

Call for Engineering and Physical Sciences DTP PhD Applicants – Academic Year 2021-22

Deadline for applications: 3rd January 2021

Background

We are pleased to announce that the Engineering and Physical Sciences College Engineering and EPSRC DTP call for PhD applications is now open.

Our studentship awards aim to identify the best projects and recruit the best students to maintain the pipeline of the vibrant Engineering and Physical Sciences College research community. We aim to attract high calibre PhD candidates who will carry out postgraduate doctoral research that makes a significant contribution to research and knowledge in the relevant discipline.

The College of Engineering and Physical Sciences at Aston University has funding available for a total of 12 fully funded PhD studentships for the Academic Year 2021-22 (from DTP and college funds). Applicants can choose from a number of projects which have been proposed by Aston Academics and Researchers – see list below.

Funding

Engineering and Physical Sciences College DTP PhD studentships are fully funded for a minimum of 3 years. They include:

Stipend based on UKRI minimum (currently on £15,285 per annum)

Home fees (currently on £4,407 per annum)

Eligibility

To be classed as a home student, candidates must meet one of the following criteria:

- Be a UK National (meeting residency requirements),
- Have settled status,
- Have pre-settled status (meeting residency requirements),
- Have indefinite leave to remain or enter

If a candidate does not meet the criteria above, they would be classed as an International student.

This includes students from European Union member states, with the exception of the Republic of Ireland.

Further guidance on UKRI Eligibility Criteria can be found on the [UKRI website](#). Candidates will also be expected to meet [Aston University entry requirements](#).

Before you apply

Only limited funding is available for international candidates. We recommend that, if you do not meet the eligibility criteria above, you speak with the lead supervisor of the project you are interested in regarding funding options.

If you have any questions about how to apply to our studentships or the general process, please see our [guidelines for completing the application form](#). For any remaining queries contact pgr_admissions@aston.ac.uk. For any specific project queries, please contact the lead supervisor.

How to Apply

Projects are listed below and in the [Current Studentship Opportunities on our website](#), choose the project that you would like to apply for and contact the lead supervisor for those that particularly interest you. They can often provide further advice and information about the project.

Once you have decided which project you would like to apply for, [submit and online application](#) in the 'Making Your Application' section.

As part of the application you must provide:

- A **cover letter** that must include the Supervisor and name of the project you are interested in.
- **Copies** of your academic qualifications for your bachelor's degree, and Master's degree (if studied); this should include both certificates and transcripts, and must be translated into English.
- A **research proposal statement** (an original proposal is not required as the initial scope of the project has been defined, candidates should take this opportunity to detail how their knowledge and experience will benefit the project and should also be accompanied by a brief review of relevant research literature).
- A copy of your current **CV**.
- Two academic **references** (or contact details for the referees).
- Proof of your English Language proficiency, details of this can be found on our [website](#).

When should I apply?

Potential students may apply from the **8th of December 2020 until the 3rd Jan 2021**. Although we encourage any potential candidates to apply as soon as possible, incomplete applications will not be considered for the studentship and the Graduate School will not pursue applications submitted with missing documents. Similarly, applications received after the closing date will not be considered for the studentship.

Please notice Aston University will be closed from the 23rd of Dec to the 3rd January and queries won't be dealt with until the 4th Jan 2021.

What happens next

Applications received by 3rd January will be referred by Graduate School PGR Admissions to the potential Supervisor by Friday 22nd January 2021. Potential candidate interviews will be taken place on the week commencing 1st February 2021 (in person or by remote video connection) by at least 3 members of staff (Supervisor plus Associate Supervisor plus an independent senior member of staff). Applicants can expect to hear regarding the primary stage by the end of January and the outcome on – or shortly after, the 25th February 2021.

List of 2021-22 Projects [here](#)