Student submission form for Faculty of Science SCOPE Doctoral Studentships for 2026 Entry ⸱⸜

Students should use this form to apply for Faculty of Science SCOPE Doctoral Studentship Funding (Oct 2026 start), following application for a place through the Durham University online portal and discussions/agreement with potential supervisor.

The student form and supervisor form *are both to be submitted by 5 pm on 14 January 2026* - ensure you allow time as agreed with the primary supervisor for them to submit the supervisor form after you complete this form.

Student information

Details of Student and Eligibility Checks

1. First Name *

2. Last Name *

3. Email address *

Please enter an email

4. Durham University submitted application number *

Please confirm you have applied for a PhD place at Durham University and enter the Application ID from the Durham Online application portal for your application to the university for a place to study (https://studyatdurham.microsoftcrmportals.com/en-US/). You can find this on the email you received on completing your application (NB different to setting up your profile in the portal - the one we want contains letters and numbers and you receive after submitting a specific application, not just registering with the portal) - *e.g.* N4W241571.

5. Full-time or part-time. I have applied to study for this programme: *

○ Full-time

○ Part-time

6. Eligibility confirmation (other degrees). *

I confirm that I:

1) am not currently enrolled in a doctoral degree at Durham University or elsewhere;
2) have not previously been enrolled for a doctoral degree for more than 12 months;
3) have not previously been awarded a PhD degree;
4) am not under consideration for another UKRI or university funded studentship related to PhD studies at Durham University (select other and give details if this is the case).

◯ Confirmed

◯ Not confirmed (do not meet requirements - discuss with department - do not continue application).

◯ Other

7. Commitment to professional conduct confirmation *

I confirm my intention if accepted for a scholarship to behave in a respectful, professional manner that contributes to a positive and inclusive research culture at Durham University. I confirm that they have read and understood the University's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) policy and expectations regarding behaviour (https://www.durham.ac.uk/about-us/environmental-social-and-economic-sustainability/our-sustainability-policies/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-policy/).

◯ Yes - Confirmed

◯ No

8. English language confirmation *

Confirm you are eligible to study based on meeting Durham University's English Language Requirements (https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/entry-requirements/english-language-requirements/). Discuss with your proposed supervisor or department if in doubt. You are advised to check with your proposed department before answering "no" to this question as applications where the English Language Requirements are not met cannot be considered.

○ Yes (Eligible)

9. Widening participation

Durham University is strongly committed to supporting widening participation.

If you believe you meet widening participation criteria (for example, being the first in your family to attend university, coming from an underrepresented ethnic background in your discipline, or other relevant circumstances) and would like your application to be considered on that basis, please provide a brief (1-10 word) reason below. This information will not be shared widely and is **not used in the initial ranking process**. It is considered only by the final panel after ranking, to help us meet our funder commitments and ensure fair representation.

Typically, Durham University promotes widening participation at the advertising and engagement stage, and many studentships are awarded to applicants in each cohort from diverse backgrounds based on our primary ranking criteria without recourse to this information.

10. Home or Overseas fee status for Durham University *

You will have a fee status for your university application (see https://www.durham.ac.uk/study/international/fees-and-funding-/fee-status-and-payment/) - the application portal will collect relevant information, and you will be able to go to the applicant portal and select the application under *My Applications* and *View Fee Status* if unsure. A number of international students can be funded under this call (this is not an eligibility criteria).

○ Home student for Durham University Fee Purposes

○ Overseas student for Durham University Fee Purposes

11. Home or International student for UKRI purposes *

The assessment of home versus international status for EPSRC/UKRI (the funder for this call) is different from the fee status assessment. A number of international students can be funded under this call (this is not an eligibility criterion). However, because there is a defined maximum quota for international students, it is important to confirm whether you are classified by UKRI as a home or international student.

To be classed as a home student by EPSRC/UKRI, candidates must meet <u>one</u> of the following criteria and the associated residency requirements:
• be a UK National
• have settled status
• have pre-settled status
• have indefinite leave to remain or enter
• be an Irish national (Irish nationals' eligibility is derived from the UK-Ireland Common Travel Area Agreement).

○ Based on the above UKRI classification I am a home student.

○ Based on the above UKRI classification I am an international student.

Student Educational Details

In this section you will be asked to give details of your undergraduate degree and highest or most relevant postgraduate degree (if you have a combined under-graduate master's degree please list this as the undergraduate degree; give any other degrees in your CV document).

12. Type of first / undergraduate degree (BSc, MSc etc.) *

13. Name and country of first / undergraduate degree awarding institution (please give full / official name without abbreviations, *e.g.* "Durham University, UK"). *

14. Date of award of first / undergraduate degree (if still pending put expected date of the award) *

15. Outcome of first/undergraduate degree (if completed). *

To help us fully understand your achievements please give both grade outcomes (*e.g.* %; classification [1st, 2i *etc.*]; or GPA) and any official ranking (or range) within your peer cohort if available. If you have not yet completed this degree please just put "degree not yet complete."

16. Type of (highest/most relevant) postgraduate degree (BSc, MSc etc.) (Optional if first degree is master's level.)

[ ]

17. Name and country of (highest/most relevant) postgraduate degree awarding institution (please give full / official name without abbreviations, *e.g.* "Durham University, UK").

[ ]

18. Date of award of (highest/most relevant) postgraduate degree (if still pending put expected date of the award)

[🗓]

19. Outcome of (highest/most relevant) postgraduate degree (if completed).

To help us fully understand your achievements please give both grade outcomes and any official ranking (or range) within your peer cohort if available. If you have not yet completed this degree please just put "degree not yet complete."

[ ]

Proposal and Documents

In this section you will confirm you have uploaded your relevant documents to our onedrive drop-off and complete other details of your specific proposal.

For documents that require uploading—your CV, proposal figure and a letter of support from a third party (if applying through the collaborative route)—please pay very careful attention to the following instructions. All documents must be in pdf format, and should be uploaded as a .pdf not inside a zip file (these will not get to us for security reasons). Please do not upload any other documents.

Please save your file with the format your *"application number ID (from Q4)"_"Last Name"_"FileType("CV", "Figure" or "LoS")_"Version Number"*:
Examples for the last name "Fulhame" might be: *N4W241571_Fulhame_CV_1.pdf, N4W241571_Fulhame_Figure_1.pdf* and/or *N4W241571_Fulhame_LoS_1.pdf.*
If you spot a mistake after uploading but before completing this MS form, you can upload a copy with a higher version number - *e.g. N4W241571_Ful-hame_CV_2.pdf* - we will assume the file with the highest number at the end is the correct one to consider.

You are recommended to include clear headers and footers that also give details of what the document is and who submitted it.

20. Proposal title *

21. Name of Primary Supervisor *

22. Department of Primary Supervisor *

Select your answer ⌄

23. Email of Primary Supervisor *

Including this information here for us will allow fast, automatic transfer of your application to your supervisor to complete the supervisor form. While we will try and manually fix any problems, please try and make sure you have entered this information correctly, so your application is transferred promptly to the correct supervisor.

24. Name(s) of other Supervisor(s) in supervisory team *

25. I confirm I have uploaded my CV as a pdf document to the Onedrive drop-off as above (https://shorturl.at/Cnu6D). *

○ Yes

○ No

26. Research proposal [300 Words Max] *

This should have been co-created and agreed by student and supervisor including a clear research question, articulation about the novelty of this approach versus prior art and a clear timeline for completion within 3.5 years. You can optionally upload a figure as a pdf to the Onedrive folder as described above (https://shorturl.at/Cnu6D), and put references in the box below.

Please only put 300 words in this box (it is capped at more than this as MS forms doesn't use word limits, but we will enforce the word limit separately).

27. Research proposal references

Please add the references to key sources to your research proposal in standard disciplinary format in this box, include a doi with each if possible. Do not add further information about your proposal to this box as it will not be possible to consider this and may result in the correct references / sources also not being combined with your application.

28. Brief statement of strategic fit [200 Words Max] *

This should have been co-created and agreed by student and supervisor explaining strategic relevance to department, faculty and university – including fit to the Science Transformation Project themes: Data Science, AI & Robotics, Health Sciences, Quantum & Advanced Sensing, Energy Futures, Molecular Sciences, and Critical Infrastructure and Resources. How the student applicant will be integrated into vibrant cohorts at faculty and departmental levels should also be clarified, including participation in activities beyond the research group.

Please only put 200 words in this box (it is capped at more than this as MS forms doesn't use word limits, but we will enforce the word limit separately).

29. Brief statement on supervision team [Max 150 words] *

This should be provided to you as the student by supervision team showcasing quality and (national/ international) research and leadership experience, as well as PGR supervisory experience (at least one of the supervisors should have PGR supervisory experience) and you may want to include relevant recent PGR supervision training/accreditation details.

Please only put 150 words in this box (it is capped at more than this as MS forms doesn't use word limits, but we will enforce the word limit separately).

Please enter at most 1250 characters

30. Collaborative studentships with external parties *

EPSRC expect 25% of students to engage in collaborative studentships working with one or more non-academic partners who take an active involvement in the direction and outputs of the doctoral project and career development of the student. If with the support of your supervisor you have identified support from an external partner (cash or in kind) of the level outlined in the guidance documents, then you should indicate that you wish this proposal to be considered as collaborative

○ This proposal should be considered as collaborative and I have uploaded a Letter of Support to the Onedrive drop-off (https://shorturl.at/Cnu6D) from the external party as a .pdf.

31. For collaborative proposals give details of the external partner and (briefly) type of support offered. *

Please enter at most 300 characters

Applicant Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Monitoring Information

It is a requirement from our funder that we collect Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) monitoring information. This data will be used to provide an anonymised overview to the University and the funder, helping us identify areas where we can improve outreach and engagement.

Your responses will not be shared with selection panels and will not form any part of the assessment process for your application.

We are grateful for your participation where you feel comfortable, as this helps us

32. Sex *

Select your answer ⌄

33. Age *

Select your answer ⌄

34. Ethnicity *

Select your answer ⌄

35. Disability *

○ Known disability

○ No known disability

○ Not-disclosed

○ Unspecified

36. Sexual Orientation *

○ Bisexual

○ Gay/Lesbian

○ Heterosexual/Straight

○ Other sexual orientation

○ Not disclosed