

# **PhD Studentship**

# **Application Form 2021**

Notes for guidance

1. This doctoral studentship opportunity is funded by NIHR ARC East Midlands.
2. This form should only be used if you wish to apply to undertake a NIHR ARC East Midlands PhD studentship. PhDs must involve the conduct of empirical, applied health and social care research, and be hosted by a university located in the East Midlands.
3. The focus of the PhD should complement the ARC’s portfolio of work and its stated organisational aims. For details of the ARC’s current portfolio of work, please visit: <http://arc-em.nihr.ac.uk/about/our-priorities>. Work should also directly address the NHS long term plan (<https://www.longtermplan.nhs.uk/>). It is recommended that you contact the ARC’s Training Lead, Dr Emma Rowley ([Emma.Rowley@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Emma.Rowley@nottingham.ac.uk)), to discuss your ideas prior to submitting your application, as the ARC does not support all areas of health and social care research.
4. Studentships are offered on a match-funding principle. ARC awards will be made at 50% of the standard UKR&I studentship for Home/EU students (<https://www.ukri.org/skills/funding-for-research-training/>), with the requirement that the remaining 50% of the studentship is paid for by a University, health and social care organisation or charity (or other funding source as appropriate). Applicants will need to provide written evidence demonstrating the remaining 50% of the funding has been secured at the time of application. Without this, applications will not be accepted.
5. Awards will be made for 3 years (full time registration) or 6 years (part time status). For full time students, in 2021/22, ARC expects to award a tax-free stipend in the region of £7,804 per annum, and £2,250 towards registration fees which will be received by the university. Part-time awards will be pro rata these amounts. International students are eligible to apply, but need to provide written evidence on how the shortfall in funding will be covered at the time of application.
6. There is no ARC funding available to cover research costs. Applicants should evidence how these costs are to be covered and by whom.

1. All research being undertaken as part of the ARC’s PhD programme should aim to make a difference to health and/or social care practice in the UK within 5 years of completion.
2. Please complete the form in BLOCK CAPITALS if handwritten or standard typeface, so that your information can be easily read.
3. When completing the form please ensure that you provide your full name (surname/family name and forenames) in the order they appear in your official documents i.e. passport.
4. If your supporting documents are not in English, we require officially translated versions as well as copies in the original language.
5. Please send your completed forms to **Alice Phillips by e-mail (**[**Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk**](mailto:Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk)**)**
6. **Applications should be received by 23.59pm on 20/04/21. Applications received after this will not be accepted.**
7. Applicants who are successfully shortlisted will be invited to the next stage of the recruitment process.
8. Interviews will take place online week commencing 24/05/21. Interviewees will be expected to give a short (5 minute) presentation of their PhD proposal.

15. Successful applicants are required to register for and commence their PhDs by October 2021.

If you have any questions about completing the application form, or would like to discuss the awards in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact the ARC’s Training Lead, Dr Emma Rowley: [Emma.Rowley@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:Emma.Rowley@nottingham.ac.uk)

Data protection statement

By submitting this form you are consenting to NIHR ARC East Midlands using the information provided from time to time for the purposes of exploring the capacity development programme operating across the East Midlands.

The information that you provide on your application form will be used for the following purposes:

* To enable your application for entry to be considered and allow our recruitment team, where applicable, to assist you through the application process;
* To enable us to compile statistics, or to assist other organisations to do so about academic research careers. No statistical information will be published that would identify you personally;
* To enable us to initiate your Award record should you be offered funding.

Essential recruitment criteria

AF = Application Form  
I = Interview

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| **FACT** | **ESSENTIAL** | **HOW** |
| QUALIFICATION | The applicant can evidence the award of a 2.1 or above at undergraduate degree level. Plus, dependent on the University / department nominated to host PhD, the applicant can evidence the award of a relevant Masters degree. | AF |
| EXPERIENCE | The applicant can demonstrate previous research experience relevant to undertaking a PhD, and understanding of research approaches (including methods and theories appropriate to their proposed research). | AF/I |
| FOCUS | The applicant can demonstrate how the proposed research complements the ARC’s portfolio of work / organisational objectives and the NHS long term plan. | AF/I |
| SUPPORT | The applicant can provide appropriate written testimonials regarding their suitability to conduct PhD level research, from 2 prospective PhD supervisors based at an East Midlands university.  Plus, the applicant can provide written evidence from their nominated East Midlands university to host the PhD studentship, subject to funding being awarded. | AF |
| MOTIVATION | The applicant can demonstrate motivation to improve health/social care practice through research leadership and application to their field. | I |
| FUTURE AMBITIONS | The applicant can present a strong case for their proposed research, and how undertaking and completing a PhD will assist in their proposed career development. | AF/I |
| COMMITMENT | The applicant can demonstrate the motivation and ability to carry out a PhD, and to their research making an impact in UK health/social care practice within 5 years of the completion of their PhD. | AF/I |

ARC PhD studentship award application

**This form should be completed and returned (along with supporting documentation as required) to** [**Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk**](mailto:Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk) **by 23.59 (BST) on 20/04/21.**

Please complete the form in **BLOCK CAPITALS** if handwritten or standard typeface.

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| **PERSONAL DETAILS** | | |
| Surname/Family Name: | First/Given Name(s): | |
| Previous Surname/Family Name (if applicable): | | Title (Mr, Mrs, Ms, etc.): |
| Date of Birth: | Nationality: | |
| Country of Birth: | Country of Permanent Residence: | |
| **ADDRESSES** | | |
| Permanent Home Address:  (This must be completed) | Address for Correspondence:  (If different from home address) | |
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| Tel: | Tel: | |
| Email: | Email: | |

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| **EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS** | | | |
| Give details of the three highest qualifications, further or higher education, since leaving school. Please provide information on qualifications already obtained and examinations still to be taken with the most recent first. | | | |
| **Name of Institution/Address** | **Dates (mm/yyyy) of attendance** | **Qualification/Award (include class & division or grade obtained if known)** | **Main Subjects** |
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| **EMPLOYMENT DETAILS/OTHER EXPERIENCE** | | | |
| Give details of any professional or research experience relevant to your application. Please add additional lines as necessary. | | | |
| **Employer** | **Title and duties of post** | **Dates From** | **Dates To** |
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| **ENGLISH LANGUAGE COMPETENCE** | | |
| Applicants educated outside the UK in countries where English is not the first language must provide evidence that they have sufficient command of both spoken and written English.  Acceptable evidence includes: GCSE/O-level English Language at grade C or above; an overall score of 6.0-6.5 in the British Council IELTS test; a score of 600 (80/90 IBT) in TOEFL, with a score of 4.0 in the Test of Written English (TWE). Please submit originals or certified copies of any certificates and score reports. | | |
| a) Is English your first language?  Yes  No | | |
| b) Is/was English the language of instruction of your first degree?  Yes  No  If yes, please provide written confirmation from the institution where you undertook your studies, that English was the language of instruction. | | |
| c) Please list any formal English Language qualifications with results obtained (i.e. IELTS, TOEFL, GCE, GCSE) and the dates you took the test, or will be taking the test. | | |
| **English Qualification** | **Result** | **Date** |
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| **Proposed host university and department:** | | |
| de Montfort  Loughborough University  Nottingham Trent  University of Derby  University of Leicester  University of Lincoln  University of Northampton  University of Nottingham | | Please list chosen department: |
| Please provide written evidence (on institutional letter-headed paper) that your chosen University has offered you a place on their PhD programme, subject to being awarded funding. Please note, that without this evidence, your application will not be shortlisted.   * Please confirm that evidence has been provided | | |
| Some Departments / Universities require incoming PhD students to have been awarded a postgraduate Masters degree. Please confirm that either:   * This is not the case for my chosen University / Department (and provide evidence of entry criteria) , or * My chosen University / Department requires that I have a postgraduate Masters degree, and I meet this eligibility criteria | | |
| When do you intend to start your PhD studentship? | | |
| Do you intend to study on a full time or part time basis?   * Full time * Part time | | |
| **Supervisors details:**  You must have 2 academic supervisors, both of whom should be based at the university you wish to study at in the East Midlands. | | |
| Supervisor # 1 | | |
| Name: |  | |
| Job Title: |  | |
| Organisation: |  | |
| Email address: |  | |
| Supervisor # 2 | | |
| Name: |  | |
| Job Title: |  | |
| Organisation: |  | |
| Email address: |  | |
| It may be relevant for you to have a 3rd supervisor, or a clinical mentor / supervisor. If so, please add their details here: | | |
| **How did you hear about this award?** | | |
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| **Please complete ALL of the following sections** |
| **1. Please outline your experience and skills that make you suitable for PhD level research / study? (500 words maximum)** |
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| **2. How will your proposed PhD assist in your career development? (250 words maximum)** |
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| **3. Explain how your proposed work complements the ARC’s portfolio of work / organisational objectives (250 words maximum)** |
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| **4. Please explain how your work addresses the NHS longterm plan (250 words maximum)** |
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| **5. How have you included PPIE in your work? (250 words maximum)** |
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| **6. How will your proposed PhD make an impact on UK health/social care and when? (250 words maximum)** |
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| **7. Research proposal (2000 words maximum)**    **As part of your proposal, please ensure that you outline the existing evidence (scientific background), the gap/problem (why the research is needed), what you propose to do (research questions, theory/approach and methods), and where you propose to carry out the research (site locations). References should be included where relevant, and are not included within the 2000 word limit – subject to reason.** |
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| **8. Please explain how your research costs be covered? You will need to provide written evidence from the organisation covering the costs, confirming their agreement to do so.** |
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| **9. Please explain how the remaining 50% of your studentship (stipend and fees) will be covered, and provide written confirmation from the funder. Without this, your application will not be accepted.** |
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| **SUPPORTING LETTERS are required from both of your proposed academic supervisors, and should be on institutional letter headed paper (PDF versions are acceptable). Emails will not be accepted.**  **Letters should be sent with your application to** [**Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk**](mailto:Alice.Phillips@nottingham.ac.uk)**. Applications without these will not be shortlisted.** |
| **Please confirm that you have attached the following requested documents:** |
| |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | 2 x letters of support from academic supervisors attached? | Yes | No |  | | Evidence from HEI to agree to host PhD attached? | Yes | No |  | | PDF copies of Undergraduate (and if relevant, Masters) degree certificates attached? | Yes | No |  | | PDF copies of Undergraduate (and if relevant, Masters) degree academic transcripts attached? | Yes | No |  | | Confirmation of match-funding for studentship attached? | Yes | No |  | | Confirmation of funding for research costs attached? | Yes | No |  | | Copies of English Language certificates (if relevant) attached? | Yes | No | N/A | |

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| **DECLARATION** | |
| I confirm that the information given on this form is true, complete and accurate and no information requested or other material information has been omitted. | |
| Signed: | Date: |

Receipt of applications will be made by 21/04/21. All eligible applications will be sent for shortlisting on/after 26/04/21. Applicants shortlisted for interview will be notified by 07/05/21. Interviews will take place week commencing 24/05/21 and will be conducted online using MS Teams.

Equality Monitoring Form

We recognise that the population of the East Midlands is diverse and changing. Completing this form will help us to ensure that our work is fair. It will also help us meet the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

While providing answers is voluntary, the more open and comprehensive you can be, the fuller the picture we create, thus benefiting the work we do in providing training opportunities across the region.

Your information will be anonymous, and kept confidential and private, though we may use the data from this form for producing statistics, monitoring our work and planning our training plans. **This section of your application will be removed prior to shortlisting.**

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| Age | | | | |
| 20-29 | 30-39 | 40-49 | 50-59 | 60 and over |

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| Disability  A disability is a physical or mental impairment which impacts on your ability to do day-to-day activities and, which has lasted, or is expected to last for at least 12 months. Do you have a disability? | | |
| Yes | No | Prefer not to say |
| If yes, how would you describe your disability? | | |
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| Gender | | | | | | |
| Male | Female | | Intersex | Non-binary | | Prefer not to say |
| If you prefer to use your own term, please describe below | | | | | | |
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| Do you identify as the same identity you were assigned to at birth? | | | | | | |
| Yes | | No | | | Prefer not to say | |

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| Ethnic Group  What is your ethnic group? Please tick all that apply. | | | | | | | | | |
| White | | | | | | | | | |
| English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British | Irish | | | Gypsy or Irish Traveller | | European | | | Any other white background (please describe below) |
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| Mixed / Multiple Ethnic Groups | | | | | | | | | |
| White & Black Caribbean | | White & Black African | | | White and Asian | | | Any other mixed / multiple ethnic background (please describe below) | |
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| Asian or Asian British | | | | | | | | | |
| Indian | Pakistani | | | Bangladeshi | | Chinese | | | Any other Asian background (please describe below) |
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| African / Caribbean / Black/ Black British | | | | | | | | | |
| Caribbean | | | African | | | | Any other African / Caribbean / Black background (please describe below) | | |
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| Other Ethnic Group | | | | | | | | | |
| Arab | | | | | Any other Ethnic group (please describe below) | | | | |
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| Pregnancy and Maternity  Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant in the last year? | | |
| Yes | No | Prefer not to say |

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| Marriage and Civil Partnership  Are you currently? | | | |
| Cohabiting | In a civil partnership | Married | Single (never married or in a civil partnership) |
| Separated (but still legally married or in a civil partnership) | Divorced or civil partnership disolved | Widowed or a surviving partner from a civil partnership | Prefer not to say |

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| Religion and Belief  Do you have a religion or belief? | | | |
| No religion | No belief | Christian | Jewish |
| Sikh | Buddhist | Hindu | Muslim |
| Spiritual | Pagan | Prefer not to say | Other religion or belief (please describe below) |
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| Sexual Orientation  What is your sexual orientation? | | | |
| Asexual | Gay man | Heterosexual / straight | Bi / Bisexual |
| Gay woman / lesbian | Prefer to self-describe (please describe below) | Prefer not to say |  |
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| Caring responsibilities  A carer is anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, age or other reasons cannot cope without their support. Do you have any caring responsibilities? (This includes parental responsibilities. Please tick all that apply). | | | |
| None | Primary carer of a child / children under 18 | Primary carer of a disabled child / children | Primary carer or assistant of a disabled adult (over 18) |
| Primary carer or assistant for an older person / people (over 65) | Secondary carer (another person carries out main caring role) | Prefer not to say |  |

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| Refugees and Asylum Seekers  A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence and who has a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group. For the purposes of this form, we are restricting the time period during which the person has arrived in the UK to the last five years. An Asylum seeker is someone who is applying to achieve refugee status.  Are You? | |
| A refugee (within the last 5 years) | An asylum seeker |
| If you are happy to answer, which country or region are you a refugee/asylum seeker from? | |
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| Language  What is your first language? | | | |
| English | Polish | Gujarati | Punjabi |
| Urdu | Somali | Arabic | Bengali |
| British Sign Language | | Other | |
| If you ticked other, please provide details below | | | |
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| Geographical location  Please provide your home postcode |
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