

InnoDIGITAL, Financial Support for UNIL-CHUV Innovation in the Digital Field

InnoTREK-DIGITAL

Participation Conditions and Evaluation Process

1. Purpose

InnoDIGITAL, a financial support program for innovation at UNIL and CHUV, was created by PACTT (renamed in June 2025 to Knowledge Transfer UNIL CHUV – KT UNIL CHUV) to encourage innovation within UNIL and CHUV and to foster the valorization of projects in the digital field originating from these institutions.

With InnoTREK-DIGITAL, KT UNIL CHUV offers a grant to a limited number of projects, supporting the valorization of these digital innovations through the creation of a spin-off.

2. Eligibility Criteria

- The project is not yet sufficiently developed to be valorized through the creation of a start-up.
- The applicant is an employee of UNIL or CHUV.
- The grant must be used within one year.
- The applicant commits to providing KT UNIL CHUV with a report describing the results obtained with the support of InnoTREK-DIGITAL no later than one year after its allocation.
- Projects submitted by researchers must comply with ethical standards and institutional rules.



- Projects must focus on digital development; fundamental research projects are not eligible.
- If the request is related to a start-up creation, the start-up must not yet exist and must be incorporated in the canton of Vaud.

3. How to Apply

Applicants must submit the application form available on the KT UNIL CHUV website (www.pactt.ch), along with the required annexes.

Researchers may complement their application with any additional documents they deem useful for the understanding of their project.

Only duly completed applications that meet the eligibility criteria will be considered.

Applications must be submitted by email to KT UNIL CHUV at innofund@chuv.ch.

4. Selection Process

All submitted applications are subject to evaluation and selection by KT UNIL CHUV.

All information provided will be treated confidentially. KT UNIL CHUV may request an oral presentation from the project leader. Decisions are final, not subject to appeal, and deliberations remain confidential.

KT UNIL CHUV reserves the right to modify this document, postpone, or cancel the allocation of InnoTREK-DIGITAL.

Selection criteria include:

- Compliance with eligibility requirements,
- Entrepreneurial spirit, commitment, and motivation of the applicant,
- Innovative character of the digital project,
- Economic potential and/or societal or environmental impact.

5. Funding



The maximum amount allocated per project under InnoTREK-DIGITAL is CHF 40,000, depending on the project.

6. Eligible Expenses

The InnoTREK-DIGITAL grant is allocated for a period of one year.

Eligible expenses include:

- The salary of the project leader (in accordance with institutional salary policies),
- Purchase of equipment or other material resources dedicated to the project,
- Service or consultancy costs.

Alternative expense allocations may be accepted on a case-by-case basis according to project needs.

Employer social charges (approx. 15–21%) will be deducted from the grant by Human Resources.

Company incorporation costs (share capital of the spin-off) are not eligible.

7. Copyright, Invention, and Know-How

All copyrights, inventions, know-how, and intellectual property generated by the project leader before or during the funding must be reported to KT UNIL CHUV using the Software Disclosure Form (SWDF) for software or the Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) for inventions. These forms are available on the KT UNIL CHUV website.

The project leader agrees to provide KT UNIL CHUV with a copy of the software.

Intellectual property generated during the project remains the property of the institutions and will be managed by KT UNIL CHUV in accordance with applicable institutional directives: « Directive du Conseil de Direction UNIL-CHUV du 02.12.2009 relative aux contrats et à la valorisation de la recherche ».

8. Commitments

The project leader commits to providing KT UNIL CHUV with the FINAL Report – InnoTREK DIGITAL (available on the KT UNIL CHUV website www.pactt.ch) describing, in particular, the results obtained with InnoTREK-DIGITAL and the precise use of the allocated funding. The

FINAL Report – InnoTREK must be submitted at the end of the funding period and no later than twelve months after the start of funding.

The project leader also commits to delivering an oral presentation of the project to the KT UNIL CHUV team six months after the end of the funding. This fifteen-minute presentation must include, in particular, the entrepreneurial progress achieved since the start of the funding, an updated market study, and a business plan covering twenty-four months and ideally thirty-six months ahead. This presentation will provide both the candidate and the KT UNIL CHUV team with visibility on the feasibility and economic potential of the start-up as well as the entrepreneurial spirit of the project team.

The project leader commits to submitting to KT UNIL CHUV all software disclosures related to the project occurring before and during the funding period, as well as invention disclosures if the digital project presents patentable aspects.

In the event of termination or significant changes to the project during the funding year, the project leader commits to immediately informing KT UNIL CHUV and to reimbursing any unused portion of the grant.

The project leader commits to recording all results, in particular developed code lines, in a laboratory notebook or any other traceability tool related to the project (for example, lists of scripts used for development and their respective licenses).

The project leader commits not to make the software available to other entities without prior approval from KT UNIL CHUV.

The head of the host research group commits to providing the project leader with a project specification sheet in accordance with the participation conditions and defined according to the development plan presented in the InnoTREK-DIGITAL application.

Finally, the project leader commits to incorporating the start-up in the canton of Vaud. If the project leader plans to incorporate it in another canton or abroad, KT UNIL CHUV must be informed in writing at least three months prior to incorporation.

9. Communication

The project leader and the head of the host research group commit to:

- Providing KT UNIL CHUV with non-confidential information on the project upon request,



- Accepting that KT UNIL CHUV (on behalf of UNIL-CHUV) may reference the supported project in internal and external communications and use related images for the promotion of UNIL-CHUV technology transfer activities.

The project leader authorizes KT UNIL CHUV to store their personal data (name, first name, phone, private address, email, etc.).

10. Compliance with Conditions and Commitments

In case of non-compliance with the participation conditions or commitments, KT UNIL CHUV reserves the right to cancel the allocated InnoTREK-DIGITAL funding or take any necessary measures.

In such cases, the project leader and/or the head of the host laboratory agree to reimburse any unutilized portion of the grant.

Failure to comply with Article 8, paragraph 8, regarding incorporation of the start-up in the canton of Vaud, may result in KT UNIL CHUV requesting partial or full reimbursement of the InnoTREK-DIGITAL grant (up to CHF 40,000).