2027 BBSRC Yorkshire Bioscience DTP Expression of Interest Form

Information for applicants

The BBSRC Yorkshire Bioscience DTP is committed to recruiting extraordinary future scientists regardless of age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation or career pathway to date. We understand that commitment and excellence can be shown in many ways and have built our recruitment process to reflect this. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds, particularly those underrepresented in science, who have curiosity, creativity and a drive to learn new skills.

Eligibility
You can apply if you have, or are expecting to gain, at least an upper second-class honours degree or equivalent. Due to the interdisciplinary nature of this programme, we welcome applications if your background is in any biological, chemical or physical science or mathematics and are interested in using your skills in addressing biological questions. You may find it useful to discuss your qualifications and experience with the project supervisor (email in the FindaPhD advert) before submitting your expression of interest.

Applicants should specify whether they are applying as a home or international student. You are a home student if:

- You have UK Citizenship (i.e. you hold the legal status of a UK Citizen) or
- You have received indefinite leave to remain in the UK or
- You have previously been told that you are eligible for home fee status, as a long-term resident of the UK.

We also aim to support the most outstanding applicants from outside the UK and can offer a very limited number of bursaries that will enable full studentships to be awarded to international (EU and non-EU) applicants at the **Universities of Bradford, Huddersfield, Hull, Leeds, Sheffield and Teesside**. These full studentships will only be awarded to exceptional quality candidates, due to the competitive nature of this scheme (there were over 100 applicants per place available for international students in 2026).

International Students

International students will need to have sufficient funds to cover the costs of their student visa, NHS health surcharge, travel insurance and travel to the UK as these are excluded from UKRI funding.

International students should also check if they meet the entry requirements for their country at the host university.

English language: If English isn't your first language, you may need to provide evidence of your English language ability. Please see the English language requirements for the host university and

contact the university if you require clarification about whether you meet these requirements. Please note, the BBSRC Yorkshire Bioscience DTP is not able to answer queries about English language requirements for individual host universities.

Please note, Leeds Beckett, Sheffield Hallam and York Universities are NOT accepting applications from international students.

How to apply

Please complete the expression of interest form below. We would advise you to read the questions in the form before submitting your application. You can use this PDF document with the questions for reference to help prepare your application. We also recommend that you read our advice on what we look for in your application Advice for applicants – YBDTP

The use of AI to write the expression of interest is strongly discouraged. We want to judge applications on individual merit and potential as a researcher, not AI generated responses.

Please note that questions relating to Special Category data for applicants will be used for statistical and anonymised reporting purposes and will not be used to influence admissions decision making. The reporting purposes may include sharing data with a Third Party, for example the UK Council for Research and Innovation (UKRI) where there is a need.

Please specify your personal email address; do not specify an agent's email address. We will use your email address to keep in touch during your application. **Please note the expression of interest form does not send an automated email when you submit the form.**

We only require the completion of the expression of interest form at this stage. If you are selected for interview the university hosting the project will request further information, including references.

The application deadline is **5 pm (UK time) on the 6th of January**. Late applications will not be accepted. Shortlisting will take place as soon as possible after the closing date and successful applicants will be notified promptly. If you're shortlisted, you'll be invited for an interview on a date to be confirmed in February 2027. You'll be notified as soon as possible after the interview dates whether your application has been successful, placed on a reserve list or unsuccessful. If you are successful, you'll be required to confirm your intention to accept the studentship within 10 days.

Expression of interest form

Sex
*

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Age group:
*

- ◯ 29 or less
- ◯ 30-39
- ◯ 40-49
- ◯ 50-59
- ◯ 60+

Ethnicity/Ethnic Group:

- ◯ Arab
- ◯ Asian - Bangladeshi or Bangladeshi British
- ◯ Asian - Chinese or Chinese British
- ◯ Asian - Filipino
- ◯ Asian - Indian or Indian British
- ◯ Asian - Pakistani or Pakistani British
- ◯ Any other Asian background
- ◯ Black - African or African British
- ◯ Black - Caribbean or Caribbean British
- ◯ Any other Black background
- ◯ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White or White British and Asian or Asian British
- ◯ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White or White British and Black African or Black African British
- ◯ Mixed or multiple ethnic groups - White or White British and Black Caribbean or Black Caribbean British
- ◯ Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background
- ◯ White - English, Scottish, Welsh, Northern Irish or British

- ◯ White - English, Welsh, Northern Irish or British
- ◯ White - British, Irish, Northern Irish, English, Scottish or Welsh
- ◯ White - Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- ◯ White - Gypsy or Traveller
- ◯ White - Irish Traveller
- ◯ White - Irish
- ◯ White - Polish
- ◯ White - Roma
- ◯ White - Scottish
- ◯ White - Showman/Showwoman
- ◯ Any other White background
- ◯ Any other ethnic background
- ◯ Not known
- ◯ Prefer not to say
- ◯ Not available

Details of any disability:
*

- ◯ No known impairment, health condition or learning difference
- ◯ Learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D
- ◯ Social/communication conditions such as a speech and language impairment or an autistic spectrum condition
- ◯ Long-term illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
- ◯ Mental health condition, challenge or disorder, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety
- ◯ Physical impairment (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying)
- ◯ D/deaf or have a hearing impairment
- ◯ Blind or have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
- ◯ Development condition that you have had since childhood which affects motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills, and speech and language
- ◯ An impairment, health condition or learning difference not listed above

- ◯ Prefer not to say

Religion/Belief:
*

- ◯ No Religion
- ◯ Buddhist
- ◯ Christian
- ◯ Hindu
- ◯ Jewish
- ◯ Muslim
- ◯ Pagan
- ◯ Sikh
- ◯ Any other religion or belief

Is the gender you identify with the same as your sex registered at birth?
*

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Which of the following best describes your gender identity?
*

- ◯ Man
- ◯ Woman
- ◯ Non-binary
- ◯ Prefer not to say
- ◯ Other (please specify)

Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?
*

- ◯ Heterosexual/Straight
- ◯ Gay/Lesbian

- ◯ Bisexual
- ◯ Prefer not to say
- ◯ Other (please specify)

Do you have caring responsibilities for one or more children or for anyone else (e.g. a family member)
*

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ Prefer not to say

Please select all that apply

- ◯ Equal/Primary carer of a child or children (under 18 years)
- ◯ Equal/Primary carer of a disabled child or children
- ◯ Equal/Primary carer or assistant for a disabled adult (18 years and over)
- ◯ Equal/Primary carer or assistant for an older person (65 years or older)
- ◯ Equal/Primary carer or assistant - Other adult
- ◯ Secondary carer (another person carries out main caring role)

What is your family name/surname?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is your given name/first name?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is your date of birth?
*

What is your e-mail address?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is your contact telephone number?

0/32,000 characters

What is your current address?
*

Are you applying as a home or international student?
*

- ◯ Home
- ◯ International

What is your nationality?
*

In which country did you study (or are studying) for your first degree?
*

0/32,000 characters

At what institution did you study (or are you studying) for your first degree?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is the level of your first degree?
*

- ◯ Bachelor's degree (e.g. BSc)
- ◯ Integrated Master's degree (e.g. MChem)
- ◯ Other (please specify, e.g. GPA score)

What is the title of your first degree? (e.g. BSc Biology, etc.)
*

0/32,000 characters

What grade did you achieve in your first degree? (if you have yet to receive your outcome then please specify your predicted grade under 'other')
*

- ◯ First-Class Honours (1st)
- ◯ Upper Second-Class Honours (2:1)
- ◯ Lower Second-Class Honours (2:2)
- ◯ Third-Class Honours (3rd)
- ◯ Other (please specify, e.g. GPA)

When were you awarded your first degree?
*

How many years did you study for your first degree?
*

0/32,000 characters

In which country did you study (or are you studying) for your second degree?

0/32,000 characters

At what institution did you study (or are you studying) for your second degree?

0/32,000 characters

What is the level of your second degree?

- ◯ Bachelor's degree (e.g. BSc)
- ◯ Integrated Master's degree (e.g. MChem)
- ◯ Other (please specify, e.g. GPA)

What is the title of your second degree? (e.g. BSc Biology, etc.)

0/32,000 characters

What grade did you achieve in your second degree? (if you have yet to receive your outcome then please specify your predicted grade under 'other')

- ◯ First-Class Honours (1st)
- ◯ Upper Second-Class Honours (2:1)
- ◯ Lower Second-Class Honours (2:2)
- ◯ Third-Class Honours (3rd)
- ◯ Other (please specify, e.g. GPA)

When were you awarded your second degree?

How many years did you study for your second degree?

0/32,000 characters

What types of research experience do you have? (select as many as apply)
*

- ☐ Postgraduate research project (MSc/MRes)
- ☐ Undergraduate research project (BSc)
- ☐ Job in research
- ☐ Summer placement
- ☐ Job in industry
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Please summarise your previous research experience (maximum 2500 characters including spaces)
*

0/32,000 characters

Please specify the title of your **first** choice project

*

0/32,000 characters

Who is the primary supervisor for your **first** choice project?

*

0/32,000 characters

Which university is your **first** choice project based at?

*

- ◯ Bradford
- ◯ Huddersfield
- ◯ Hull
- ◯ Leeds
- ◯ Leeds Beckett
- ◯ Sheffield
- ◯ Sheffield Hallam
- ◯ Teeside
- ◯ York

Please outline your motivation for undertaking a postgraduate research degree in biosciences (maximum 2500 characters including spaces)

*

0/32,000 characters

Please outline your motivation for selecting your **first** project (maximum 2500 characters, including spaces)
*

0/32,000 characters

Please specify the title of your **second** choice project (optional)

0/32,000 characters

Who is the primary supervisor for your **second** choice project?

0/32,000 characters

Which university is your **second** choice project based at?

- ◯ Bradford
- ◯ Huddersfield
- ◯ Hull
- ◯ Leeds
- ◯ Leeds Beckett
- ◯ Sheffield
- ◯ Sheffield Hallam
- ◯ Teeside
- ◯ York

Please outline your motivation for selecting your **second** project (maximum 2500 characters, including spaces)

0/32,000 characters

What is the name of your first referee (including title)?
*

0/32,000 characters

What institution or company does your first referee work at?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is your relationship to your first referee?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is the e-mail address of your first referee?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is the name of your second referee (including title)?
*

0/32,000 characters

What institution or company does your second referee work at?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is your relationship to your second referee?
*

0/32,000 characters

What is the e-mail address of your second referee?
*

0/32,000 characters