 | 09/09/2024 | Will the slides and a recording of the briefing from the 9 September 2024 be made available? | A recording of the session will be made available via the competition page on the Innovation Funding Service website in the next day or two. All links mentioned in the briefing can be found on the competition page. | 11/09/2024 |
| 2 | 09/09/2024 | Can we submit our proposal to just one of the requirements if we can only provide a part of it? Can a solution benefit for more than one KS? Can you choose to do Key Stage 2 Maths and English solutions? | Your proposal must cover 1 stage (as indicated in question 1) and 1 subject (as indicated in questions 2 or 3). | 11/09/2024 |
| 3 | 09/09/2024 | Are there restriction on where the applicant must be registered as an organisation? Can non-UK (EU-based) companies apply? | <p>Please see information in the brief, also below:</p> <p>Contracts for Innovation competitions are open to all eligible organisations that can demonstrate a route to market for their solution. Under current regulations, Contracts for Innovation contracts are open to applications from organisations registered in the UK, European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA).</p> <p>The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant and be carried out in the UK.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 4 | 09/09/2024 | In the briefing session you said “you will provide code optimised for use with LLMs”? Please can you clarify this? Are you referring to the prompts? | <p>In the briefing session, we outlined that the library will include but is not limited to, the National Curriculum in England, T-Levels, 16-19 programmes of study guidance and the EYFS. These will be available in optimised codified format. Quality assured systems prompts derived from evidence-based recommendations such as the Education Endowment Foundation guidance will also be available.</p> <p>Faculty Technical Report which provides an example of how optimised content and code can support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- AI functionality aligned with the National Curriculum in England- good teaching and learning practice <p>Please see the live competition.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 5 | 09/09/2024 | How many applications are you looking to fund? | Please see the live competition and also below: This competition has a funding budget of up to £994,000, so we may not be able to fund all the proposed projects. Projects can range in size from total costs of £50,000 up to £200,000, inclusive of VAT. | 11/09/2024 |
| 6 | 09/09/2024 | Will any educational content be made available that can be used to train / build on? | <p>Please see the live competition and also below:</p> <p>If successful, you will have access to a quality assured library of educational content and code optimised for use with large language models, to use to train your tool.</p> <p>The library will include but is not limited to, the National Curriculum in England, T-Levels, 16-19 programmes of study guidance and the EYFS. These will be available in optimised codified format. Quality assured systems prompts derived from evidence-based recommendations such as the Education Endowment Foundation guidance will also be available.</p> <p>The Faculty technical report demonstrates how codified content can improve educational performance of AI models</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 7 | 09/09/2024 | Is there any restriction on the start time and/ or duration the project? | <p>Please see information on the competitions page. Also below. Projects must:</p> <p>start by 11 November 2024 end by 31 March 2025 last up to 5 months</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 8 | 09/09/2024 | An integrated AI application for identification and assessment of academic stress is eligible? | Please see the live competition but also below: The aim of this competition is to develop tools which use generative AI to support teachers with assessing progress and providing feedback, known as formative assessment. | 11/09/2024 |
| 9 | 09/09/2024 | In the Maths example on the potfolio approach what happens if your solution can be used for any subject, but you are using Maths in order to build the initial product? | Your proposal must cover 1 stage (as indicated in question 1) and 1 subject (as indicated in questions 2 or 3). | 11/09/2024 |
| 10 | 09/09/2024 | We are a team based outside of the UK. Can we apply for this? What are the constraints we need to be aware of? | <p>Please see information in the competiton information, also below:</p> <p>Contracts for Innovation competitions are open to all eligible organisations that can demonstrate a route to market for their solution. Under current regulations, Contracts for Innovation contracts are open to applications from organisations registered in the UK, European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA).</p> <p>The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant and be carried out in the UK.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 11 | 09/09/2024 | Can our solution be suitable for all education levels or is there a limit/restriction? | Please information in the competition brief online and also below: The application must cover a specific education stage (as selected in question 1) and specific subject as indicated in question 2 or question 3. | 11/09/2024 |
| 12 | 09/09/2024 | What technology readiness level (TRL) do we need to be at to be eligible? What TLR does the product need to be at at the end of the project? | <p>Please see information in the competiton brief online and below:</p> <p>For this competition your project will develop a solution and produce a prototype solution in line with Technology Readiness Levels 6-7 by March 2025.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 13 | 09/09/2024 | Can schools/sixth form college apply/bid? | <p>Any organisation that is a legal entity can apply.</p> <p>Contracts for Innovation contracts are open to applications from organisations registered in the UK, European Union (EU) and the European Economic Area (EEA). Developments are 100% funded and focused on specific identified needs, increasing the chance of exploitation.</p> <p>Contracts will be awarded to a single legal entity only. The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant and be carried out in the UK.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 14 | 09/09/2024 | If applying for secondary education, would it be advised to focus on one subject area rather than a project with a broader approach to multiple subjects? | Please see information in the competition brief online and also below: The application must cover a specific education stage (as selected in question 1) and specific subject as indicated in question 2 or question 3 | 11/09/2024 |
| 15 | 09/09/2024 | Would use of subcontractors be an issue? | <p>Subcontractors can be used, but only for specialist skills.</p> <p>The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 16 | 09/09/2024 | Do you need to be on any government frameworks to participate? | No, this competition is open to all organisations. | 11/09/2024 |
| 17 | 09/09/2024 | Should the full scope of work be delivered by one organisation or is it acceptable to have multi organisations delivering parts of the the project scope | Contracts will be awarded to a single legal entity only. The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant and be carried out in the UK. Subcontractors can be used, but only for specialist skills. | 11/09/2024 |
| 18 | 09/09/2024 | Can you submit more than one proposal? | Organisations may submit 1 application for this competition. The application must cover a specific education stage (as selected in question 1) and specific subject as indicated in question 2 or question 3. We will only consider your first application. | 11/09/2024 |
| 19 | 09/09/2024 | As these contracts are for several months only, what is the intention for the project after this time? Is there an intention to make projects more permanent? | <p>Please see the competition online and also below:</p> <p>There may be a potential for future funding to allow successful projects to undertake piloting, testing and validation of new or improved products, processes or services in environments representative of real-life operating conditions. Please note that question 12 in the application asks for details on the commercial potential of your project including your expected route to market.</p> | 11/09/2024 |
| 20 | 09/09/2024 | Can one company apply for more than 1 project, such as 1 application with solution for key stage 1, 1 project for key stage 2, etc? | Organisations may submit 1 application for this competition. The application must cover a specific education stage (as selected in question 1) and specific subject as indicated in question 2 or question 3. We will only consider your first application. | 11/09/2024 |
| 21 | 09/09/2024 | What is the tie breaker? | In the event of a tie, the score on question 7 will be used to break the tie, then if necessary question 8. | 11/09/2024 |
| 22 | 09/09/2024 | What is the maximum participation of sub contractors? | The majority of the project work and key deliverables must be completed by the lead applicant. | 11/09/2024 |

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| 23 | 09/09/2024 | We have an existing tool that meets the key deliverables already. Can we use this funding to improve/change the tool within your deliverables and also use the data store? If we have already have a commercial product that already uses LLM for UK education, can the project be an extension to the current product e.g. to solve issues and refine it | Please see the live competition but also below: Your project can involve the substantial adaptation or development of an existing tool where activity is at least 50% R&D, or development of an entirely new tool. | 11/09/2024 | |
| 24 | 09/09/2024 | Can you confirm where exactly can we apply the application | https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/2024/overview/736647cd-6147-4a68-884e- | 11/09/2024 | |
| 25 | 09/09/2024 | Could you elaborate more on the IP and ownership of the product if we go for funding? | Please see the live competition but also below: As part of the Contracts for Innovation conditions, successful applicants retain background and foreground IP, but the funder (DfE) receives royalty-free rights to foreground IP, for example, the IP developed during the funded project in the Contracts for Innovation funding. This ensures the funding is not classified as a subsidy as both funder and successful applicants gain benefit from the funding. We welcome proposals from applicants on how these royalty-free rights may be deployed for public good, including options such as discounts on products for a fixed | 11/09/2024 | |
| 26 | 09/09/2024 | Can a schools be subcontractors? | Yes subcontractors can be used, but only for specialist skills. So if the school has specialist skills which are justifiable. | 11/09/2024 | |
| 27 | 09/09/2024 | I have asked two questionsneither of which have been addressed. When and where can I expect an answer | Please see the live competition and also below: DfE will collate all questions and publish them in a log on a regular basis. This log will be available via contracts finder. Clarification questions will be accepted until 9am on the 30th September. Final responses will be published by close of business on 2nd October. | 11/09/2024 | |
| 28 | 09/09/2024 | Where can I find the list of subjects? | Please see questions 1,2 and 3 of the live competition. | 11/09/2024 | |
| 29 | 09/09/2024 | What email should we use to ask questions? | Please note that clarification questions relating to the scope of requirements or specification will be managed by DfE. Any emails will be directed to DfE for response. You can contact DfE directly via email to dorcas.marshall@education.gov.uk . DfE will work with Innovate UK to answer your questions. DfE will collate all questions and publish them in a log on a regular basis. This log will be available via contracts finder. Clarification questions will be accepted until 9am on the 30th September. Final responses will be published by close of business on 2nd October. Please include the following reference in the subject line of your email: A-1008 - AI Tools for Education: competition. | 11/09/2024 | |
| 30 | 09/09/2024 | your website mentions that no incremental adaptations will be funded to existing services. what if it is a major step change in the service? | Yes major steps are OK, if there is significant (atleast 50%) research and development. | 11/09/2024 | |