



EPSRC Mathematical Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) Studentship Guide

PGR Funding Team : rkes-res@strath.ac.uk

1. Introduction

The EPSRC Mathematical Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) funding is part of a £300 million of additional funding for mathematical sciences announced by the Government on 27 January 2020, and is in addition to the Mathematical Sciences DTP allocation made for 2020/21, which the University leveraged to fund 6 48-month studentships. The 2021/22 award is to support doctoral training across any area of mathematical sciences research, and there is broad latitude to use the funding to support doctoral training in areas across the breadth of mathematical sciences research.

Whilst primary supervision is expected to be in the Departments of Mathematics and Statistics, Computer and Information Sciences, and Management Science, cross-Departmental/School/Faculty supervision of projects is strongly encouraged.

2. Application Process

- An application must be made by the proposed academic supervisor(s) on the dedicated EPSRC Mathematical Sciences Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) Studentships application form.
- The application will then be reviewed by the PGR Funding Team prior to consideration by a dedicated panel, comprising the Vice Dean (VDR) (Research) Science, the Head of Department, Mathematics and Statistics, and the Postgraduate Director, Mathematics and Statistics, and supported by additional relevant reviewers as deemed appropriate.
- Following panel assessment, the PGR Funding Team will contact all applicants relating to the outcomes of their applications, requesting any further information that may be required.
- The Deputy Associate Principal (DAP) Research & Knowledge Exchange (R&KE) will act to oversee and approve all studentships submitted and supported by the above panel.

3. Allocation of Funds

- The University is in a position to part-fund 4 EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP Studentships for commencement on 1st October 2021.
- A maximum of £60,077.33 may be requested per studentship from the EPSRC grant.
- An additional £23,425.67 is required to complete the 48-month funding package (fees and [minimum UKRI annual stipend rate](#)).
- Matched funding can come from internal sources (Faculty, Department/School, supervisor); however, external industrial funding is strongly encouraged.
- Each studentship will also have a budget of £1,500 per annum of Research Training Support Grant (RTSG) funding available to the student. These funds will be transferred to dedicated Departmental/School accounts set up for the grant.
- The EPSRC funds cannot be used in conjunction with any central University funding sources (e.g. SRSS, ISP, University SCDT studentships).
- The EPSRC budget cannot be used as a temporary code in advance of a budget being set up for external funds.
- Where a contract is required for external funding, the academic supervisor is responsible for initiating the contract process. The [Contracts Team](#) within RKES will support this requirement. A costing detailing the external financial contribution must also be completed by the academic supervisor using the [Costing and Pricing Module \(CPM\)](#) within FMS. When contacting the Contracts Team, please ensure that you include the following (if available):-
 - Costing reference;
 - Details of the industrial partner contribution including the detailed split;
 - Project proposal;
 - Any other relevant information/documentation (e.g. draft contract; terms and conditions; offer letter; contact details).
- The EPSRC allocation to a studentship must be used within 4 years, as a result of the terms and conditions of the grant. Should a student funded through the scheme take voluntary suspension during the studentship, the EPSRC allocation for that year should be used in full, where possible.

4. Studentships

- Studentships must be 48-months in duration, and must commence on 1st October 2021.
- Once approved, studentship positions must be advertised on the University's [Postgraduate Research & PhD Opportunities page](#).
- It may be possible to consider international students, with 'Overseas' fee status, for the EPSRC Mathematical Sciences Studentships. The PGR Funding Team must be contacted in the first instance to determine if there is a space available on the grant's flexibility list. Should a place be available, the PGR Funding Team must be notified of how the difference between the Home and International fee is being covered for the full duration of the studentship. This can be covered by the student themselves, or any other source apart from UKRI funds.
- In response to recent increased UKRI equality, diversity and inclusion (E,D&I) reporting requirements, an E,D&I monitoring and reporting process has been established for the scheme. Please see the EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP E,D&I Reporting Procedure document.
- **Medical Leave** - For EPSRC-funded students, the EPSRC grant will cover stipend payments for absences covered by a medical certificate for up to thirteen weeks (3 months) within any 12-month period. Voluntary suspension must be taken for the period to allow fee payments to be suspended and the studentship duration to be extended. Students, or their Department/School or supervisor, should contact the PGR Funding Team as soon as possible when voluntary suspension is being considered, as it may have an impact on the overall funding.
- **Maternity, Paternity, Adoption, and Parental Leave** - EPSRC-funded students are entitled to up to 52 weeks (12 months) of maternity leave. The first 26 weeks (6 months) is paid at full stipend rate. The following 13 weeks (3 months) are paid at a level commensurate with employee entitlements to statutory maternity pay. The final 13 weeks are not paid. Partners are entitled to up to 10 days paid Ordinary Paternity Leave on full stipend. Partners may be entitled to up to 50 weeks of unpaid Parental Leave. The EPSRC DTP budget can contribute the full amount of the maternity/ paternity leave payments; any such leave payments will be in addition to the agreed original EPSRC studentship contribution. Voluntary suspension should be taken for the period to allow fee payments to be suspended and the studentship duration to be extended.
- **Shared Parental Leave** – As EPSRC do not have provision for paid shared parental leave under their grants, students funded through the EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP grant will be eligible to apply for paid shared parental leave from the [PGR Leave Support Fund](#).
- **Carers Leave** – As EPSRC do not have provision for carers leave under their grants, students funded through the EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP grant will be eligible to apply for carers leave from the [PGR Leave Support Fund](#).
- Extensions to maximum duration of study, other than for the reasons above, are not recognised by the EPSRC, and students who are granted extensions by the University will be recorded as late submissions in the annual PhD Submission Survey.

5. Training

While it is assumed that transferrable skills will be delivered through the [Researcher Professional Development Programme](#), additional training opportunities for students are also encouraged.

6. Reporting

Following award of a studentship, upon identification of a candidate, the academic supervisor is required to report the name of the candidate to the PGR Funding Team. This will allow the Team to check the eligibility of the candidate against the studentship and issue the studentship letter. The studentship letter will act as confirmation of the award and candidates should not be informed until they have received the official studentship letter.

Entering the student funding details to the PGR system will be the responsibility of the Departmental/School PGR Administrator/HaSS Graduate School, as standard.

The grant holder will be required to report on the activities of the grant during its lifetime. Supervisors of EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP studentships will be contacted to provide information on the studentship.

It is a condition of the award that the academic supervisor provide the information requested by any deadline set.

As a condition of UKRI studentship funding, all UKRI-funded students' details must be entered into UKRI's Joint Electronic System (Je-S) by no later than one month after the student commences their studies. Academic supervisors will be contacted by the PGR Funding Team to request the necessary information in a dedicated form, which will then be entered into the Je-S. Each funding council has a dedicated form, which can be found on PGR Funding Team's Portal pages. The PGR Funding Team must be informed of all changes to a student's status throughout the duration of the studentship as these must be recorded on Je-S.

To apply for an EPSRC Mathematical Sciences DTP Studentship please complete the dedicated application form and return to rkes-res@strath.ac.uk by **Friday, 6th August 2021**. Should you have any questions or require any advice relating to your application please contact the [PGR Funding Team](#).