

RESEARCH GRANT LINKED STUDENTSHIPS

From 1 November 2005 ESRC has agreed and arranged that research grant linked studentships (+3 or 1+3 awards) may be requested on any research application (including Centre and Programme applications) as long as:

- the grant applied for is for 3 years or more
- the Principal or Co-Investigators are approved to act as primary supervisors for PhD students
- the student(s) will be located in an ESRC recognised outlet for training, following the normal programme of training for such students

Up to three studentships can be applied for on any single application. It must also be clear that the studentship is not displacement for the normal research support required on the grant. The student must have a distinct, independent area of enquiry that will add value to the overall research objectives of the grant. The case for such a studentship will need to be set out in an additional section in the Je-S proposal. Such students will also be expected to complete their PhD within four years, as with ESRC standard studentships. They will be included in the ESRC PhD Submission Rate Survey. Non-completion within four years will therefore affect the HEI's postgraduate submission rate.

Studentships are not costed under FEC arrangements, but if awarded, the grant will meet the full 100% cost of the normal provision. Further information on applying for linked studentships can be found in the attached guidance notes.

Guidance Notes

Linked Studentships

Linked studentships are designed to add value to the proposed research outlined in the application, whilst providing a clear opportunity for a distinct and independent course of enquiry for the student. Through being embedded with a high quality research team, they should offer the student an opportunity to both develop their substantive research skills, alongside broader professional development. Linked studentships must not be displacement for normal research support required on the grant.

Up to three Linked studentships are available on any single award (with the exception of small grants, Postdoctoral fellowships and First Grants). They will be subject to the standard rules for ESRC studentships rules. This means that the applicant may request the full appropriate stipend for the student, fees, a Research Training Support Grant (RTSG), overseas fieldwork costs, and where appropriate support for wholly dependent children. Support to meet provisions to aid students with requirements under the Disability Acts (DSA) may also be included.

Summary details on costs should be included in the Other Staff Section of your application. For each studentship you application will need to indicate:

- The name of the student, if known at the point of application;
- whether you are requesting either a 1+3 or +3 studentship;
- the proposed start and end date of the studentship;
- the stipend and/or fee for that studentship. These should be costed at standard ESRC rates, including London allowance where that is appropriate. These can be found on the ESRC website at http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInforCentre/Support/postgraduate_students/New_2005_2006_Stipend_Awards
- Additional standard costs for RTSG and Overseas Fieldwork Allowances;
- Additional DSA and dependency allowances if there are known at the point of application;

Studentships are not costed under FEC arrangements, but if awarded, the grant will meet the full 100% cost of the normal provision for these. For Large grants (£1.5m-£5m) the cost of any studentship(s) must be costed as part of the £5 million envelope

Stipends may only be paid to students who are normally UK resident or EU students meeting standard ESRC eligibility requirements. Where this is not the case the stipend may not normally be paid. Exceptionally, if it is not possible to obtain a UK-based student, an overseas student could be considered, subject to normal visa and permit requirements. It is the responsibility of the institution to ensure that such students meet normal visa and permit requirements. Any payments to such students would however have to be made as a salary, and subject to normal taxation arrangements.

The case for such a studentship will need to be set out as an additional section in the case for support. An additional 500 words can be used for **each** studentship applied for as part of the application. The case for support should include

- the recognised ESRC outlet at which the student will be based, including the ESRC reference code. This can be found on the ESRC website at <http://www.esrcsocietytoday.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/opportunities/postgraduate/eligibleoutlets/listofoutlets/index.aspx>
- in the case of a 1+3 studentship, the likely Masters course to be pursued, if that can be identified at the point of application;
- the Principal and/or the Co-Investigators who will supervise the studentship;
- a summary statement of the PhD topic to be undertaken;
- a clear statement of how this is independent from, but will add value to, the principal research objectives set out in the application

Once the student has been selected, the institution will be expected to complete a standard ESRC nomination form and submit that to ESRC Registry.

The nomination form will include the name and basic details of the student and eligibility information, proposed training, and an extended statement on the PhD topic to be covered.

Students will also be expected to complete their PhD within four years. This is a standard ESRC requirement. They will be included in the ESRC PhD Submission Rate Survey. Non-completion within four years will therefore affect the HEI's postgraduate submission rate