

## **BBSRC Industrial CASE Partnerships (ICP) Frequently asked questions**

### **How are ICP Studentships allocated?**

Block allocations of four-year studentships, covering the academic years 2014/15, 2015/16 and 2016/17, have been awarded to selected industrial partners.

### **How are the projects for each studentship decided?**

Projects are agreed between the industrial partners and the institutions they are collaborating with.

### **Once the projects are decided, what next?**

Please see '[Industrial CASE Partnerships Process](#)' document for full details of the next steps.

### **If the project outline is out of remit, can it be re-written?**

Yes, BBSRC will provide feedback on why the project was out of remit and this information should be used when re-writing a project outline (if applicable). The outline should be submitted to [ICP@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:ICP@bbsrc.ac.uk)

### **When will we know that funding for the studentship has been set up?**

Once BBSRC have received the academic partner form (please see '[Industrial CASE Partnerships Process](#)' document, the necessary arrangements will be made to set up the grant. An 'Offer Document' will be issued to the Je-S team at the relevant institution during June. (This document will contain the unique grant reference for the studentship). Please note that this document is **not** sent to the grant holder, it is the responsibility of the Je-S administration team to distribute copies as necessary.

### **When can we start advertising for students?**

You may advertise for students once the project has been confirmed as within BBSRC remit, funds for the studentship are then guaranteed. You do not have to wait for the Offer Document to be issued to advertise for prospective students.

### **When can a studentship start?**

Studentships normally start on 1 October of the academic year for which they allocated.

### **Can a studentship start before 1 October?**

Yes, but BBSRC funding will not be released any earlier. Therefore, funding from alternative sources would have to be used to cover any period between the student starting and BBSRC funding being released in October.

## Can a studentship start later in the year?

An ICP studentship may start at any time in the academic year i.e. 1 October to 30 September. The flexibility built into the ICP scheme allows industry partners to better integrate these studentships into their planning cycle.

## What is the BBSRC contribution to an ICP studentship?

The value of BBSRC studentship (training grant) funding (from 1 October 2017) is as follows:

- i. A maintenance stipend –
  - for students attending an institution outside London **£14,553**
  - for students attending an institution in London **£16,553**
  - \* for students with a recognised veterinary degree qualification **£22,456**
- ii. Fees **£4,195**
- iii. Research Training Support Grant (RTSG) **£5,000**
- iv. Conference and UK fieldwork expenses **£240**

\* As a BBSRC requirement any veterinary graduate funded through a BBSRC TG is entitled to the higher rate stipend applicable at the time. Normally BBSRC would expect these costs to be met from within the overall cash limit of the TG. This is particularly so with the flexibility afforded within the larger grants. However BBSRC recognises that such flexibility does not always exist when say only one or two studentships are fundable through an award. Where this is the case BBSRC is prepared to consider extra funding that cannot be met from the awarded funds. In order to request extra funding the RO must demonstrate that it lacks the flexibility within its TG to meet these costs and that it has no other contingency funding or concurrent TGs on which it could draw.

A form for claiming funds as a result of extra costs associated with paying a higher stipend to a veterinary graduate needs to be attached to the final expenditure statement which can be found at <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/studentships/studentships-index.aspx>

## What is the industrial company contribution to an ICP studentship?

The exact contributions made by the industrial partner should be agreed between the partner and the institution. However, BBSRC expects the contributions to be a minimum of £2,500 pa to top up the student stipend and a minimum of £1,400 pa to the academic department towards project costs.

### **Can a student be recruited on a part-time basis?**

Yes. Please see <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/grantstcs/> for further details.

### **What happens if a suitable student cannot be found for the studentship?**

If a suitable student cannot be found, then the studentship can be re-advertised with a later start date (please note that, as previously specified, studentships must commence by 30 September 2017 at the latest – further extensions are not possible).

### **Once the studentship is set-up, can the Research Organisation be changed?**

Yes. It is a requirement that any grant maintenance requests are submitted via the Je-S grant maintenance facility, this ensures requests are fully auditable and the Research Organisation's Administration Office is aware of and support potential changes to the grant. Please include all relevant information to support your change of Research Organisation request. The Je-S team at your institution will be able to do this for you.

Please ensure that the industrial partner is aware of and approves any change before submitting a grant maintenance request.

### **Once the studentship is set-up, can the academic supervisor be changed?**

Yes. It is a requirement that any grant maintenance requests are submitted via the Je-S grant maintenance facility, this ensures requests are fully auditable and the Research Organisation's Administration Office is aware of and support potential changes to the grant. Please include all relevant information to support your change of Research Organisation request. The Je-S team at your institution will be able to do this for you.

Please ensure that the industrial partner is aware of and approves any change before submitting a grant maintenance request.

### **Can we replace students who leave early?**

Yes, but BBSRC would expect the replacement student to be offered the same opportunities for research, training and development as the original student. Please see <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/grantstcs/> for further details.

It is a requirement that any grant maintenance requests are submitted via the Je-S grant maintenance facility, this ensures requests are fully auditable and the Research Organisation's Administration Office is aware of support potential changes to the grant. Please include all relevant information to support your change of Research Organisation request. The Je-S team at your institution will be able to do this for you.

Please ensure that the industrial partner is aware of and approves any change before submitting a grant maintenance request.

### **Contact**

Email: [ICP@bbsrc.ac.uk](mailto:ICP@bbsrc.ac.uk)