

## DEBIOPHARM / Valais award

### The award

Debiopharm invites since 2008 to tender for an innovation award in the fields of Science and Life Technologies. The main objectives of this award are the following:

- Encourage the development of innovative activities in the fields of Science and Life Technologies in Valais.
- Foster a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in the fields of Science and Life Technologies, in collaboration with the economic development in Valais in general and The Ark Foundation in particular ([www.theark.ch](http://www.theark.ch)).
- Reward an innovation that meets a market need by helping its author to put on the market the results of his work and to create jobs.

The Debiopharm / Valais award is granted for a concrete innovative achievement (i.e. a product, a technology and/or a service), ideally close to marketing stage. The award is endowed with CHF 20'000.-.

### Award ceremony

The award ceremony 2009 will take place on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at BioArk Monthey.

### Rules

- Eligible are students, researchers and companies (start-up companies, SMEs) whose research work has resulted in an innovation that can be applied to the fields of Science and Life Technologies in the broad sense of the terms. The innovation must present a potential economic impact on the canton of Valais (i.e. the researcher works in Valais and/or works with or envisages collaborate with a company located in Valais).
- The submitted applications are reviewed by a panel of experts.
- The award will be granted by vote of the majority of the jury members present. In case of a tied vote, the chairman of the jury will hold the casting vote.
- The decision of the jury is final and unappealable.
- The jury reserves the right to divide the award.

- The application documents will be dealt with confidentially. They will not be returned to the candidates at the end of the evaluation and will not be used for other purposes.
- In principle, the DEBIOPHARM / Valais award is granted every year. No award will be granted if the quality and the degree of innovation of the submitted projects are considered insufficient by the jury.
- The award is not a goal in itself. It must encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship and will be combined with other support measures in view of facilitating the creation of enterprises (coaching, admission to a business incubator, help in finding sources of funding, help with the launch of the company, etc.).

## Applications

### Submission

- Applications must be written in English, French or German and must not exceed 15 pages (A4 format). A one-page summary must be attached to the application.
- Applications must be submitted not later than March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009, by email only to: [prix-debiopharm@hevs.ch](mailto:prix-debiopharm@hevs.ch)

### General information on the content of the application

Based on the past experience, the jury puts emphasis on the fact that the application is written in a clear and understandable manner, with indication of the name and coordinates of the contact person. The application shall inform in particular on the developed product / technology, on its competitive advantages towards existing products / technologies, on the current market, its needs and the evolution on the short to medium term and finally on the quality / expertise of the people involved in the project.

The product or technology potential to create employment is a decisive criterion for the evaluation of the application.

The jury reserves the right to eliminate applications that would be insufficient or not enough explicit, even if it is a remarkable work from an innovation point of view.

## Further information

Requests for further information can be sent to [prix-debiopharm@hevs.ch](mailto:prix-debiopharm@hevs.ch).

Martigny/Sion 8.01.2009