

University of Nottingham EPSRC Doctoral Prize 2012 Further particulars

Applications are invited for the prestigious University of Nottingham 2012 EPSRC Doctoral Prize. The scheme aims to provide career development to the most able students to develop them beyond the end of their PhD, to help launch a successful career in research.

The EPSRC Doctoral Prize is an opportunity for the most outstanding EPSRC-funded PhD students to receive up to two years of additional support following their PhD. The Prize is targeted at excellent scientists and engineers who wish to establish a research career. This scheme is specifically to increase the impact of the PhD in terms of publications, knowledge transfer and outreach activities as a first step into an independent research career. The scheme is designed to offer support and flexibility.

Eligible applicants must have submitted a PhD (viva does not need to have taken place), which was supported by EPSRC in the form of fees and/or stipend, before the Doctoral Prize start date. Individuals who have been promised, or already have, a permanent position are considered to have achieved the aims of the scheme already and will not be eligible.

The Doctoral Prize aims to develop independent researchers and applicants are encouraged to move into new areas of research and demonstrate the ability to work independently from their former PhD supervisor.

Each Doctoral Prize offers:

- A Doctoral Prize stipend, with up to 24 months' independent funding
- An excellent research and training environment at the University of Nottingham
- A mentor scheme, with access to career development and advice
- The opportunity for overseas travel if applicable. The University of Nottingham has campuses in Malaysia and China, and is a member of the Universitas 21 group

Examples of how the support could be used:

- Time to complete key publications resulting from the PhD research
- Research resources or funding to visit other groups/facilitate knowledge transfer
- Outreach activities

Subjects covered:

Science, Engineering and Technology, Medicine within the EPSRC remit.

Eligibility:

- Candidates who have already submitted their PhD should have submitted it in the last six months (no earlier than 15th April). Candidates who are still to submit must submit prior to the Doctoral Prize start date. The Prize may be withdrawn if you are not awarded a PhD or are required to carry out substantial corrections in your thesis.
- Candidates must have been supported by EPSRC during their PhD in the form of fees and/or stipend, or as an EPSRC supported project grant student the University of Nottingham or another UK institution. Candidates who are studying at other universities are encouraged to apply.
- Candidates should be able to demonstrate a clear desire to follow an academic research career. You should not already hold or have been offered permanent academic position.
- The EPSRC require each successful Doctoral Prize holder to be assigned a Project Sponsor who is **not** their PhD supervisor to provide ongoing guidance and support the transition to an independent researcher. It is the applicant's responsibility to get support from a Project Sponsor, who must be willing to provide supervisory support and guidance and host the applicant in his/her lab if required. The Project Sponsor agrees the project focus with the applicant.

- Your proposed project must be within the EPSRC's academic remit:
<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/funding/apprev/basics/pages/remit.aspx>
- Applicants must be eligible to stay in the UK, international candidates may require a visa and should check their status with the UK Border Agency.

Length of Tenure:

Six to 24 months. The anticipated start date is January 2013.

Place of Tenure:

The University of Nottingham.

Value:

A stipend of £24,000 per annum (pro rata).

In addition, as part of your application you can request a fellowship grant for consumables, travel and outreach activities to support your research.

Application procedure:

- Applicants should specify their plans for the use of funds and discuss their application with the Head of School/Research Division, where the work is to be carried out, prior to submission (see contact details of participating Schools in Appendix 1). Candidates will need to obtain a statement of support from a Project Sponsor, two references and a statement of support from the relevant Head of School/Research Division.
- The following documents should be sent to pg-funding@nottingham.ac.uk:

By the applicant:

1. A completed UoN EPSRC Doctoral Prize application form including Annex 1 (project costs).
2. A detailed CV including full academic history, research and publications to date.

By the applicant, or directly from referees:

3. **Two** references, one of which to be from the principal PhD supervisor.
The referees report from must be emailed from a ".ac.uk" email address or signed, scanned and emailed to pg-funding@nottingham.ac.uk

By the applicant, or directly from the Project Sponsor:

4. Project Sponsor's supporting statement (also from a ".ac.uk" email address).

By the applicant, or directly from Head of School/Research Division:

5. A signed supporting statement from the relevant Head of School/Research Division indicating how the Doctoral Prize project plan would fit with the School's strategy, and what resources will be provided. This statement must be obtained from the Head of School/Research Division (also from a ".ac.uk" email address).
- Applications will be evaluated against the standard EPSRC postdoctoral assessment criteria as shown in Appendix 2.
 - Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview. Interviews will be held in November.

Closing date:

15th October 2012 (noon). Applications received after this time will NOT be considered.

Enquiries:

Informal enquiries should be addressed to pg-funding@nottingham.ac.uk

Appendix 1 EPSRC Doctoral Prize Schools Contacts

Faculty of Science			
Biosciences	Professor Neil Crout	neil.crout@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9516253
Chemistry	Professor Mark Searle	mark.searle@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9513529
Computer Sciences and Information Technology	Professor Uwe Aickelin	uwe.aickelin@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9514215
Mathematical Sciences	Professor David Riley	david.riley@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 951386
Pharmacy	Professor Kevin Shakesheff	kevin.shakesheff@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9513101
Physics and Astronomy	Professor Richard Bowtell	richard.bowtell@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9514737
Psychology	Professor Paul McGraw	paul.mcgraw@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9515295
Faculty of Engineering	Professor Sam Kingham, Associate Dean for Research	sam.kingman@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9514165
Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences			
Biology/Institute of Genetics	Professor John Armour	john.armour@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8230308
Biomedical Sciences	Professor Steve Hill	stephen.hill@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8230082
Clinical Sciences	Professor John Atherton	john.atherton@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8231034
Community Health Sciences	Professor Penny Standon	p.standen@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8230233
Graduate Entry Medicine &	Professor Gillian Manning	gillian.manning@nottingham.ac.uk	(01332) 724682
Molecular Medical Sciences	Professor Paul Williams	paul.williams@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 951 5047
Nursing, Midwifery &	Professor Mark Avis	mark.avis@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8230812
Veterinary Medicine and Science	Chris Holland, PA to the Foundation Dean	chris.holland@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 9516411
Faculty of Social Sciences, Law & Education			
Geography	Professor Andrew Leyshon	andrew.leyshon@nottingham.ac.uk	(0115) 8466147

Appendix 2 EPSRC Postgraduate Assessment Criteria

Your application will be assessed by a panel of senior academics against the following criteria:

Assessment Criteria:	Postdoctoral:
Research Quality	<p>Your research should demonstrate a high degree of novelty in the proposed research in comparison to the broader research context of the area internationally.</p> <p>You should be able to articulate a strong vision for the research proposed in the application and possess the ability to deliver it.</p>
The Candidate	<p>You should be able to demonstrate a vision of the contribution that will be made to the research area and an independence of research ideas.</p> <p>You must show an awareness of research in other fields or across technology readiness levels, and an aspiration to work across boundaries and/or to conduct high risk research.</p> <p>You can show evidence of an aptitude and potential to lead, inspire and influence for example, through mentoring or self organisation of peers. You should show how you have developed of a network of relevant independent contacts.</p> <p>You must demonstrate excellent communications and interpersonal skills and show that you aspire to develop these across a broad audience.</p>
Importance	<p>Evidence of how the proposed research may underpin or contribute to societal challenges (including EPSRC challenge themes); other research areas; the success of the UK economy; and emerging industry.</p>
Research Environment	<p>You must be able to articulate a strong vision for your role in the team and how it will deliver the research proposed in the application.</p> <p>What was the justification for your choice of host organisation? They must be able to demonstrate an appropriate level of support and commitment to your career as evidenced through the Host Organisation Statement.</p>
Impact	<p>Who may benefit from the proposed research, how they may benefit and what will be done to ensure they have the opportunity to benefit.</p> <p>What pathways to impact activities will be undertaken?</p> <p>Evidence of how you will use your experience and networks to ensure the above two points?</p>
Resources and Management	<p>You must be able to justify the planning and project management of the proposed research programme, including the management of any staff requested.</p> <p>You must be able to demonstrate that the resources requested in this application are justified and appropriate for delivering the proposed research.</p>

	You should identify the main risks and put contingencies in place.
Fit to EPSRC Remit	Evidence that the proposed research is aligned to EPSRC strategic priorities as defined by individual Capability and Challenge Themes – please refer to Theme plans.