

# [News story: Transforming UK aerospace: funding for projects](#)

The UK houses some of the world's most prolific aerospace companies, including Boeing, Rolls-Royce and Airbus, and [employs over 360,000 people](#). But maintaining the UK aerospace industry's global authority requires exploring emerging opportunities and markets.

To this end, organisations are invited to express an interest in a £150 million annual competition with their innovative ideas for aerospace design and manufacture.

The investment is part of the £3.9 billion [UK Aerospace Research and Technology \(UKART\) programme](#), a partnership between government and industry that aims to maintain the UK's world-leading position in civil aerospace. The best projects will then be invited to apply for grant funding.

## **Eyes on the sky**

Priority areas within the [UK Aerospace Technology Strategy](#) include whole aircraft design and integration, aerostructures, advanced systems and propulsion technologies. This competition provides funding for industrial research or capital investment projects.

Priority areas include:

- bolstering UK whole-aircraft design and system integration
- future-proofing advanced systems technologies in the UK – specifically, smart, connected and more electric aircrafts
- securing the UK's world-leading position in large, complex aviation structures, particularly wings
- developing more efficient propulsion technologies, including large turbofans

## **Competition information**

- the competition will open on 3 May 2019, and the deadline for expressions of interest is at midday on 22 May 2019
- UK-based business, research and technology groups and academic organisations can be the project lead, depending on the project type
- businesses can attract a maximum of 50% grant funding. Within that, individual businesses can attract up to 70% depending on funding requests from other partners
- organisations must sign up to the [ATI framework agreement](#)
- an online briefing event will be held on 10 May 2019 where organisations can find out more about the competition and applying