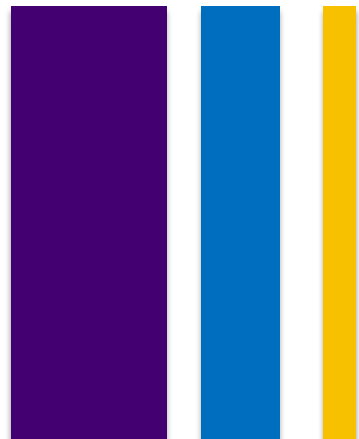




CDT 2018 Call External Engagement



■ ■ ■ Introduction

■ ■ ■ Key conditions, features and messages for the call

■ ■ ■ Overview of the process



Doctoral Training Partnerships

- Block grants to universities for flexible PhD support, based on research income

Industrial CASE

- Highly user focused, company chooses project and university

Centres for Doctoral Training

- Cohort-based in areas of national need



Summary of doctoral training approaches

	Centres for Doctoral Training	Doctoral Training Partnership	Industrial CASE
Strategic focus	Topic based – can be grouped by priority theme.	Institution has freedom to allocate within EPSRCs remit.	At company's discretion, by individual PhD topic.
Allocation basis	Competitive – in response to identified priority areas.	Algorithm related to grant income.	Algorithm related to recorded company investment on EPSRC grants.
Management of student training	Students managed in cohorts.	Students are subject to institutional training regime which may include cohort dimension.	Not currently managed in cohorts but could be subject to institutional training (including in some cases company cohort activities)
Industrial /Stakeholder involvement	A spectrum from EngD type focussed standard CDTs to more theoretical centres with more limited stakeholder involvement.	CASE conversion target plus institutions can use industrial money to contribute to DTP using the 50% rule.	High for individual student.
Length of studentship	4 years.	Flexible, 3 to 4 years.	4 years.
Frequency and period of grant	Targeted calls as required. Normally 5 years of cohorts (9 year grant).	Biennial (4 year single institutional grant)	Annual (4 year grant for individual students allocated to institutions)
Proportion of Doctoral Training Portfolio	~45%	~45%	~10%

- ■ ■ There are two stream for applications – a priority area stream and an open stream
- ■ ■ Priority areas have been developed building on Balancing Capability rationales and working with our advisory groups (SATs and SAN)
 - ■ ■ Applicants may only apply to a single stream
 - ■ ■ As an indication of balance between the streams, we are looking to invest ~70% of the available budget through the priority areas, ~30% through the open stream
- ■ ■ EPSRC reserves the right to move bids between priority areas and between the streams if appropriate



- ■ ■ There are a total of 30 priority areas
 - ■ ■ The breadth of the priority areas vary. Centres don't necessarily have to cover an area in its entirety. Please see the individual descriptions for more details
 - ■ ■ If applying to the priority area stream you can apply against as many areas as you want.
 - ■ ■ **However**, we strongly advise that the majority should contribute to one or two only
 - ■ ■ The needs and expected outcomes of investing in CDTs in these areas have been articulated. Each Centre will need to be able to address these
 - ■ ■ We will not be using priority area lists at panels so assessment will not be affected by spanning areas.



- ■ ■ Must support at least 50 students, as five cohorts
 - ■ ■ Each cohort is expected to be min. 10
- ■ ■ Can seek funding towards studentship costs and delivery support for the Centre but not capital (equipment over £10k)
 - ■ ■ 20-40% of the studentship costs must come from a non-RCUK source
 - ■ ■ Must include stipend and fee costs equiv. to 10 students
 - ■ ■ EPSRC will fund the studentship costs equivalent to 40 students max.
 - ■ ■ Studentships costs are fees, stipends, and research training support (i.e. to support the student's individual project)
- ■ ■ All Centres must include some training on Responsible Research and Innovation



- ■ ■ The number of outlines that universities can submit is restricted
 - ■ ■ This applies only to the lead applicant (institution submitting)
 - ■ ■ Any eligible institution can submit at least one
 - ■ ■ The allocation is based on EPSRC research income and staff capacity in EPS subject areas
 - ■ ■ Organisations with an allocation above one will need to provide information about their use of it via a SmartSurvey (will be available through the call page)
- ■ ■ Where the minimum requirement of an individual centre is reliant on commitments from project partners this minimum will need to be underwritten by the university partner/s.



- Outline panels followed by full proposals (postal review and interview panels)
- The specific need for doctoral training through the CDT mechanism is a key feature of this call (i.e. not just volume of students).
- Outline assessment criteria to support this are:
 - National need for cohort-based doctoral training
 - Centre vision and leadership
 - Quality of the research training environment



- We welcome multi- and single site proposals – key is what is appropriate for the Centre
- We will treat new and existing Centre bids equally
- We have no preference on the qualifications offered (PhD, EngD etc.) and are open to Centres providing a mix of qualifications

- NERC are committing £2.2M towards Renewable Energy.
 - All other potential RCUK co-funding (including NERC for other priorities) will be considered case-by-case
- SFI (Science Foundation Ireland) are committing funding to support partnerships between UK-based cohorts with student cohorts in any of their 17 Research Centres
 - UK component must be able to stand alone and meet our conditions without SFI
 - Gavin Salisbury (gavin.salisbury@epsrc.ac.uk) is contact for this



Activity	Date
Deadline for Outlines	13 March 2018
Outline Panels	w/b 23 April 2018
Deadline for Full Proposals	31 Jul 2018*
Interview Panels	w/b 05 November 2018
Funding awards	December 2018
New CDT cohort starts	2019/20 Academic Year

*The full proposal deadline has been amended since the call launched on 17 Jan. This is to accommodate an additional UKRI investment in Artificial Intelligence and the resulting later than expected announcement of results from the outline stage



- UKRI will be investing in 150 doctoral student starts in 2019/20 and 200 per year for four years afterwards
- UKRI has requested that EPSRC deliver this investment through the CDT call
 - We expect to fulfil this investment by funding 10-20 AI CDTs
 - This predominantly affects the 'Enabling Intelligence' priority area and a newly launched priority 'Applications and Implications of Artificial Intelligence' (AIAI)
 - The AIAI priority has no EPSRC remit requirement
 - All other call conditions must be met
- As this opportunity was announced 05 February, a different deadline for AI CDTs exists (28 March) with outline panels w/b 14 May. Full proposals and interviews will be integrated with the EPSRC CDT call.



- ■ ■ There is [dedicated web space](#) for the 2018 CDT call on EPSRC's site
 - ■ ■ This will be updated shortly after the call is launched, and regularly thereafter
 - ■ ■ In particular, this will be the place to check FAQs

- ■ ■ Please direct queries to cdt@epsrc.ac.uk



