How it works:

During a one week summer camp, 30 selected graduate students will attend in-depth presentations about the pharmaceutical industry given by Merck Serono management, scientists and external experts.

Participants will work in small teams to generate an innovative idea that addresses a scientific challenge and develop the idea into a business plan.

Teams will receive coaching and guidance from experienced Merck Serono veterans, the summer camp moderator and Merck Serono Innovation Management.

The teams will present their business plans to a grand jury. The jury will be composed of Merck Serono top management plus external consultants.

The jury will select the best business plan and present the winning team with the Merck Serono Innovation Cup award and cash prize of EUR 10,000.

Further information:

Further information about the program and how to apply are available online:
http://innovationcup.merckserono.com

If selected, you will be invited to sign the participants’ agreement and attend the Innovation Summer Camp in Seeheim-Jugenheim, Germany from August 25 to August 30, 2013. Travel, accommodation and food expenses will be paid by Merck Serono.
Key dates

Application period:
Start Jan 14 - March 15, 2013

Summer Camp:
August 25-30, 2013

Winners announced:
September 2, 2013

Who can apply:

Merck Serono invites advanced students in the fields of life-science and business administration from all over the world to apply for participation in the Merck Serono Innovation Cup. 30 students will be selected:

- Sciences: Post-graduate students in the life sciences field on their way towards a PhD in biology, medicine, biotech, bioinformatics, biochemistry, pharmacy or related fields
- Business: Advanced MBA students or recent MBA graduates with an interest in the pharmaceutical business and a background in life sciences

What to expect:

During the weeklong Innovation Summer camp, participants will work together in small teams to:

- Learn the essentials about R&D within the pharmaceutical industry
- Understand how drugs are successfully discovered, developed and brought to market
- Get to know Merck Serono and learn about career options
- Work as part of a team to generate new ideas in the areas: Oncology, Immuno-Oncology, Osteoarthritis, Autoimmune Diseases, Bio- and Chemoengineering, Biochemical Sensors.
- Evaluate your ideas from a technical and business perspective and build a convincing business plan

The Merck Serono Innovation Cup in its third year will bring again together a promising new generation of academic talents from the life sciences and business administration in a meeting of the minds with Merck Serono retired professionals. It's all happening at the Summer Innovation Camp to be held near Frankfurt, Germany in August 2013.

What's in it for me?

If you are a post-graduate student with an interest in the pharmaceutical industry, the Merck Serono Innovation Cup could be your chance to gain in-depth knowledge about pharmaceutical research and development, to network with top students from around the world and build a business case together with experienced professionals. If your project is selected by our grand jury, your team will win a prize of EUR 10,000!