

**POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH**  
**FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES GUIDE**  
**25/26**



# POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2025/26

The FBMH Doctoral Academy oversees a wide range of Postgraduate Research (PGR) funding opportunities which are available for supervisors. A summary of current schemes is included in this document and includes (where confirmed) the relevant dates for calls, applications and offers.

## **Funded schemes**

Each opportunity will also be launched via Faculty Announcements and posted on the Doctoral Academy [intranet pages](#). Many of the schemes are competitive, which means there are more projects advertised than the number of studentships available to ensure the highest quality candidates are selected.

Information for potential candidates will be advertised and made available on the relevant external facing websites when each scheme goes live.

## **Alternative external funding**

Alongside our funded schemes, we strongly encourage supervisors to consider alternative routes to support PGRs. The Doctoral Academy provides costings, advice and support for supervisors wishing to submit applications for externally funded studentships i.e. via charities, the NHS etc. Full details on our process and timeframe to support applications can be found on our [intranet page](#).

We will also support and work with the [Business Engagement Team](#) for studentships funded by industry. The Doctoral Academy facilitates advertising of funded studentships which will ensure all processes are followed prior to an offer is made.

## **Self arranged funding**

We receive many applications from candidates with self arranged funding (through sponsors, government, personal funds, employers) which are directed to supervisors following submission of a formal application.

The Admissions team will undertake qualification assessments of applicants and Division PGR Tutors will undertake an independent interview on request. Supervisors are encouraged to submit [self funded projects](#) which will be advertised on [our website](#) and FindAPhD.



# APPLICATION DEADLINES

Outside of our funded schemes - which have their own application deadlines - we have fixed application deadlines for each intake, and it is important that supervisors understand these deadlines when applying for external funding or engaging with potential applicants, as we cannot accept late applications.

- September entry deadline for applications: 15 June
- January entry deadline for applications: 15 October
- April entry deadline for application: 15 January

# PROJECT APPROVAL

Prior to any offer being made, supervisors are required to outline full details of the supervisory team (in line with [University PGR Supervision policy](#)), the project, funding arrangements and training.

For most funded schemes this is gathered as part of the project call documentation, but for all other routes supervisors are required to complete a [PGR Project Approval Form](#)\* well in advance (this will be provided by the Doctoral Academy Admissions team).

All projects, regardless of route/funding, will need to be approved by the Senior Tutor and/or Head of Division for consistency.

Please refer to our [supervisory eligibility and expectations statement](#) which applies to all projects, regardless of funding.

*\*Division of Cancer Sciences supervisors have a local version of this form*

# NOTE

The dates set out in this document are provisional and subject to change. They will be confirmed once calls are sent out - please contact the Admissions team if you require further information.





# BICENTENARY PHD STUDENTSHIPS

To mark our 200th year, the University is investing nearly £10m into the Bicentenary PhD and Fellows Programme which includes 35-40 fully funded postgraduate researchers for 2025/26 and 2026/27. Studentships will drive forward international research excellence within leading research groups and vibrant training and research environments across four areas of strategic importance.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home and overseas
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	35-40
<b>Contact</b>	David Bechtold Associate Dean for PGR
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	W/C Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 4 November 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Friday 29 November 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 10 January 2025
<b>Panel interviews</b>	W/C Monday 10 March 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/bicentenary-scholarships/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/bicentenary-scholarships/)







Medical  
Research  
Council

## MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL DTP

The MRC DTP offers various routes for supervisors/applicants including DTP studentships and student led projects, with 21 awarded by the MRC and 7 match funded.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs, training support
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home or overseas applicants (30% overseas quota)
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	21
<b>Contact</b>	Anna Woollams MRC DTP Director
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	August 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 23 September 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 15 November 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	W/C Monday 20 January 2025

Find out more  
[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funded-programmes/mrc-dtp/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funded-programmes/mrc-dtp/)



Medical  
Research  
Council

## MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL CASE

The MRC offers CASE studentships in biomedical, clinical and health services areas in collaboration with an industrial partner, with 6 awarded by the MRC and 3 CASE match funded.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs, training support
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home or overseas applicants (30% overseas quota)
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	9
<b>Contact</b>	Anna Woollams MRC DTP Director
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	August 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 23 September 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 15 November 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	W/C Monday 20 January 2025

Find out more  
[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funded-programmes/mrc-dtp/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funded-programmes/mrc-dtp/)



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

Manchester  
Centre

## MANCHESTER CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE STUDENTSHIPS - CRUK MANCHESTER CENTRE

MCRC-CRUK Manchester Centre manage a number of schemes to support both clinical and non-clinical PhD projects, plus an MB-PhD programme. Timelines are for clinical and non-clinical programmes only. Enquiries regarding MB-PhD programme timelines should be addressed to the email contact below.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, stipend/salary, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home or overseas applicants (30% overseas quota)
<b>Duration</b>	3-4 years (depending on scheme)
<b>No. places available</b>	10-11 (across all schemes)
<b>Contact</b>	<a href="mailto:mcrctraining@manchester.ac.uk">mcrctraining@manchester.ac.uk</a>
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	July 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 2 September 2024
<b>Applications accepted from (clin/non-clin)</b>	Friday 11 October 2024
<b>Application deadline (clin/non-clin)</b>	Friday 15 November 2024
<b>Panel interviews (clin/non-clin)</b>	Friday 17 January 2025

Find out more:

PhD: [www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/mcrc-training-scheme/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/mcrc-training-scheme/)  
MB-PhD: [www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/cruk-mb-phd/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/cruk-mb-phd/)



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

Manchester  
Institute

## CANCER RESEARCH UK INSTITUTE STUDENTSHIPS

The Cancer Research UK (CRUK) Institute MI award non-clinical PhD projects.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, stipend/salary, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home or overseas applicants (30% overseas quota)
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	6-7
<b>Contact</b>	Tim Somerville/Julie Edwards <a href="mailto:pgt@cruk.manchester.ac.uk">pgt@cruk.manchester.ac.uk</a>
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	September 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	-
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	-
<b>Application deadline</b>	November/December 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	January/February 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/cruk-phd-studentships/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/cruk-phd-studentships/)





## THE KENNEDY TRUST MB-PHD

The Kennedy Trust IMPACT Inflammation MB-PhD is a fully funded three year programme aimed at MBChB students who wish to intercalate and train as clinician-scientists.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, stipend, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Priority given to UoM and St Andrews applicants but open to all institutions.
<b>Duration</b>	3 years
<b>No. places available</b>	4
<b>Contact</b>	Anne Barton Programme Director
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	-
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	-
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 13 December 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	June 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/kennedy-trust-phd/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/kennedy-trust-phd/)

## EXCELLENCE IN DIVERSITY PHD SCHOLARSHIPS

These fully funded studentships are for PGR candidates from under-represented groups. There is no internal call for projects as candidates apply for the scholarship and they are supported in finding a supervisor/project following successful interview.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home applicants from under-represented backgrounds ( <a href="#">see website for info</a> )
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	3
<b>Contact</b>	Anna Hood
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	October 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	N/A
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Monday 11 November 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	W/C Monday 13 January 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/excellence-in-diversity-phd-scholarships/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/excellence-in-diversity-phd-scholarships/)



Economic  
and Social  
Research Council

## ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL NWSS CASE & DTP

Each year FBMH are allocated funding from the ESRC DTP & CASE award held in the Faculty of Humanities. The Doctoral Academy then co-ordinate an internal call for projects to award studentships.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home and overseas
<b>Duration</b>	3-4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	Varies
<b>Contact</b>	TBC
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	Summer
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	TBC
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	TBC
<b>Application deadline</b>	TBC
<b>Panel interviews</b>	TBC

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/esrc-nwssdtp/funding/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/esrc-nwssdtp/funding/)



# THE ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY DOCTORAL TRAINING CENTRE

The Alzheimer's Society DTC provides  
fully funded PhD opportunities for UK nationals.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home applicants
<b>Duration</b>	4 years
<b>No. places available</b>	TBC
<b>Contact</b>	Josie Thomas josephine.thomas@manchester.ac.uk
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	W/C Monday 14 October 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 28 October 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	W/C Monday 18 November 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 20 December 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	W/C Monday 3 March 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/alzheimers-society-dtc/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funded-programmes/alzheimers-society-dtc/)



# 4WARD NORTH PHD PROGRAMME

4Ward North PhD Programme for Health Professionals is a partnership between the Universities of Manchester, Leeds, Newcastle and Sheffield and funded by Wellcome. We encourage applications from a diverse and inclusive range of healthcare professionals, including nursing, midwifery, and allied health. 4Ward North PhD Fellowships should include supervision from at least two of the 4Ward North institutions and be within the Wellcome discovery research remit.

<b>Funding</b>	Salary, tuition fees, project consumables (approx. max. total is £300,000)
<b>Eligibility</b>	Practicing healthcare professionals, registered with professional regulatory body in the UK/Ireland. Medical graduates must be registered on UK/ROI specialist training programme or be a registered GP
<b>Duration</b>	36 months FT (or PT equivalent)
<b>No. places available</b>	5
<b>Contact</b>	Dr Saini Manninen <a href="mailto:n4@manchester.ac.uk">n4@manchester.ac.uk</a>
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	August 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 30 September 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	July 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Monday 30 September 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	April 2025

Find out more:  
[www.4wardnorth.org.uk](http://www.4wardnorth.org.uk)







# INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS AND FUNDING

Each year, in conjunction with the Vice-Dean for internationalisation, a number of studentships will be available and used to support our international partnerships and strategic collaborations.

The priority for these international partnerships is European institutions and collaborations, however, the focus may shift from year to year, depending on Faculty priorities.

We also have schemes open to overseas candidates only, to ensure we can attract the highest quality candidates from overseas (including EU).

More information on each of our international partnerships and funding can be found on the following pages.

# PRESIDENT'S DOCTORAL SCHOLAR AWARDS

Fully funded studentships for candidates from overseas. There is no call for projects but candidates apply for the scholarship and need to obtain an academic offer before being nominated by their supervisor for an internal panel review and interview. Supervisors are encouraged to have a self-funded project advertised to attract potential candidates

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees (max band 2), UKRI stipend plus £1k p/a enhancement
<b>Eligibility</b>	Overseas applicants with a First Class degree or equivalent
<b>Duration</b>	3.5 years
<b>No. places available</b>	5
<b>Contact</b>	TBC Director for International PGR
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	October 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	N/A
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 7 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Wednesday 15 January 2025
<b>Panel interviews</b>	March 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/presidents-doctoral-scholar-awards/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/presidents-doctoral-scholar-awards/)

# UOM-CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL SCHEME

Fully funded studentships for candidates from China. There's no call for projects but candidates apply for the scholarship and need to obtain an academic offer before being nominated by their supervisor for an internal panel interview. Selected candidates must then apply to CSC directly for a final decision on awards. Supervisors are encouraged to have a self-funded project advertised to attract potential candidates. This also includes the Innovation pathway.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees (max band 2) covered by FBMH and stipend covered by CSC
<b>Eligibility</b>	Chinese applicants
<b>Duration</b>	3 years
<b>No. places available</b>	6
<b>Contact</b>	TBC Director for International PGR
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	November 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	-
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Monday 13 January 2025
<b>Panel interviews</b>	February 2025

Find out more:

[www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/csc-scholarship/](http://www.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/study/research/funding-fees/funding-opportunities/csc-scholarship/)



# INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP PHD STUDENTSHIPS

Studentships are available to support collaboration between the Faculty and European institutions including University of Bordeaux, Heidelberg University, Karolinska Institute, KTHG Royal Institute of Technology (Stockholm). Applications that include collaboration or visits to any European university or research institution will also be considered.

<b>Funding</b>	Tuition fees, UKRI stipend, project costs, £5k pa Research Training Support Grant, £1,000 contribution to PGR travel costs
<b>Eligibility</b>	Home and overseas
<b>Duration</b>	4
<b>No. places available</b>	6
<b>Contact</b>	Keith Brennan Vice Dean for Internationalisation
<b>Call for projects launched</b>	July 2024
<b>Project submission deadline</b>	Monday 23 September 2024
<b>Applications accepted from</b>	Monday 21 October 2024
<b>Application deadline</b>	Friday 29 November 2024
<b>Panel interviews</b>	Friday 21 February 2025

Find out more:

Contact: [fbmh.doctoralacademy.admissions@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:fbmh.doctoralacademy.admissions@manchester.ac.uk)



# ALL PROGRAMMES - SUMMARY OF KEY DATES

Scheme	Call for projects launched	Deadline for project submission	Projects advertised	Application deadline	Supervisor nominations	Interviews
4WARD North PhD Programme	Aug 24	30 Sep 24	July 24	30 Sep 24	-	April 25
Excellence in Diversity PhD Scholarships	Oct 24	-	7 Oct 24	11 Nov 24	-	W/C 13 Jan 25
MRC DTP	Aug 24	23 Sep 24	7 Oct 24	15 Nov 24	13 Dec 24	W/C 20 Jan 25
MCRC (Clinical/Non-clinical)	Jul 24	2 Sep 24	11 Oct 24	15 Nov 24	19 Dec 24	17 Jan 25
International Partnerships	Jul 24	23 Sep 24	21 Oct 24	29 Nov 24	6 Jan 25	W/C 27 Jan 25
CRUK MI	Sep 24	-	-	Nov/Dec 24	TBC	Jan/Feb 25
The Kennedy Trust MB-PhD	-	-	7 Oct 24	13 Dec 24	-	Jun 25
Alzheimer's DTC	W/C 14 Oct 24	28 Oct 24	W/C 18 Nov 24	20 Dec 24	3 Feb 25	W/C 3 Mar 25
Bicentenary PhD Studentship	7 Oct 24	4 Nov 24	29 Nov 24	10 Jan 25	17 Feb 25	W/C 10 Mar 25
UOM-China Scholarship Council	Nov 24	TBC	TBC	13 Jan 25	14 Feb 25	Feb 25
President's Doctoral Scholar Award	Oct 24	-	-	15 Jan 25	21 Feb 25	Mar 25
MCRC (MB-PhD)	Jul 24	2 Sep 24	11 Oct 24	7 Mar 25	-	W/C 28 Apr 25
ESRC NWSS CASE & DTP	Summer 24	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	Mar 25



## OTHER FUNDING SCHEMES

There are a number of schemes managed in the Faculty of Science and Engineering, and the Faculty of Humanities which permit FBMH supervisors as the main PI.

Some of these are listed on [our website](#) and supervisors can get in touch with colleagues in FSE or HUMS directly for more information.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Prof David Bechtold - Associate Dean for Postgraduate Research  
[david.bechtold@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:david.bechtold@manchester.ac.uk)

Jessica Bowler - PGR Services Manager  
[jessica.bowler@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jessica.bowler@manchester.ac.uk)

Kirsty Eaton - PGR Recruitment and Admissions Officer  
[kirsty.eaton@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:kirsty.eaton@manchester.ac.uk)

Christian Ward - PGR Student Marketing and Recruitment Officer  
[christian.ward@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:christian.ward@manchester.ac.uk)

Doctoral Academy - Admissions Team  
[FBMH.doctoralacademy.admissions@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:FBMH.doctoralacademy.admissions@manchester.ac.uk)

Senior Tutor / Tutors  
<https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/protected/display.aspx?DocID=29711>



# USEFUL LINKS

MANCHESTER  
1824

The University of Manchester

## **FBMH Doctoral Academy intranet**

- <https://www.staffnet.manchester.ac.uk/bmh/research/doctoral-academy/>

## **FBMH Postgraduate Research website**

- <https://www.manchester.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-research/>

## **FBMH Doctoral Academy website for current PGRs**

- <https://www.doctoral-academy.bmh.manchester.ac.uk/>

## **Supervisor Toolkit**

- <https://www.researcherdevelopment.manchester.ac.uk/supervisors/>

