

**Faculty of Humanities**

**EPSRC Doctoral Training Partnership Studentship**

**Call for Nominations**

**2024/25 Entry**

EPSRC Doctoral Training Partnership PhD proposals are invited that fall within any of the EPSRC [themes](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/our-research-portfolio-and-priorities/#contents-list). More information about the EPSRC DTP funding can be found on [Doctoral Training Partnerships – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/career-and-skills-development/studentships/doctoral-training-partnerships/).

**Funding**

There is **one** studentship available, that can be offered on a 3.5-year or 4-year full-time basis, depending on the programme of registration but excluding SPP. The studentship will provide:

* tuition fees at (Home) UKRI approved rate
* an annual stipend at the standard UKRI rate (or pro rata if part-time)
* £1,000/year research training support grant (RTSG)
* additional support for periods of illness, maternity leave, and placements, in accordance with UKRI policy

**CASE Conversion**

The award can be converted to ICASE. To convert an EPSRC DTP to a CASE Studentship the Industrial funding component should be a third of the overall value of the studentship. To be an Industrial CASE sponsor, companies must have established UK-based research and/or commercial production capability. More information can be found on [Industrial CASE – UKRI](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/career-and-skills-development/studentships/industrial-case/).

**Eligibility criteria**

1. The award is open to Home and International candidates[[1]](#footnote-1).
2. Candidates must have an upper second-class honours degree or above and a master's degree with an overall mark of 60% or above, or an equivalent combination of qualifications and/or experience. Additionally, they are expected to meet the specific requirements of the intended PhD programme.
3. The proposed research project must be within the remit of EPSRC’s research themes as follows:
* Advanced materials
* Artificial intelligence and robotics
* Circular Economy
* Digital Economy
* Digital twins
* Energy and decarbonisation
* Engineering
* Healthcare technologies
* Information and communication technologies (ICT)
* Manufacturing the future
* Mathematical sciences
* Physical sciences
* Quantum technologies
* Research Infrastructure

Candidates and supervisors should consult the EPSRC website for further details of the eligible [research areas](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/#contents-list) and [themes](https://www.ukri.org/councils/epsrc/remit-programmes-and-priorities/our-research-portfolio-and-priorities/#contents-list). The research proposal should be a maximum of 1,500 words excluding references.

1. PGRs who have started the PhD are not eligible.

**Selection Process**

The scheme requires the School to put forward a candidate for consideration by the Doctoral Academy.  Before submitting the nomination form for the scheme, the chosen candidate MUST hold a formal offer for a PhD from the School; this will ensure they meet all the standard entry requirements and have been through the standard admissions process.

Each School will nominate one candidate of high calibre whose research projects are aligned with EPSRC research theme(s). The **EPSRC DTP Studentship Nomination Form** must be submitted by the School to the Doctoral Academy for their selected candidate.  A formal Doctoral Academy selection panel consisting of the Faculty Associate Dean for PGR, the Faculty Deputy Associate Dean for PGR and an independent panel member with expertise of the remit of EPSRC will score nominations based on:

1. Proposal quality and research potential
2. Preparedness for research

Schools nominating an international candidate should note that if selected by the panel, the award will be subject to consideration by the Faculty of Science and Engineering (FSE) as the grant holder. The Doctoral Academy will liaise with FSE only after the candidates have been approved by the Doctoral Academy selection panel. The Home and International tuition fee difference must also be covered by the School.

The Doctoral Academy Admissions Team will communicate the outcome to the supervisor and candidate. An award letter will be sent to the successful candidate outlining the award details and conditions.

**Timetable for recruitment**

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|   | **Deadline**  |
| Formal Offers to be issued  | By 30 April 2024  |
| Offer holders to work with the proposed main supervisor and submit the completed nomination form to the Doctoral Academy   | 15 May 2024  |
| Admissions Team to collate nomination forms and grant access to SPGRD for consideration and selection  | By 17 May 2024  |
| Schools to provide the name of their nominee to the Doctoral Academy  | 31 May 2024   |
| Formal Doctoral Academy Panel selection of the candidate  | Mid-June 2024  |

**Administration of the awards**

The Doctoral Academy team will:

* + create Je-S documents at the beginning of the studentship.
	+ process tuition fees and stipend payments and support the PGR with RTSG which is allocated through either the requisition or reimbursement (PR7) process.
	+ Changes to PGR registration (including changes to the proposed project, mode of attendance, early submission, interruption, extension) must follow the current process of approval.
1. Under EPSRC DTP 30% residential eligibility relaxation rule, the School may exceptionally nominate International candidates. These will be subject to approval by FSE Associate Dean PGR. The EPSRC DTP awards will cover Home tuition fees only and the School will have to underwrite the tuition fee difference (via the offset account) for the entire period of the studentships. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)