



2021 REGULATIONS FOR SPRING 50 CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

1) General background

Each year, Paris-Saclay SPRING turns the spotlight on 50 start-ups, gems of the ecosystem. These start-ups are promoted through an exhibition (Innovation Villages) and for some through a public oral presentation (pitch contest).

For several years, the Ile-de-France region, the urban area communities of Paris-Saclay, Saint Quentin en Yvelines, Versailles Grand Parc, the CCI Essonne, Versailles Yvelines, the University of Paris-Saclay, the Institut Polytechnique de Paris, and all the partners associated with the event, wish to honor companies and start-ups representative of the area and of the technological innovation and scientific excellence of the Paris-Saclay cluster.

The structuring of the Paris-Saclay cluster (two formal academic clusters, the University of Paris-Saclay in 14th place in the Shanghai ranking, 10 years of regional planning) and the structuring of the French Tech Paris-Saclay provide the opportunity to reaffirm Paris-Saclay's position as an area that generates high added value deep-tech companies.

To commend the winning start-ups of Paris-Saclay SPRING, the **SPRING 50** selection was created. This will give them additional visibility vis-à-vis the media, manufacturers and investors.

2) Purpose of the Regulations

On May 20 and 21, 2021, EPA Paris-Saclay is organizing the Paris-Saclay SPRING event on the Paris-Saclay Urban Campus, in the premises of the **École normale supérieure Paris-Saclay, 4 avenue des Sciences 91190 Gif-sur-Yvette** and virtually via a digital platform.

These two days feature several key events:

Schedule	May 20	May 21
Live TV studio with lectures, keynotes, joint interviews, etc.	X	
Pitch Contest	X	
Innovation Village (physical)	X	
Innovation Village (virtual fair)	X	X
Business meetings, prearranged meetings	X	X
Award ceremony	X	

Innovation circuit (open house at R&D centers)		X
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The 2021 theme chosen by the organizers and which will serve as a common thread for the event is:

“Paris-Saclay: the resilience of an innovation community. How are proximity and creativity essential to tackle the crisis?”

The SPRING 50 call for applications is organized and managed by the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Essonne and Versailles-Yvelines, the French Tech Paris-Saclay and the EPA Paris-Saclay.

3) Conditions and eligibility

SPRING 50 primarily targets start-ups in the seed stage (series A).

SPRING 50 can also be open, to a limited extent, to more mature start-ups or scale-ups that have gone through product development or had significant business traction in the months preceding the Paris-Saclay SPRING edition.

Application is free but reserved for start-ups from or linked to the Paris-Saclay ecosystem:

- Located in the Paris-Saclay [geographical area](#)
- Supported by the Paris-Saclay [innovation hubs](#)
- Working closely with one or more stakeholders in the Paris-Saclay area
- Students and/or doctoral students from an institution of higher education or a research organization in the area
- In the process of relocating to the area (holding a lease or a title deed)

Special attention will be given to start-ups that have a project in the following areas:

- FoodTech (agtech, food products, nutrition, B2C, B2B services)
- GreenTech (energy, environment, smart building, urban ecology)
- Mobility (technologies, services, products related to the mobility of goods or people)
- Health-Biotech (biotechnology, pharmacy, chemistry, e-health, medtech, well-being, silver economy)
- Digital Technologies (software, AI, quantum computing, cybersecurity, blockchain, 5G, AR-VR, etc.)

The organizers will select 50 start-ups who will present their activities at the event through the Innovation Village.

Among these 50 winners, 10 will be selected to pitch their start-up live in the TV studio on May 20, 2021.

4) Application procedures

The call for applications is made on the Paris-Saclay Startup platform in order to create a continuum between the tools of the cluster, extend the visibility of start-ups, offer them additional services and promote the innovation hubs.

The application file (French or English) must contain:

- Up-to-date start-up data sheet on www.paris-saclay-startup.com
- PowerPoint presentation (10-15 slides maximum)
- Link to a short video presenting the innovative solution (1 to 2 minutes)

The deadline for submitting applications is Friday March 26, 2021, 8:00 p.m (Paris time).

5) 2021 selection of SPRING 50 winners

Once all the applications have been received, the organizers will form a selection committee which will choose 50 innovative companies. These 50 winners will have access to media communications and physical and virtual exhibitions (Innovation Village) to promote their project.

The organizers will pay particular attention to the following:

- Clarity and precision of the presentation of the company and its business activity
- Development stage, availability of a demo, prototype, product or pre-series
- Level of innovation and development potential (product, service, market positioning and relevance)
- Legitimacy and ability to execute (team, partnerships, resources)
- Development strategy, road map and consistency of figures
- How the proposed solution contributes to meeting the challenges of tomorrow (sustainable development, environment, social issues, etc.)

From this selection, 10 companies will be short-listed to participate in the live broadcast in the TV studio. They will then present their business via a 4-minute pitch in French or English.

The organizers and the selected candidates will make contact, prior to the Paris-Saclay SPRING day, in order to prepare and organize their participation as effectively as possible.

All successful candidates must physically attend the event and be present at their stand and available for appointments throughout the Paris-Saclay SPRING event.

Unsuccessful candidates will also be able to participate in the event for free.

Their application will automatically register them for the event, allowing them to participate in business meetings to meet other participants (investors, manufacturers, etc.). It also offers access to lectures, keynotes, joint interviews and to the live TV studio.

6) Award ceremony

A press relations plan, managed by the EPA Paris-Saclay and relayed by all the partners, will announce the 50 winning start-ups that have been selected to be part of the 2021 SPRING 50.

In the fall, the SPRING 50 winning start-ups will also be invited to an exclusive networking event with the Sponsor of the 2021 edition and the French Tech Paris-Saclay.

For the 10 candidates selected to pitch in the TV studio, an individual coaching session will be organized ahead of the event (provisional date: May 4). It is mandatory for them to attend this coaching session. An order of appearance in the TV studio for each pitch will be established and sent to the candidates.

At the end of the first day (May 20, 2021), two winners will be honored and will receive the grants provided by the event partners.

The Jury award:

The winner will be selected by a jury made up of the event's industry and investment partners. To arrive at a decision, the jury will meet the 10 winners at their stands throughout the day in order to interact with the entrepreneurs.

The jury members will meet at the end of the day to deliberate and pick the winner.

The Audience award:

The winner will be chosen by the audience following a vote organized via the event's live streaming platform.

The results will be announced on May 20, 2021 during the closing and award ceremony.

In the event the same start-up is chosen as winner by the jury and by the audience, the start-up selected as the audience's second favorite will be declared the winner.

7) Details of equipment at the Innovation Village

All the winners will have two stands at Paris-Saclay SPRING:

- A 4-sq.m. physical stand at ENS Paris-Saclay which will be arranged in one of the thematic villages available. This stand will be equipped with the company's advertising totem, an electric inlet, a bar table and two high stools. Wi-Fi access will also be available.
- A virtual stand, during the physical exhibition, from the dedicated platform to promote their activity to remote participants.

Any additional request for technical assistance, furniture or anything else will be chargeable and must be addressed to the organizers no later than the end of April.

The setup of the physical stand will depend on the health measures in force on the date of the event.

8) Additional terms and conditions

During the event, a photo and video system will record the event to produce a film and a photo album that can be used for promotional purposes (making a film, using photos to create promotional documents, creating websites, etc.) on the French national territory for a period of 3 years after the event.

Therefore, by participating in the Paris-Saclay SPRING event, the participants hereby authorize the Organizers to use their image, if applicable, within the strict framework of the promotion of Paris-Saclay SPRING.

After approval of the application, the Organizers shall allow any participant to include the following statement in their marketing and promotional documents: "Participant in Paris-Saclay SPRING May 20, 2021 @ENSParisSaclay". In addition, all participants consent to the Organizers reporting their participation in the said event.

The Organizers reserve the right for any reason whatsoever to modify, replace, extend, shorten, suspend or cancel the event without notice and without incurring any liability as a result. In the event that this should occur, the Organizers naturally undertake to inform the participants as soon as possible. No compensation may be sought by the candidates.

All participants undertake to ensure that their stand is in proper working order during its period of use and agree to be present at it throughout their interview.

All participants must provide proof, upon request, of insurance covering their civil liability, as well as all damages for which they may be held liable, in particular: theft, fire, damage, or destruction of any piece of equipment or facility. Participants and their insurers waive their right to any and all claims against EPA Paris-Saclay and its insurers. On the day of the event and at any time during the setup and teardown of the event, the Organizers cannot be held liable for any damage, loss, theft, etc. suffered by the equipment exhibited by the participants.

In the event of a dispute that arises during the execution of these regulations, the Organizers and the participants will attempt to settle it amicably.

In accordance with the French Data Protection Act, you have the right to access your personal data and have it corrected or deleted. You also have the right to the portability of your personal data and, if you have consented to the use of your data for marketing and communication purposes, the right to object or to withdraw. You can exercise this right by contacting the Data Protection Officer at: dpo@oin-paris-saclay.fr

As a last resort, you may file a complaint with the CNIL.