

# UKRI-BBSRC collaborative training partnerships

<b>Opportunity status:</b>	Upcoming
<b>Funders:</b>	<a href="#">Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC)</a> , UK Research and Innovation
<b>Funding type:</b>	Grant
<b>Total fund:</b>	£22,500,000
<b>Publication date:</b>	27 October 2020
<b>Opening date:</b>	To be confirmed
<b>Closing date:</b>	To be confirmed

*Last updated: 28 October 2020*

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic UKRI-BBSRC have taken the decision to postpone the collaborative training partnerships (CTP2) call for proposals.

The call will relaunch in January 2021 with a closing date in early-May 2021. Exact dates are to be confirmed.

For any queries please contact [ctp@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:ctp@bbsrc.ukri.org)

## Summary

The UKRI-BBSRC collaborative training partnerships (CTP) scheme is a doctoral training programme directed at industrial research challenges and delivered by consortia led by businesses in collaboration with research organisations.

Its ambition is to build capacity and address strategic skills challenges in the [UK bioeconomy](#) at doctoral level and provide candidates with the research, innovation and transferable skills needed to be competitive for high-quality jobs in the labour markets of the bioeconomy, academia and beyond.

We define the bioeconomy as:

“All economic activity derived by bio-based products and processes which contributes to sustainable and resource-efficient solutions to the challenges we face in food, chemicals, material, energy production, health and environmental protection.”

To address this ambition, the objectives of CTP2 are to:

- Build the capacity of the research and innovation workforce at doctoral level across sectors and industries of the UK bioeconomy to support their productivity and growth
- Support businesses and business-led consortia to deliver doctoral programmes that address sector and industry based strategic skills challenges
- Develop cohorts of enterprising and entrepreneurial doctoral graduates equipped with the research, innovation and transferable skills they need to compete for high-quality jobs in the bioeconomy and beyond
- Ensure accessibility to doctoral training for candidates from diverse backgrounds and personal circumstances
- Ensure the physical and mental wellbeing of candidates is protected
- Create an outcomes-focussed programme capable of evidencing its progress and impact.

CTP is complementary to the doctoral training partnership (DTP) scheme in underpinning UKRI-BBSRC’s goal to build the foundation of people and skills for UK bioscience (see the UKRI-BBSRC ‘forward look for UK bioscience’), and with the additionality of aiming to support the aspirations of the government’s Industrial and Bioeconomy strategies as they relate to the workforce.

Partnerships applying to this call must demonstrate how their proposal will address and meet the objectives above.

See the [frequently asked questions \(PDF, 141KB\)](#).

## Number of awards and funding available

It is anticipated that up to 10 CTPs will be awarded.

Total funding of £22.5 million is available to support up to 75 four-year studentships per annum, for three consecutive intakes, the first being in 2022-2023 and the final cohort commencing in 2024-2025.

Awards will be made in the form of single profiled training grants. The normal flexibility of UKRI training grants will apply, enabling institutions to part-fund studentships from other sources.

Lead applicants should indicate the maximum number of studentships the company or consortia can support per year although the number awarded to each partner may be fewer.

The funding for each four-year studentship will include £5,000 per annum research training support costs, as well as student stipend and fees at standard research council levels.

# Eligibility

Managing a UKRI-BBSRC CTP is a significant undertaking and each potential applicant should consider carefully the benefits versus obligations. It is possible for those non-academic organisations not in receipt of CTP funding to still be awarded individual CASE studentships through collaboration with UKRI-BBSRC DTP organisations.

UKRI-BBSRC is keen to see the training of doctoral candidates in centres of research excellence which promote and facilitate inter- and multi-disciplinary working and expose doctoral candidates to a wide range of expertise.

CTPs must be led by industry and have a UK research or manufacturing base and the lead applicant should not be eligible for UKRI-BBSRC grant funding.

CTPs may be led by a single company, but where relevant we encourage multi-partner bids involving two or more companies, assuming collaborative agreements are in place.

In some instances, it may be appropriate for a defined network to be awarded an allocation of studentships to distribute (either competitively or strategically) on behalf of a consortium of companies, providing that details of how the resultant cohort will be managed are acceptable.

Through this approach, UKRI-BBSRC expects integrated plans for research, innovation and training which meet UKRI-BBSRC's strategic priorities, address sector skills challenges and foster inter-disciplinarity.

Further details are available in the [call guidance \(PDF, 160KB\)](#).

An industry organisation may only submit one proposal as lead applicant.

There is no limit to the number of organisations within the partnership.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact UKRI-BBSRC for advice if they are considering being part of more than one partnership.

# Assessment

The assessment of proposals to become a UKRI-BBSRC CTP, which will include an interview with the management team of the proposed partnership, will be scheduled for July 2021 (date to be confirmed.)

Announcements regarding the allocation of funding are likely to be made by October 2021.

# How to apply

Applicants are strongly encouraged to read in full the call guidance and all supporting background information in order to better address the requirements of

the call. All documentation is available on this webpage to download.

Proposals must be submitted using the [Joint Electronic Submission system \(Je-S\)](#).

The call will be available on Je-S from January 2021.

The deadline for receipt of proposals is May 2021 (to be confirmed).

Applications will not be accepted following this deadline.

## Further information

For other queries relating to the requirements of the competition, please contact [CTP@bbsrc.ukri.org](mailto:CTP@bbsrc.ukri.org).

## Supporting documents

- [CTP2 call guidance \(PDF, 160KB\)](#)
- [CTP2 Je-S helptext \(PDF, 53KB\)](#)
- [CTP2 List of collaborative studentships \(DOCX, 1.04MB\)](#)
- [CTP2 EDI action plan template \(DOCX, 25KB\)](#)
- [CTP2 cover letter template \(DOCX, 25KB\)](#)
- [CTP2 portfolio agreement \(DOCX, 63KB\)](#)
- [Annex one: key features \(PDF, 49KB\)](#)
- [Annex two: assessment criteria \(PDF, 49KB\)](#)
- [Annex three: equality diversity inclusion \(PDF, 43KB\)](#)
- [Annex four: research topic areas \(PDF, 312KB\)](#)
- [CTP2 frequently asked questions \(PDF, 136KB\)](#)

NOTE This is the first phase of our new website – let us know if you have [feedback](#) or would like to [help us test new developments](#).