

'UNDERSTANDING POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH FUNDING IN BIOLOGY, MEDICINE AND HEALTH'

30 SEPTEMBER 2026



TODAY'S PANEL



CHRISTIAN WARD

Host; Marketing and
Recruitment



KIRSTY EATON

Recruitment and
Admissions



SANYUKTA

Postgraduate researcher



RENATO

Postgraduate researcher



REBECCA

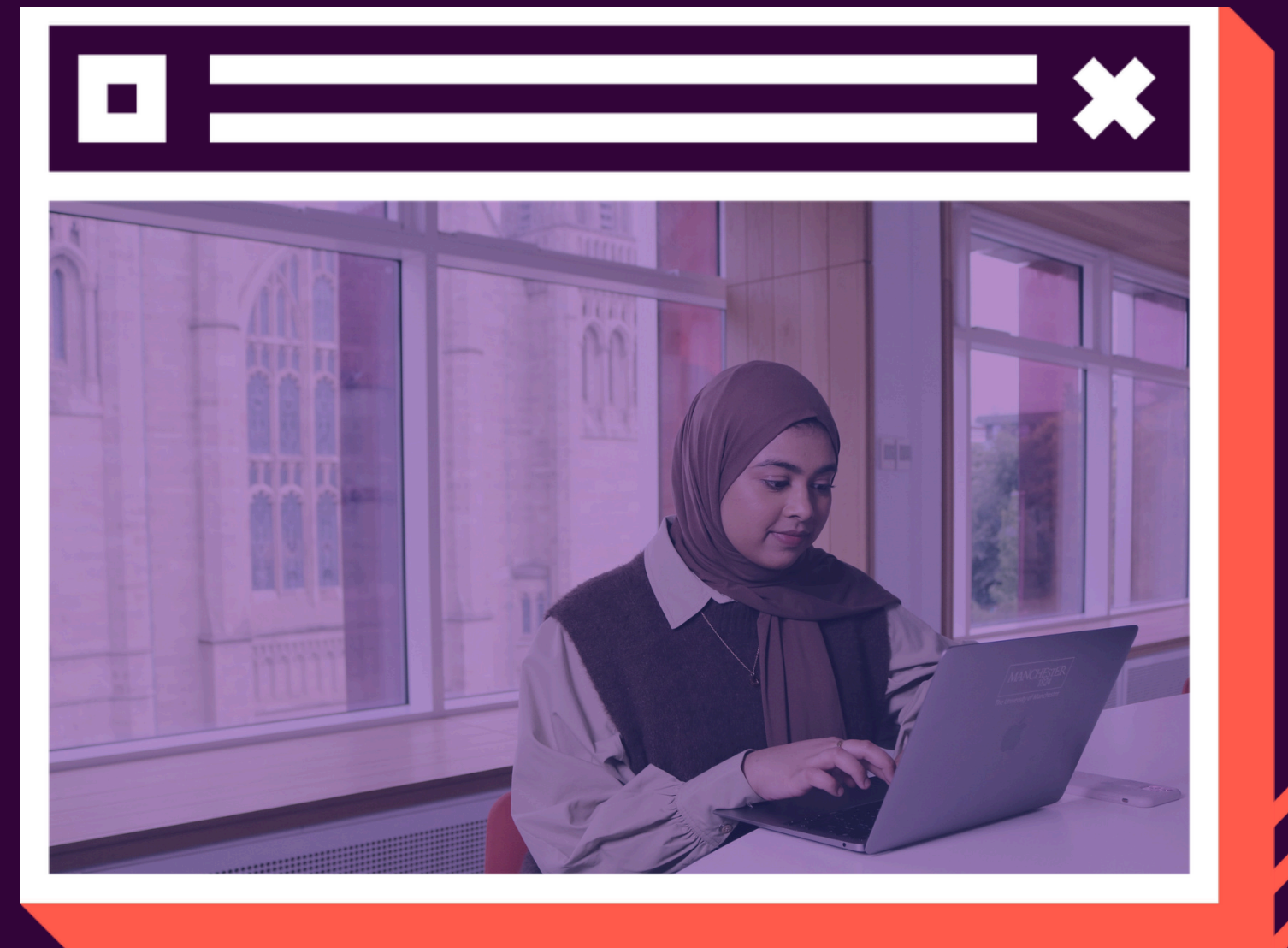
Postgraduate researcher

POLL

**WHAT STAGE OF THE PGR
JOURNEY ARE YOU AT?
LET US KNOW VIA THE POLL**

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YOUR JOURNEY TO PGR



WHAT ARE POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH COSTS?

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TUITION FEES



RESEARCH COSTS



LIVING COSTS



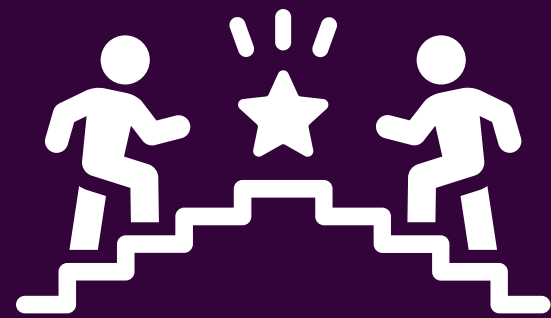
RELOCATION COSTS

TYPES OF PHD OPPORTUNITY

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ADVERTISED/SUPERVISOR PROPOSED



COMPETITION FUNDED
PROJECT



DIRECTLY FUNDED
PROJECT



SELF-FUNDED
PROJECT

PROGRAMME BASED



DIRECT APPLICATION
FUNDED PROGRAMMES
(PROJECTS NOT
ADVERTISED)

SELF-PROPOSED

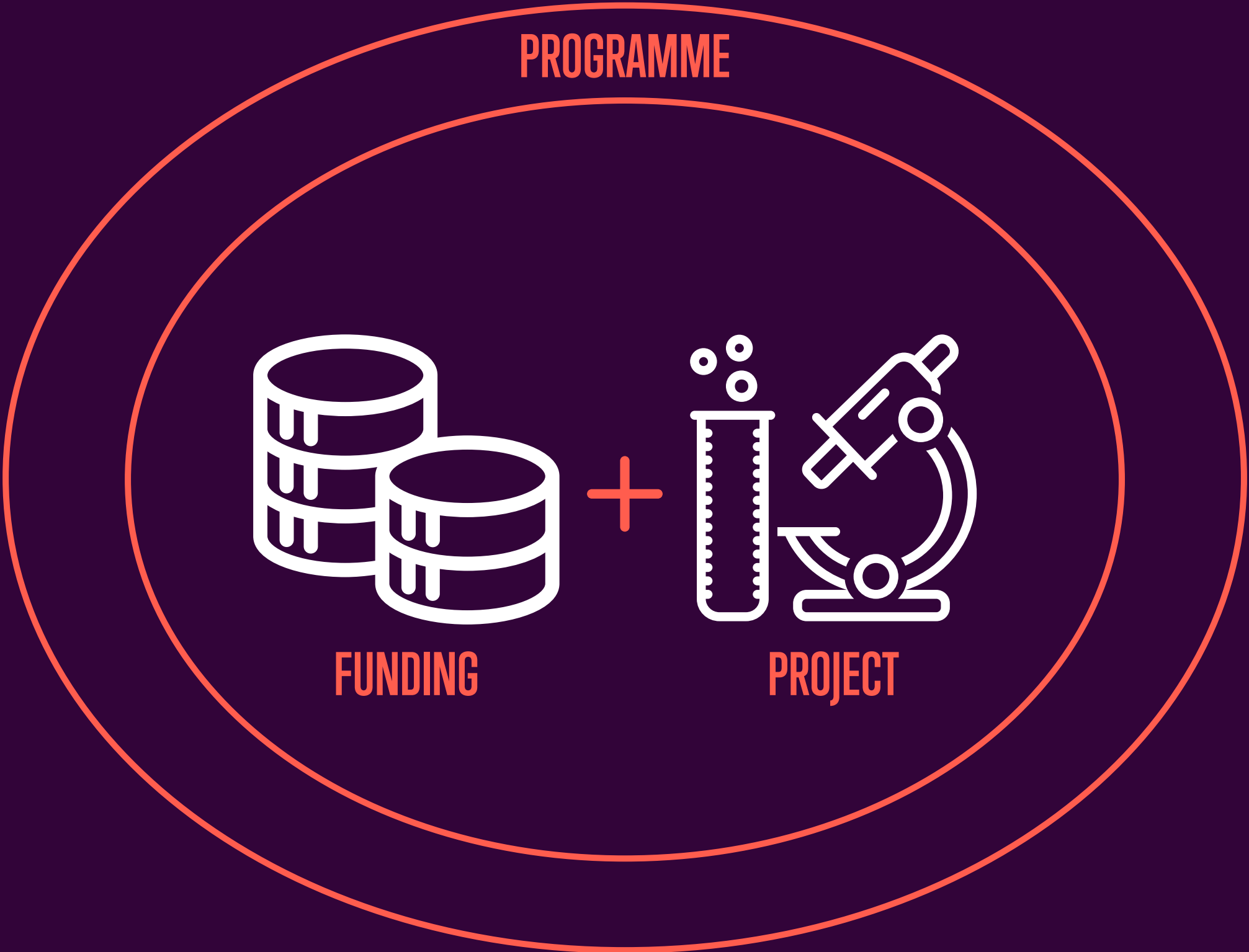


SELF-PROPOSED
PROJECT

COMPETITION FUNDED PROJECTS

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COMPETITION FUNDED RESEARCH COUNCIL PROGRAMMES

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Medical
Research
Council

MRC NORTH WEST DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN MEDICAL SCIENCE

- Develop as a biomedical researcher through a fully funded doctoral training programme delivered by The University of Manchester and The University of Liverpool.
- Open to home and international applicants
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cohort-based training across two leading research-intensive universities
 - Placements, collaborative projects and specialist training with industry partners
- **Applications open from 26 October to 7 November 2026**



[UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-MRC](https://uom.link/bmh-pgr-mrc)



Biotechnology and
Biological Sciences
Research Council

BBSRC NORTH WEST DOCTORAL PROGRAMME IN BIOSCIENCE

- Develop as an interdisciplinary bioscientist through a fully funded doctoral training programme delivered by The University of Manchester and The University of Liverpool.
- Open to home and international applicants
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cohort-based training across two leading research-intensive universities
 - Industry placements and professional internship opportunities
- **Applications open from 2 November to 4 December 2026**



[UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-BBSRC](https://uom.link/bmh-pgr-bbsrc)

COMPETITION FUNDED RESEARCH COUNCIL PROGRAMMES

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Engineering and
Physical Sciences
Research Council

EPSRC DOCTORAL TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

- Develop solutions to healthcare challenges through a fully funded doctoral training programme in engineering and physical sciences.
- Open to home and international applicants
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Interdisciplinary projects addressing healthcare challenges
 - Up to £5,000 per year for training and development
- **Applications open from 19 October to 16 November 2026**



*UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
EPSRC*



UK Research
and Innovation

THE CONTROL AND DESIGN OF BIOENGINEERED MICROBIAL CELLS AND SYSTEMS PHD

- Train as a microbial bioengineer through a fully funded doctoral training programme in engineering biology.
- Open to home applicants only.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Training across microbial bioengineering and synthetic biology
 - Industry engagement and innovation-focused development
- **Application dates to be confirmed**



*UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
CODEM*

COMPETITION FUNDED UNIVERSITY PROGRAMMES

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PRESIDENT'S DOCTORAL SCHOLAR AWARD

- Pursue interdisciplinary research through the University's flagship doctoral scholarship for outstanding PhD candidates.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Exclusive leadership and professional development programme
 - Interdisciplinary projects spanning multiple faculties
- **Applications open from 30 October to 18 December 2026**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
PDS

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The University of Manchester

PHD BY ENTERPRISE

- Turn your research into real-world impact through a fully funded doctoral training programme in research commercialisation and venture creation.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Structured entrepreneurship and enterprise training
 - Mentoring to support venture creation and innovation
- **Applications dates to be confirmed**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
ENTERPRISE

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INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP PHD STUDENTSHIP

- Undertake a globally connected PhD through a fully funded studentship with an international partner institution.
- Open to home and international applicants
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Research experience at an international partner institution
 - Funding to support international research travel
- **Applications open from 9 November to 11 December 2026**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
INTERNATIONAL

COMPETITION FUNDED CANCER RESEARCH UK PROGRAMMES

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MCRC PHD TRAINING SCHEME

- Develop as a cancer researcher through a fully funded doctoral training programme within the Cancer Research UK Manchester Centre.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Training across basic, translational and clinical cancer research
 - Access to Manchester's integrated cancer research ecosystem
- **Applications open from 12 October to 23 November 2026**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-MCRC



MCRC MB-PHD

- Train as a clinician-scientist through a fully funded programme combining medical training with cancer research.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Combined MBChB and PhD training pathway
 - Mentoring and career development for future clinical academics
- **Applications open from 26 September 2026 to 15 March 2027**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-MCRC-MB-PHD



CRUK MI PHD STUDENTSHIPS

- Train as a cancer research scientist through a fully funded four-year PhD programme at the Cancer Research UK Manchester Institute.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Training in basic, translational and clinical cancer research
 - Access to world-class facilities and expert mentorship
- **Applications dates to be confirmed**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-CRUK-MI

COMPETITION FUNDED CHARITY PROGRAMMES

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**ALZHEIMER'S SOCIETY
DOCTORAL TRAINING CENTRE**

- Develop as a dementia researcher through a fully funded doctoral training programme focused on vascular and immune contributors to dementia.
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cohort-based training across leading UK institutions
 - Industry placements and public engagement opportunities
- **Applications open from 23 November to 21 December 2026**



**UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-
ALZHEIMERS**

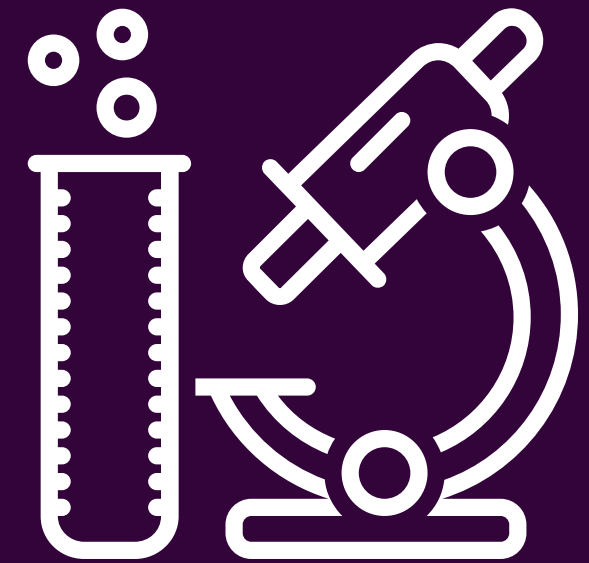
DIRECT APPLICATION PROGRAMMES

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FUNDING



**PROJECT DEFINED OR
CHOSEN DURING
PROGRAMME**

DIRECT APPLICATION PROGRAMMES



Medical
Research
Council

MRC CORE IN EXPOSOME IMMUNOLOGY PHD STUDENTSHIPS

- Explore how environmental exposures influence immune responses through a fully funded doctoral training programme at The University of Manchester and the University of Oxford
- Open to home and international applicants.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cohort-based training across two leading research-intensive universities
 - Opportunities to shape your project and supervisory team
- **Applications open from 14 September to 20 November (Man) / 1 December 2026 (Ox)**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-MOXIE



BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION MULTIDISCIPLINARY PHD PROGRAMME

- Develop as a cardiovascular researcher through a fully funded doctoral training programme focused on understanding the links between heart and brain disease.
- Open to home applicants only.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cohort-based training across Manchester, Liverpool and Bristol
 - Research rotations and multidisciplinary project development
- **Applications open from 5 October to 9 November 2026**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-BHF-CHAIN

4WARD NORTH PHD PROGRAMME

- Develop as a clinical academic through a fully funded PhD programme for practicing healthcare professionals.
- Open to home applicants only.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Cross-institution supervision across leading UK universities
 - Mentoring, placements and clinical academic career support
- **Phsae 2 applications open from 2 November 2026 to 25 January 2027**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-4WARD

DIRECTLY FUNDED PROJECTS

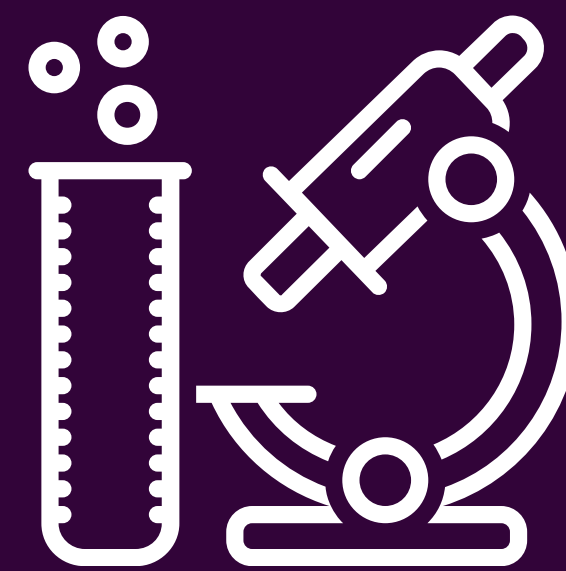
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FUNDING

+



PROJECT

DIRECTLY FUNDED PROJECTS

EXAMPLES OF CURRENTLY AVAILABLE PROJECTS

Co-Designing Just-in-Time Adaptive Interventions (JITaIs) for Sustained Behavioural Change in Cardiac Rehabilitation

Division of Nursing, Midwifery and Social Work

PhD Research Project Directly Funded Students Worldwide

Dr Amy Blakemore, Prof Nursat Husain, Dr H Hague

Application Deadline: 15 October 2026

[View Details](#)

Risk of Major Adverse Cardiovascular Events (MACE) in Patients with Psoriasis

Division of Musculoskeletal and Dermatological Sciences

PhD Research Project Directly Funded Students Worldwide

Dr Oras Alabas, Dr Lianne Kearsley-Fleet, Dr J Sergeant, Dr Richard Warren

Application Deadline: 15 October 2026

[View Details](#)

Cell and joint-type specificity in the gene regulation underlying osteoarthritis risk

Division of Musculoskeletal and Dermatological Sciences

PhD Research Project Directly Funded UK Students

Dr Sarah Rice, Dr Gisela Orozco

Application Deadline: 09 October 2026

[View Details](#)

Exploring the relationship between school and home brushing behaviour

Division of Dentistry

PhD Research Project Directly Funded UK Students

Dr George Kitsaras, Dr M Goodwin, Prof J Clarkson, Dr Lucy O'Malley

Application Deadline: 15 October 2026

[View Details](#)



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEATH AND CARE RESEARCH
AFFORD (Affordable Cardiac Rehabilitation: An
Outreach Inter-Disciplinary Strategic Study)**



PSORIASIS ASSOCIATION PHD STUDENTSHIP



SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES STUDENTSHIP

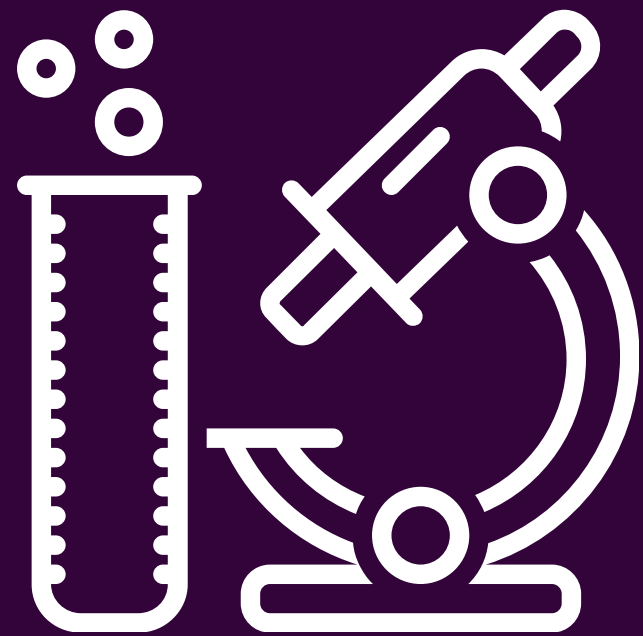


DENTAL HEALTH UNIT STUDENTSHIP

SELF-FUNDING

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**SELF-FUNDED PROJECT OR
SELF-PROPOSED PROJECT**



FUNDING

SELF-FUNDING UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

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EXCELLENCE IN DIVERSITY PHD SCHOLARSHIP

- Fully funded PhD scholarships supporting UK applicants from groups under-represented in postgraduate research.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Projects shaped around your research interests
 - Dedicated support, mentoring and peer community
- **Applications open from 5 October to 9 November 2026**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-DIVERSITY

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UOM-CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL JOINT SCHOLARSHIP

- Pursue a fully funded PhD through a joint scholarship between The University of Manchester and the China Scholarship Council.
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Living allowances prescribed by the Chinese government
 - Full living support provided through the CSC
 - Opportunity to develop UK-China research collaborations
- **Applications open from 1 October 2026 to 11 January 2027**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-CSC



Economic
and Social
Research Council

ESRC NORTH WEST SOCIAL SCIENCE DOCTORAL TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

- Develop as a social science researcher through a fully funded doctoral training programme in psychology, health and wellbeing, or social studies of science, technology and medicine.
- Open to home and international applicants
- Includes:
 - Tuition fees
 - Annual tax-free stipend at UKRI rate
 - Specialist training through an ESRC-funded pathway
 - Opportunities for collaborative and partner-led research
- **Applications dates to be confirmed**



UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-ESRC

***SELF-FUNDING** OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES*

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EXTERNAL FUNDING: TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

- **Funding may be available from foundations and professional bodies linked to your research area.**
- Opportunities vary by subject, nationality and career background.
- Funding can cover tuition fees, living costs and research expenses.
- Start searching early, as application deadlines are often 6-12 months before entry.

HOME GOVERNMENT FUNDING

- **For international candidates**
- Some governments sponsor students to undertake doctoral study overseas.
- Funding may cover tuition fees, living costs and travel expenses.
- Eligibility, application processes and funding levels vary by country.
- Check with your government's education ministry or scholarship agency for available schemes.

POSTGRADUATE DOCTORAL LOAN (UK AND IRISH CITIZENS OR SETTLED STATUS, LIVING IN UK)

- **For UK and Irish citizens or those with settled status, living in the UK only**
- The loan can help contribute towards tuition fees and living costs.
- You receive the funding directly and choose how to use it during your PhD.
- The loan can be combined with some other sources of funding.

INDUSTRY

- **Companies and industry partners sometimes can sponsor doctoral research aligned to their priorities.**
- Funding may support tuition fees, living costs and research expenses.
- Projects often provide opportunities to work with industry alongside your academic research.
- Industry-funded PhDs can help develop professional networks and sector experience.

SELF-FUNDING

- **Pay your tuition fees and living costs independently or with family support.**
- Gives you flexibility to apply for self-proposed research projects.
- Many self-funded students combine personal funding with savings, employment or loans.
- Careful financial planning is important before starting your PhD.
- You will be required to show evidence you'll be able cover living costs for the duration of your PhD.

A group of 15 postgraduate researchers, consisting of 10 women and 5 men, are posed in two rows in front of the University of Manchester building. The building is a large, historic stone structure with Gothic architectural features, including pointed arch windows and a central entrance. The text "UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER" is visible above the entrance. The group is diverse in age and appearance. The front row consists of seven people crouching or kneeling, while the back row has eight people standing. The entire image has a purple color overlay.

MEET OUR POSTGRADUATE RESEARCHERS

SANYUKTA: MY JOURNEY TO POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

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- I began my journey with a Bachelor's and Master's in Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, where I explored both biological and computational approaches to research.
- I chose Pharmaceutical Sciences because I wanted to take biological discoveries a step further and explore how they can become effective therapies.
- My PhD focuses on developing nanoparticle-based delivery systems to improve the stability and antimicrobial efficacy of antimicrobial peptides.
- I chose the University of Manchester for its strong interdisciplinary research environment and expertise in pharmaceutical sciences.
- I hope to contribute to innovative drug development while continuing to bridge research, healthcare and science communication.



RENATO: MY JOURNEY TO POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

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- Originally from Portugal, I did a Bachelor's in Molecular Biology and Genetics and a Master's in Biotechnology.
- Worked as a research fellow and clinical analyst in Portugal, and as a research technician in Austria and Germany. Most work was done in stem cells.
- I reached out to my PI by email with a research proposal and applied for student-led project MRC program under his mentorship. I presented my project to a committee and was offered the PhD and Scholarship.
- PhD project in spinal cord regeneration using *Xenopus* tadpoles as animal models
- UoM has a high world ranking, good funding, many available facilities, and a lot of entrepreneurship opportunities.
- After PhD, I hope to become a postdoc and eventually a PI, but I am also very interested in starting a startup.



REBECCA: MY JOURNEY TO POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH

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- Completed an undergraduate BSc Hons Biotechnology with a year in computer science. Master in Multidisciplinary Research in Barcelona at Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Also, accumulated research experience during my undergraduate.
- Funded by CF Trust and LifeArc.
- Cystic Fibrosis lung microbiome exploring pathogen dynamics. Work both in the wet- and dry-lab.
- Manchester is big on impact, entrepreneurship opportunities, PGR experience and collaboration (e.g. MERMan).
- Keeping an open mind, but keen to stay in research taking on a postdoctoral role.



PANEL Q&A

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GOT A QUESTION FOR OUR PANEL?
ADD IT TO THE Q&A CHAT



NEXT STEPS

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO DISCOVER MORE
INCLUDING HOW TO APPLY, AVAILABLE
PROJECTS, FUNDING AND MORE.**
UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-WEBINAR-MORE



**SIGN-UP TO OUR MAILING LIST
TO RECEIVE OUR FUNDING ALERTS, EVENT
UPDATES AND OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER.**
UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-WEBINAR-SIGNUP

UPCOMING EVENTS

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POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH
OPEN DAY

21 OCT 26

2PM - 5PM
ON CAMPUS

'THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTACTING A
SUPERVISOR'

7 OCT 26

1PM - 2PM
(GMT)

'PHD LIFE IN THE FACULTY OF BIOLOGY,
MEDICINE AND HEALTH'

11 NOV 26

1PM - 2PM
(GMT)

'PREPARING FOR A
PGR INTERVIEW'

9 DEC 26

1PM - 2PM
(GMT)

BOOK YOUR PLACE [UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-OPEN-DAY-BOOK](https://uom.link/bmh-pgr-open-day-book)
BOOK YOUR PLACE [UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-WEBINAR-BOOK](https://uom.link/bmh-pgr-webinar-book)

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

**LET US KNOW YOUR FEEDBACK VIA
OUR POST-EVENT SURVEY**

[UOM.LINK/BMH-PGR-SURVEY](https://uom.link/bmh-pgr-survey)

