

Collaborative Training Partnerships (CTP) 'Frequently asked questions'

How are CTP Studentships allocated?

Block allocation of four-year studentships, covering the academic years 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20, have been awarded to selected non-academic partners.

How are the projects for each studentships decided?

Projects are agreed between the non-academic partners and the institutions they are collaborating with.

Once the projects are decided, what next?

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

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

Once BBSRC have received the Academic Partner form, (please see ['Collaborative Training Partnerships Process'](#) document) the necessary arrangements will be made to set up the grant. An 'Offer document' will be sent to the Je-S administration team at the relevant institution in the Summer. (This document will contain the 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 the university start advertising for students?

You may advertise for students once the project has been agreed between the relevant non-academic partners and institutions. Funds for each year's allocation are guaranteed by BBSRC. You do not have to wait for the Offer Document to be issued to advertise for prospective students.

When can a studentships start?

Studentships usually start on 1 October of the academic year in which they are allocated.

Can a studentship start before 1 October?

Yes, but BBSRC funding will not be released any earlier. Therefore funding from alternative sources should be used to cover any period between the student starting and BBSRC funding being released once the student commences.

Can a studentship start later in the year?

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

What is the BBSRC contribution to an CTP studentship?

The value of BBSRC studentship (training grant) funding (from 1 October 2018) is as follows:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| i. A maintenance stipend – | |
| for students attending an institution outside London | £14,777 |
| for students attending an institution in London | £16,777 |
| * for students with a recognised veterinary degree qualification | £22,806 |
| ii. Fees | £4,260 |
| 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 – please see <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/skills/investing-doctoral-training/students-with-a-veterinary-degree/> for further details.

What is the non-academic partner's contribution to a CTP studentship?

The non-academic partner must make an appropriate financial contribution to the training of the student, with an expectation of around 20 percent of the funding (cash or in-kind) to be provided by non-academic partner(s) and other sources (except other Research Council sources) or the RO.

It is required that the CTP partner makes a financial contribution to the training of the student, including all additional expenses, such as the cost of travel and accommodation, incurred by the student as a direct result of attendance at the premises of the non-academic organisation during placement or otherwise.

Financial contributions to the academic partner and/or student may vary and should have been agreed in advance by all partners.

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

Yes. Please see <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/> 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 deferred into the following year's allocation. Please note that the latest date a CTP studentship from the current allocations could start is 30 September 2020.

Should this situation arise, formal notification will be required from the company contact via email to ctp@bbsrc.ukri.org

If a student cannot be found, can the project be taken forward into the following academic year?

The project can be taken forward into the next academic year, as long as the science is still considered timely by the non-academic partner and institution.

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 that any requests are fully auditable and the Research Organisation is aware of and supports potential changes to the grant. Please include all relevant information to support your change of Research Organisation request. The Je-S administration team at your institution will be able to do this for you.

Please ensure that the non-academic 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 that any requests are fully auditable and the Research Organisation is aware of and supports potential changes to the grant. Please include all relevant information to support your change of supervisor request. The Je-S administration team at your institution will be able to do this for you.

Please ensure that the non-academic 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 <https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/grant-terms-and-conditions/> for further details.

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

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

Contact

Email: ctp@bbsrc.ukri.org