

NERC Specific DTP2 Terms and conditions



All NERC Training Grant (TG) awards must adhere to the [UKRI Research Council training grants terms and conditions](#) and the [Statement of Expectations for Postgraduate Training](#).

NERC reserves the right to alter these terms and conditions over the lifetime of the DTP programme. All DTP award holders will be notified of changes when they occur.

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Significant alterations between DTPI and DTP2

Paragraph	Change
2.	The allocation of studentships that each DTP will receive will be confirmed on an annual basis. The DTPs will be contacted prior to the summer recess of the previous academic year (For example; the DTPs will be contacted regarding the 2020/21 academic year allocation prior to the 2019 summer recess).
7.	NERC reserves the right to alter the number of notional studentships of an award. DTPs will be contacted in advance of any significant changes to the DTP award.
14.	The Administrative Lead Partner must ensure that students requiring London weighting are reported to NERC within 1 month of the student starting their studentship.
17.	Up to 10% of studentship awards are eligible for international candidates over the lifetime of the award.
21.	Costs required for student participation in the Research Council Policy Internships scheme and YES Competitions (Young Entrepreneurs Scheme) must come from the DTP Grant and will not be reimbursed by NERC.
25.	The DTP will adhere to the annual universal acceptance deadline for PhD studentship offers.
34.	Organisations eligible for Research Council research funding are not eligible to act as a CASE partner.
35.	The DTP must ensure that over the lifetime of the award, a minimum of 25% of the total notional studentships awarded to the DTP are CASE studentships.
44.	NERC DTP2 grants must include NERC branding on all relevant materials and websites. The branding should be clearly displayed and must abide to the NERC Logo and identity guidelines found on the NERC website.

General

The award

1. The DTP award will provide support for five annual cohort intakes between 2019-2023
2. The allocation of studentships that each DTP will receive will be confirmed on an annual basis. The DTPs will be contacted prior to the summer recess of the previous academic year (For example; the DTPs will be contacted regarding the 2020/21 academic year allocation prior to the 2019 summer recess).
3. All DTP students must be funded at the minimum UKRI stipend level, for at least three years and up to a maximum of four years. Awards will be supplemented with London Allowance where necessary according to the UKRI guidance.
4. NERC expects each DTP to support the notional number of students awarded to them as the minimum number within each annual student cohort.
5. The exact cost of each notional studentship award will be calculated once the [Research Council Doctoral stipend levels and indicative fees](#) have been announced. Indicative funding per notional studentship for 2019/20 is shown below:

Student Stipend: £60,036

Fees: £17,308
RTSG: £11,000
Management Costs: £1500
Total: £89,844

6. The figures under Stipend and Fees will be indexed to accommodate rises in the UKRI indicative stipend and fees levels over the lifetime of the studentship.
7. NERC reserves the right to alter the number of notional studentships of an award. DTPs will be contacted in advance of any significant changes to the DTP award.

Fund management

8. The Administrative Lead Partner will receive the funding for the DTP from NERC and is responsible for ensuring the agreed funds are transferred to the partners as appropriate.
9. The Administrative Lead Partner must confirm acceptance of the award. The acceptance notification will be taken as acceptance of the grant under the Terms and Conditions of the UKRI Terms and Conditions of training grants and associated guidance as well as the NERC Specific DTP Terms and Conditions contained within this document.
10. The DTP will have flexibility in how to use the training grant to support DTP students as long as the minimum number of notional students is supported.
11. Costs associated with the administration of training and delivery of a NERC DTP may be incorporated into the fee level that the Research Organisation charges to the Training Grant.
12. Research Organisations must ensure that adequate facilities and resources are made available and students must not be expected to cover costs associated with the provision of their research training.
13. The DTP must be clear with the student, at the outset of the studentship, regarding the total amount of RTSG available to them throughout the duration of the studentship. The student must have clear access to the funds throughout their studentship.
14. The Administrative lead Partner must ensure that students requiring London weighting are reported to NERC within 1 month of the student starting their studentship.

Widening participation

15. Opportunities for NERC funded studentships must be publicised both within and beyond the hosting Research Organisations.
16. It is the responsibility of the DTP to put in place appropriate support for all students to manage health and wellbeing.
17. Up to 10% of studentship awards are eligible for international candidates over the lifetime of the award.

Training remit

18. The DTP studentships must be within at least 50% NERC remit, and relevant to the NERC strategy.

Training requirements

19. The DTP will deliver on the training requirements as outlined in the DTP2 Guidance document.

20. Costs associated with DTP2 training requirements must be delivered using funds available from the Training Grant (TG) plus any additional funding obtained by the DTP. No additional funds will be provided by NERC.
21. Costs required for student participation in the Research Council Policy Internships scheme and YES Competitions (Young Entrepreneurs Scheme) must come from the DTP Grant and will not be reimbursed by NERC.

Governance structures

22. The DTP must have one organisation acting as the Administrative Lead Partner. The DTP must have both a lead operational manager and steering committee/management board. The steering committee/management board should be comprised of all hosting DTP partners and must also have representation from relevant end-user organisations.
23. NERC should be notified in advance of significant management board meetings and NERC reserves the right to attend these meetings as part of its on-going monitoring and strategic engagement activities.
24. Students can start at the DTP at any point in the academic year as long as it is not to the detriment of their training experience at both an individual and cohort level.
25. The DTP will adhere to the annual universal acceptance deadline for PhD studentship offers.

Reporting and monitoring requirements

26. DTP award holders must deliver on the DTP as outlined in the application. NERC should be notified of any major changes to DTP governance or programme structure by submission of a [Significant Change Form](#) electronically to researchcareers@nerc.ukri.org.
27. The Administrative Lead Partner of the DTP must submit an annual report to NERC on behalf of the partnership. The annual report will not replace the Research Councils' requirement for reporting through the Je-S SDP or the need to complete the annual Je-S Submission Survey.
28. The DTP will be required to host formal and informal visits from the NERC Executive. Partnerships will be provided with information ahead of these visits in a timely manner by NERC.
29. NERC will undertake an evaluation of all DTPs. DTPs are required to comply with any evaluation exercise and provide information as requested by NERC. Further information regarding the content and format of any evaluation will be circulated in good time by NERC ahead of the process.
30. The DTP will be expected to inform NERC Environmental Data Centres of any significant datasets generated, or to be complied, under the award so that long-term stewardship can be planned.
31. The DTPs must provide NERC with an Interim Expenditure Statement (IES) when requested from NERC. The NERC office will contact the DTPs in good time before the request will be made.
32. NERC fully reserves the right to discuss, adjust or terminate DTP awards based on the information provided as part of the reporting process. NERC will discuss any significant changes with representatives from the DTP.

Strategic engagement

33. NERC will contact the DTP administrators to inform them of opportunities and activities that may be beneficial to the students.

CASE and Collaborative (non-CASE) studentships

CASE studentships

34. Organisations eligible for Research Council research funding are not eligible to act as a CASE partner.
35. The DTP must ensure that over the lifetime of the award, a minimum of 25% of the total notional studentships awarded to the DTP are CASE studentships.
36. All CASE studentships must abide by the CASE requirements set out in the NERC DTP2 Guidance document.
37. NERC training grant funding cannot be used to meet the CASE partner financial contributions.
38. NERC will review the DTP's CASE compliance throughout the lifetime of the grant and reserves the right to use the outcomes in future DTP studentship allocation decisions.

Collaborative (non-CASE) studentships

39. NERC requires the DTP to monitor and record collaborative studentships through reporting processes and the outcomes of this will be formally recognised by NERC as a success metric as part of the DTP's performance monitoring.

Advanced Training

Research Experience Placements (REPs)

40. All REPs must abide by the REP requirements set out in the DTP2 Guidance document.
41. NERC will allocate funding for REPs to each DTP award and will provide up to £2,500 per REP to the DTP Lead Administrative Partner following submission of post-REP monitoring forms, in which all costs are to be itemised. All awards will be cash limited up to this amount.
42. NERC will monitor the uptake and outcomes of the REPs scheme. Students and Supervisors are required to complete a post-REP final report form within three months of the completion of the placement. Template forms are available on the NERC website alongside further information regarding REPs. Completed forms should be collated by the Administrative Lead Partner and submitted to researchcareers@nerc.ukri.org.
43. NERC reserves the right to terminate the REPs scheme throughout the lifetime of the DTP scheme.

Naming and branding

44. NERC DTP2 grants must include NERC branding on all relevant materials and websites. The branding should be clearly displayed and must abide to the NERC Logo and identity guidelines found on the NERC website.

Forms, FAQs & guidance

45. Annual reporting and Significant Change forms, additional guidance and FAQs regarding the NERC DTPs can be found in the relevant section of the NERC DTP2 webpages.

Contact

For any queries regarding the NERC DTPs, please contact researchcareers@nerc.ukri.org