



## Regulations for the YEI Program

### Article 1: General presentation

The call for proposals “Young Entrepreneurs Initiative” is organized by the Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy in Washington. It aims to facilitate the implementation of innovative companies in France by providing appropriate support to young entrepreneurs.

### Article 2: Participants

Any individual residing in the United States, regardless of age, nationality or professional situation, whose project encompasses the creation of a company offering innovative technology in France may participate in this call for proposals.

Each candidate may present only one application for each call for proposals.

Each project may be carried out by several people of which only one may be the official candidate; such person will serve as the special delegate for the program. The other people will constitute the team as described in the application.

### Article 3: Description of the project

The projects may range from an exploratory stage to an implementation stage, already sufficiently elaborate and advanced. In accordance with the guidelines, the application must present a detailed description of the company-creation project and the state of its requirements as well as the resources needed for its maturation.

### Article 4: Intellectual and industrial property

Regardless of the type of project, the candidates must thoroughly and accurately describe the overall state of their project with regard to intellectual property (including but not limited to all steps taken to legally protect such intellectual property rights) and obstacles which could arise because of prior commitments or agreements undertaken or executed by the candidate or a member of the team or because if any intellectual property or invention assignments arising in the course of employment or research (particularly in the case of post-doctorates).

Candidates already employed by an existing company must provide proof that they have the freedom to operate the technology presented within the framework of the call for proposals and if applicable, supply a letter of consent from their current and prior employers for the plan to create a company using the technology in question.

### Article 5: Evaluation

The evaluation of the creation project is based on the following criteria:

#### *Project*

- scientific and technological quality
- innovative nature of the technology
- competitive advantages of the technology
- economic viability of the project according to its stage of development

- state of and control over intellectual property (freedom to operate).

#### *Team:*

- degree of motivation
- candidate's ability to learn the necessary skills for the creation of a company, particularly concerning economic and financial aspects
- overall strength of the team.



## **Article 6: Selection**

The selection, guidance and evaluation committee selects the projects on the basis of the criteria described in Article 5. Projects will be first preselected based on their written application. Then the selection is made in two steps, by an expert committee in the US, and by another one in France.

## **Article 7: Eligible expenditures**

Candidates will receive financial and logistical aid for the maturation of their project. Eligible expenditures are comprised of expenses related to candidates' travel (transportation, hotels) for two trips maximum lasting from one week to one month that must be made during the calendar year when the aid is granted.

## **Article 8: Obligations**

Winners of this initiative are required to:

- Personally and actively invest themselves in the outcome of their project to create their company on French territory
- Make the most suitable provisions in regard to protecting their rights to intellectual property
- Provide upon request by the Office for Science and Technology any information on the outcome or follow-up of their creation project
- Inform the Office for Science and Technology if the project is abandoned
- Provide an assessment of their efforts to form contacts

## **Article 9: Announcement of results**

Candidates and winners authorize the Office for Science and Technology to publish their names and the non-confidential description of their projects indicated on the application, in order to inform and communicate with the public about this initiative, without claiming any right whatsoever to this information.

## **Article 10: Confidentiality**

The members of the committees and those with access to the applications submitted for this program (representative of the partner institutions and experts) will agree in writing to keep all information on the projects confidential.

## **Article 11: Participation**

These regulations, the guidelines and the application form are available on the web site of the Office for Science and Technology (<http://www.france-science.org/innovation/yei>) during the call for proposals. Once the application is submitted, a delivery confirmation will be sent to the candidates. Applications that do not conform to the regulations will not be considered.

## **Article 12: Regulations**

All candidates acknowledge having read these regulations and accept all provisions hereof. Information concerning any changes to the timeline for application submission will be made available to candidates as promptly as practicable.