CHASE doctoral studentships

A guide to applying for a studentship to start in October 2020

The webinar will start at 1pm
In the next hour or so, we’ll cover:

• What is on offer in a CHASE studentship
• How the application process works
• What makes a good application

Rob Witts
CHASE DTP Manager
robert.witts@chase.ac.uk
Studentship basics

Needs based funding

• Basic 3 years’ funding, or up to 6 part-time
• When applying, language skills +6 or +12 months
• Additional skills or methodology +6 months
• Placement project +6 months
Funding includes

- Stipend (full time rate £15,009 non-London/ £17,009 London)
- Fees
- Access to support funding for training, placement and research costs
Studentship basics

Eligibility

• Full award: UK national/indefinite leave to remain + 3 years
• Fees-only award: ordinarily resident in EU member state
• Status based on assessment by member institutions’ admissions services
Added extras

- Cohort training, including biannual Encounters conference
- Co-supervision opportunities
- Support for research
- Support for professional development
- Placements
- Student-led opportunities
• Up to 56 studentships available each year
• Mostly through main studentship competition
• Collaborative Doctoral Awards also available from March
How to apply
Application process

1. Identify supervisory team
2. Apply to institution by 13 January
3. Institutions manage first stage of selection – you will need to complete the CHASE application form
4. Shortlisted applications go to CHASE subject panels
5. Panels score applications, and meet to discuss
6. Final decisions made by CHASE Management Board
CHASE selection panels

History, thought and systems of belief

Art history and visual cultures

Media and creative practice

Literature, language and culture
“CHASE has given me the freedom to explore ideas and to produce work that challenges the ‘conventional wisdom’ in my area.”
We are now seeking applications from outstanding graduates to embark on one of 56 doctoral research studentships across the consortium, starting in October 2020.

Your first point of contact is your chosen institution who will send you information on how to apply.

If you wish to apply for a CHASE studentship, you must have applied for doctoral study at your chosen institution before Monday 13 January 2020.

We recommend you approach your chosen institution well in advance of this date.

Please use the links below to access your chosen institution’s website.

**Studentship webinar**

CHASE will be holding a webinar on Friday 13 December to help you find out more about the process of applying for a CHASE studentship.

[Register here](#)
CHASE Studentship

Applications are now open for AHRC CHASE doctoral studentships starting in October 2020

How to apply

1. Apply for a place to study at a CHASE member institution. Please click on the logos immediately below for information on how to apply at each institution:
Eligibility Quiz

Access Code

Residential Eligibility
CHASE is responsible to UK Research & Innovation for residential eligibility checks on Students. Eligibility requirements are based on the Education (Fees and Awards) (England) Regulations 2007 and any subsequent amendments.

To normally be eligible for a full award a Student must have no restrictions on how long they can stay in the UK and have been ordinarily resident in the UK for at least 3 years prior to the start of the Studentship (with some further constraint regarding residence for education).

To be eligible for a fees only award, a Student must be ordinarily resident in a member state of the EU, in the same way as UK Students must be ordinarily resident in the UK.

Your eligibility will be confirmed by the admissions office at the institution you are applying to, using a fee status questionnaire.

- I am eligible for a full award
- I am eligible for a fees-only award

Data protection
- I confirm that I have read the CHASE data sharing policy and consent to my data being used for the purposes of administering the studentship competition.

I'll do this later  Save my profile
### Assessment criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Assessed using</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research proposal (50%)</td>
<td>Research proposal task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparedness for research (25%)</td>
<td>Preparedness for research task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x References</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suitability of research environment (25%)</td>
<td>Research proposal task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Supervisor statement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research Proposal

• Title
• Abstract
• Introduction
• Research background and questions
• Research methods
• Schedule of work
• Research environment
• Bibliography
# Research Proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>The proposal excels in originality, sophistication and ambition. The literature review is of highest quality and the project is well designed. This is highest priority for funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>The proposal is original and rigorous to a high degree, with a strong literature review. It is feasible within the time-frame. It is a high priority for funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>The proposal has originality and rigour but could be better designed or elaborated. Despite good potential, there are one or more areas for obvious improvement. This is a medium priority for funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>The proposal has merit but falls short in relation to originality, methodology or literature review. This is not a priority for funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>The proposal does not display originality and there are flaws in the methodology or literature review. This should not be funded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>The proposal has significant and serious flaws such that it should not be funded.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Preparedness for research

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Quality</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>The applicant demonstrates outstanding potential and preparedness in relation to skills (such as languages), training and previous research or fieldwork experience. All skills gaps have been identified, and there is a plausible plan to address them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>The applicant demonstrates strong potential and preparedness in relation to skills, training and previous research or fieldwork experience. Any crucial skills gaps have been identified and there is a plausible plan to address them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>The applicant shows satisfactory potential and preparedness in relation to skills, training and previous research or fieldwork experience. Most of the small and large skills gaps have been identified and there is a plausible plan to address them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>The applicant shows some potential and preparedness in relation to skills, training and previous research or fieldwork experience. Some skills gaps have not been identified or the plans for addressing such gaps may not be plausible within the timeframe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>The applicant has not identified the skills or preparation necessary to the project, and there are significant gaps that mean the project is unlikely to reach a successful conclusion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>The applicant does not meet the criteria (e.g. requirement for M-level study or equivalent has not been met).</td>
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## Suitability of research environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Quality</th>
<th>Descriptor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
<td>The application demonstrates that the proposed research environment has been considered carefully. There is an excellent, mutually beneficial fit between the project and the proposed research environment in all respects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Very good</td>
<td>The application shows that the proposed research environment has been considered and is a strong fit for the project in all important respects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Good</td>
<td>There is a good fit between the project and the proposed research environment in most respects, such that the project is on balance likely to be successful.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Fair</td>
<td>The research environment is unsuitable in some respect (e.g., potential lack of access to an essential resource)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Weak</td>
<td>There are reasons for concern that the research environment is unsuitable in several respects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>The application does not meet the criteria for supervision or access to essential resources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Top tips!

• Think through your project and discuss it with your prospective supervisors
• Ambition is welcome, but the project must be achievable
• Consider your skill set and plan to address any gaps
• Think carefully about fit with your chosen institution in terms of supervisory expertise, research environment and resources
• Co-supervision may be useful for your project
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