

FoS

**SCOPE, EPSRC DLA
Studentships**

Student webinar

Dr Simon Beaumont
Associate Dean, PGR (Science)

Welcome & Purpose



Session Purpose

The session introduces STEM PhDs at Durham, and specifically the SCOPE, EPSRC DLA studentship funding scheme



Session Structure

Understanding the applications process for (1) a place to study and (2) funding.

What makes a strong application

Durham University Specific context; Application and life as a student




Intended Outcomes

Explain the Durham PhD application process step-by-step. (Application for a place to study - by student).

Clarify what Durham EPSRC DLA funding is and how to apply. (Application for funding by student and supervisor together)

Address common uncertainties (e.g., eligibility, documents, timelines).

Build confidence for applicants unfamiliar with academic processes.

A photograph showing a group of diverse individuals standing in a line, looking out a large window. In the foreground, a man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a blue denim shirt, is looking out. Behind him is a woman with long dark curly hair wearing a maroon top, and further back is a woman with long blonde hair wearing a light orange cardigan. The background shows a bright, modern interior with large windows.

Why Durham Values Diverse Talent (No “typical” PhD applicant)

Diversity Fuels Innovation

Embracing diverse backgrounds encourages varied ideas, driving innovative solutions to global challenges.

Inclusive Environment

Creating a respectful space where all voices are valued fosters effective collaboration and creativity. PhD students in our faculty already come from a diverse range of backgrounds and this is recognised as a strength

Supporting Underrepresented Groups

Targeted initiatives provide opportunities for talented individuals from underrepresented backgrounds to thrive.



EPSRC DLA Aims and Objectives

Purpose of EPSRC DLA

The award aims to develop future leaders in science and engineering through funding PhD research aligned with EPSRC priorities.

Comprehensive Support

EPSRC DLA provides tuition fees, stipend, and access to structured training and networking opportunities for candidates.

Focus on Strategic Research

The award targets research addressing societal and technological challenges in strategic EPSRC research areas (Durham Science Transformation Project).

Attracting Excellence

Durham seeks exceptional candidates with academic excellence and research potential committed to advancing knowledge.

PhD Application Process

Steps to Apply and Supervisor Selection



Supervisor Selection

Finding and contacting a suitable supervisor aligned to your interests is an essential first step.

Submit Application Documents

Applicants submit their CV, transcripts, and any other required information and documents via the online portal to apply for a **place**. (Indicate SCOPE funding)

Apply for Funding

You need to separately apply for the funding with your proposal and supervisor supporting you.

EPSRC DLA

Advertisement phase

Each department can advertise “DLA and university funded” studentships in STP aligned priority areas are available, indicating the applicants should apply on the portal for a university place (indicating EPSRC DLA) and approach the supervisor, well in advance of funding call deadline (14th January 5 pm).

Supervisor phase

Supervisors do support good applicants to generate light touch proposals submitted via MS form with other information needed – we will not attempt to cross reference with admissions information. Student submits the form / uploads required info (even if duplicates university application portal information).

Department phase (mid – late Jan)

Following 14th Jan deadline, Departments (1) rank proposals from own department for excellence of proposal (2) Score candidate relative to current department cohort (top 20%, top 70%, outside top 70%) (3) RAG department strategic fit (brief comments) and (4) RAG STP fit (brief comments).

Faculty phase (early Feb)

Faculty panel meets (w/c 2nd Feb) to consider all candidates, looking across department scores, checking we meet any quotas (widening participation, ERC involvement, <30% international etc.) Candidate quality especially considered / tensioned at this point! No prior numerical allocation to departments – best students sought. **Outcomes w/c 9th Feb.**

Supervisor Selection



Identify your interests

Finding and contacting a suitable supervisor aligned to your interests is an essential first step.

Check Department Websites

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/science/about-us/departments/>

Arrange to speak to possible supervisors

Send short CV/covering email.

Application process via online portal:

<https://studyatdurham.microsoftcrmportals.com/en-US/>



[Home](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Postgraduate Apply](#) | [Postgraduate Portal](#) | [Portal Help](#) ▾

Welcome to Durham University's Postgraduate Applicant Portal

[Already applied? Sign-in](#)

[Apply for postgraduate study](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[Make an Enquiry](#)



[Home](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Postgraduate Apply](#) | [Postgraduate Portal](#) | [Portal Help](#) ▾

[Home](#) / [Registration Confirmation](#)

Registration Confirmation

Thank you for registering for the Durham University Applicant Portal. We are delighted that you are interested in applying for postgraduate study at Durham University. To complete your registration, please log into the email account you used to register and follow the instructions in the email received from PortalRegistration@Durham.ac.uk.

[OK](#)

Register for a new account

* Email

elizabeth.fulhame@gmail.com

* Username

ElizabethFulhame

* Password


.....

* Confirm password

.....

Register

Profile



Elizabeth Fulhame

Profile

My Details

Security

Change Password

Please note that your Date of Birth must be entered below in the format DD/MM/YYYY before starting an application.

From your profile page you can update your password at any time. Known As can also be updated by you at any time and will be used for non-formal communications.

After first registering and completing your profile, First Name, Last Name, Date of Birth and E-mail cannot be edited on your profile page, but if you would like to update this information at any time, please contact us using out online enquiry form, which you can find at www.dur.ac.uk/study/askus/ and we will be happy to help.

Your Information

First Name *

Elizabeth

Previous Surname


E-mail *


elizabeth.fulhame@gmail.com

Last Name *

Fulhame

Known As

Date of Birth * 

01/12/1760 

Update

Portal Registration Success Inbox x



PORTAL-REGISTRATION <portal.registration@durham.ac.uk>

to me ▼

1:09 PM (40 minutes ago)



Welcome Elizabeth

Great News!

You are now registered with the Durham University Postgraduate Applicant Portal.

You can use the portal to follow the status of your application and access important information about Durham

Your log in details are as follows:

User name: ElizabethFulhame

Registered email address: elizabeth.fulhame@gmail.com

Your Durham ID: 1179061 ←

We will always get in touch when there is an update or when we need you to complete an action. To get the most from the Applicant Portal, please read our guidance notes [here](#).

Don't worry if you forget your password, simply follow the 'Forgot Your Password?' link from the Applicant Portal [log in](#) page.

Durham University – A World Top 100 University

...

Hello Elizabeth

We are now open for applications for admission in the 2026/27 academic year.

When applying, please make sure you use your full legal name.

Please upload the following documents with your application if possible:

- A transcript of your qualification and certificate if you have completed
- English language test certificate (if applicable)
- Scholarship documentation (if applicable)

The above can be added after submission, but as a minimum we need your academic transcript in order to be able to make a decision on your application.



0

Submitted Applications



0

Upcoming Interviews



0

Outstanding Actions Required



0

Open Enquiries

Overview

Course Search

My Details

My Applications

[Create New Application](#)

Course Title (Programme)	Application Reference	Date of Application ↓	Academic Year	Portal Application Status
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There are no records to display.

Application Documents

Date Uploaded	Document Type ↑	URL
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There are no records to display.

Upcoming Interviews

Date of Interview ↑	Start Time	Interview Method	Application Reference	Interview Status
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There are no records to display.

Enquiries in Progress

[Enquiries in Progress](#)[Create Enquiry](#)

Enquiry Type ↑	Enquiry Date	Enquiry Status	Response Date	Enquiry Description
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There are no records to display.


[FAQs](#)
[Portal Help](#)
[Postgraduate Apply](#)
[Postgraduate Portal](#)

[Elizabeth Fulhame](#)
[Home](#) / [Application- New Application](#)

Course

Course Title ↑

Department

Level of Study

Academic Year *

Mode of Study *

BSC-Mathematics and Physics

Natural Sciences

Undergraduate



CPD - Catholic Theology

Theology and
Religion

Postgraduate
Taught



CPD - School of Education

Education

Postgraduate
Taught



CPD Catholic Social Thought and Practice

Theology and
Religion

Postgraduate
Taught



CPD High Medieval Franciscan Theology

Theology and
Religion

Postgraduate
Taught



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>

Course

[Search](#)

Course Title ↑

Department

Level of Study

Academic Year *

Mode of Study *

PhD - Biological Sciences

Biosciences

Postgraduate
Research

▼

▼

[Course Details](#)[Apply](#)

PhD - Chemistry

Chemistry

Postgraduate
Research

2026/2027 ▼

Full-time ▼

[Course Details](#)[Apply](#)

PhD - Classics

Classics & Ancient
HistoryPostgraduate
Research

▼

▼

[Course Details](#)[Apply](#)

PhD - Computer Science

Computer Science

Postgraduate
Research

▼

▼

[Course Details](#)[Apply](#)

PhD - Creative Writing

English Studies

Postgraduate
Research

▼

▼

[Course Details](#)[Apply](#)

APPLICATION FORM

✖ Course Details

✖ Personal Details

✖ Contact Details

✖ Education and Qualifications

✖ Professional Experience

✖ Personal Statement

✖ References

✖ Funding

✖ Visa and Residential

✖ Supporting Documentation

✖ Declaration

Course Details

Below are the details of the course you wish to apply for. Please ensure these details are correct before continuing your application.

Course Details

Name of the Programme

PhD - Chemistry

Academic Year [?]

2026/2027

Intake * [?]

Oct 26

Mode of Study

Full-time

Field of Study (brief) * [?]

Catalysis

Have you been in contact with a potential supervisor already?



☐ No ☒ Yes

Intended Supervisor's Name *

Joseph Priestley

Intended Supervisor's Department *

Chemistry

Save

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APPLICATION FORM

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Personal Details

Please ensure you fully complete this section with your personal details and that, where applicable, the details you enter match those on your identification documents. Please note that your Date of Birth must be completed on your Portal profile page. To get to your profile page, click the arrow next to your name in the navigation bar at the top of the Portal screen and select "Profile."

Personal Details

Title * ⓘ

Miss.

Surname / Family Name * ⓘ

Fulhame

Previous Surname ⓘ

First Name * ⓘ

Elizabeth

Middle Name ⓘ

Preferred Name ⓘ

Elizabeth

Full name in western format * ⓘ

Elizabeth Fulhame

Date Of Birth * ⓘ

01/12/1760

Legal Sex *

Female

Equal Opportunities

Durham University is committed to recruiting talented postgraduate students from across the world. It seeks to achieve this by identifying merit and potential and ensuring that its admissions process is open, fair and transparent to all with the potential to meet our entry requirements, regardless of background.

You are not required to answer the following questions, but by answering these you will help us to review how we are progressing in terms of attracting a diverse range of students of identity and interest. The data collected will be used for these monitoring purposes only, will be held in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and not used in any admissions decisions

What gender do you identify as?

Female

Sexual Orientation

Prefer not to say

What is your ethnicity or ethnic group?

Prefer not to say

Is your gender the gender you were assigned at birth?

Yes

Medical Condition (if none, select 'No known disability')..

No known disability

What is your religion or belief?

Any other religion or belief

Provide details on any medical conditions (if appropriate)

Dead since around 1810.

Are you happy for your medical details to be shared with other relevant university departments?

Yes

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APPLICATION FORM

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Contact Details

Please ensure you fully complete this section with your personal details and that, where applicable, the details you enter match those on your identification documents.

Contact Details

Personal Email *

Mobile Number * [?](#)

Alternative Phone [?](#)

Permanent Home Address

Address Line 1 *

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

City / State *

Postcode / Zip

Country *



Correspondence Address

Is your correspondence address the same as your permanent address? * [?](#)

☐ No ☒ Yes

Address Line 1 *

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

City / State *

Postcode / Zip

Correspondence Country *

Agent Details

Are you applying to Durham University with the help of an educational advisor/agent? [?](#)

☒ No ☐ Yes

Authorise

Would you like to authorise anyone to act on your behalf for your application and entry to Durham University? [?](#)

☒ No ☐ Yes

[Previous](#)[Save](#)[Next](#)

- ✔

Course Details
- ✔

Personal Details
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Contact Details
- ✔

Education and Qualifications
- ✖

Professional Experience
- ✖

Personal Statement
- ✖

References
- ✖

Funding
- ✖

Visa and Residential
- ✖

Supporting Documentation
- ✖

Declaration

Education and Qualifications

Qualifications



Please use this section to tell us about your Higher Education qualifications. You need to include all Higher Education qualifications you are currently studying or have studied. If you have not yet completed your current course please tell us when you expect to receive your results. If you are an international student please tell us the language of instruction for all courses. You can attach your degree certificates and transcripts for completed qualifications. If you are currently studying please upload your transcript of marks to date.

We will use the information you give us to help us make a decision on your application and, if you enrol with us, to enable us to report on the highest qualification you hold for statutory reporting purposes.

Add New Qualification

Add Existing

Academic Qualifications

Subject 	Institution	Institution(Other)	Academic Qualification Type	Start Date	End Date	
Chemistry	The University of Edinburgh		Advanced Certificate (postgraduate)	01/01/1770	01/01/1772	


Professional Qualifications

Qualification 	Awarding Body	Expected Award Date	Date Achieved
There are no records to display.			

Qualification Documentation

New Qualification Document

Add Existing Qualification Document

Name 	Document Type	Current Status	Uploaded On
There are no records to display.			

English Language Proficiency


Full details of the University's policy on English language proficiency, including acceptable evidence that may be submitted and a breakdown of English requirements per course, can be found [here](#).

If your English language proficiency falls just below your department's requirements, you could still be made an offer that is conditional on achieving the necessary score in a recognised English language test or conditional on completion of one of our [Pre-Sessional courses](#).

If you wish to submit evidence of a recognised English language test, please enter the details in this section and upload a scanned copy of the test certificate.

What is your Native Language? * 


English

Please state any other language(s) you speak 



Have you taken an English Language test within two years of the programme start date? *

☒ No ☐ Yes

If you intend to complete a test, what date will you do this? 

DD/MM/YYYY

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APPLICATION FORM

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Professional Experience

If you have any professional experience that you feel is relevant to the course you are applying for, please include the details in this section. You may also upload a CV to be considered with your application.

Have you had work experience relevant to the programme? [?](#)

☒ No ☐ Yes

✔ Course Details
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Personal Statement

You are required to submit a personal statement that describes your academic interest in and understanding of your chosen course, as well as your purpose and objectives in undertaking this postgraduate study. Your personal statement is an important part of your application and is an opportunity for you to demonstrate why you think you would be a good student for the course you are applying to and why the University should select your application over those of other candidates. For certain courses, we may require further specific information from you.

As standard, your personal statement should:

- Explain your motivation to undertake the course
- Describe your academic interests, strengths and background relevant to the course
- Outline your ambitions and/or research interests
- Include other relevant information, such as additional reading or research, work or other relevant experiences that have informed your decision to apply for the particular course
- Highlight areas of specific interest within the course you are applying for

Please ensure your personal statement does not exceed 8000 characters.

How would you like to submit your personal statement *

Write Statement



Personal Statement Instructions

Personal Statement *

Elizabeth Fulhame (fl. 1794) was an early British chemist who invented the concept of catalysis and discovered photoreduction. She was described as 'the first solo woman researcher of modern chemistry'.[1][2]

Although she only published one text, she describes catalysis as a process at length in her 1794 book An Essay On Combustion with a View to a New Art of Dying and Painting, wherein the Phlogistic and Antiphlogistic Hypotheses are Proved Erroneous. The book relates in painstaking detail her experiments with oxidation-reduction reactions, and the conclusions she draws regarding phlogiston theory, in which she disagrees with both the Phlogistians and Antiphlogistians.[3]

In 1798, the book was translated into German by Augustin Gottfried Ludwig Lentin as Versuche über die Wiederherstellung der Metalle durch Wasserstoffgas. In 1810, it was published in the United States, to much critical acclaim.[4] That same year, Fulhame was made an honorary member of the Philadelphia Chemical Society.[5][6] Thomas P. Smith applauded her work, stating that "Mrs. Fulhame has now laid such bold claims to chemistry that we can no longer deny the sex the privilege of participating in this science also." [1]

Wikipedia (accessed 02/12/2025).

Characters Remaining: 6757/8000

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APPLICATION FORM

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- ✓ Personal Statement
- ✓ **References**
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References

You are required to submit **two** academic references from those who can comment on your academic work and your suitability for the course you are applying for. In some cases, such as if you have not studied for many years, it may be appropriate to ask someone who is familiar with your professional work to act as a referee. If you feel as if this is the case, please contact our Admissions department.

If you are applying to a MBA programme, you will normally be required to submit two professional references instead of academic ones.

You can obtain your references directly from your referees, then scan and upload the original signed letter to this section of the application. Alternatively, you may select 'Provide Referee Details', complete the relevant information and we will contact them directly.

Uploaded Reference Documentation

[New Reference Document](#)[Add Existing Document](#)

Name ↑	Referee	Document Type	Current Status
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There are no records to display.

[Add Referee](#)

First Name	Last Name ↑	Email	Reference Type	Contact Prior To Offer
Augustin	Lentin	pre-email-era@gmail.com	Provide referee details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
Benjamin	Thompson	pre-email-era@gmail.com	Provide referee details	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

[Previous](#)[Save](#)[Next](#)

APPLICATION FORM

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Application Saved Successfully.

Funding

If you are applying for a scholarship, please include details in this section. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have adequate resources to finance your tuition and living expenses throughout the duration of your studies at Durham University. Further information on fees and funding can be found on our [Fees and Funding page](#).

Scholarships

Have you either applied, or are you going to apply, for a scholarship? *

☐ No ☒ Yes

Scholarship Details

Please indicate which scholarship you have applied for or will be applying for?

PGR-SCOPE

Expected/Actual Award Date *

29/07/2026

Scholarship Document

Upload Scholarship Document

Add Existing

Name	Document Type	Current Status	Uploaded On
Elizabeth Fulhame - Scholarship Document	Scholarship Document	Document Received	02/12/2025 1:41 PM

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Anything you want!

APPLICATION FORM

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Visa and Residential

The regulations which determine your fee status are The Education (Fees and Awards) Regulations 1997 (As Amended). These notes are a summary of these regulations and are provided for your convenience only. Your answers will be used to determine whether you should be charged fees at the home or at the overseas rate. The University may charge overseas fees, at a higher rate, to those students who, in its view, do not have a relevant connection with the UK. A student may be deemed to have a relevant connection to the UK, and therefore be eligible to pay the home fee rate, if:

- He or she is settled in the UK (which means being a UK citizen, or having indefinite leave to remain or right of abode), and;
- Has been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for the three year qualifying period before the first day of the first academic year of the course, which will be either the 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July, and;
- That no part of the relevant period of residence was wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education.

Please note that the criteria apply equally to all applicants, regardless of nationality. UK citizens, who have not been resident in the UK for the three year qualifying period, will not normally qualify for home fee status. Such students will be charged fees at the overseas rate, unless they demonstrate that their absences from the UK were temporary in nature. Although students from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are nationals of the UK or EU, they will pay fees at the home rate.

Visa Details

If you are not a UK citizen then you may need to apply for a visa to study with us. If you are unsure whether you will require a visa please consult our [Immigration pages](#). You can also check the [UK Government's website](#) for further information.

Do you require a Visa to study in the UK? *

☒ No ☐ Yes

Residency

Country of Nationality * ⓘ

United Kingdom

x

Q

Dual Nationality (if applicable) ⓘ

Q

Is your country of birth the same as your Country of Nationality? *

ⓘ

☐ No ☒ Yes

Country of Permanent Residence * ⓘ

United Kingdom

x

Q

What is your Citizenship? * ⓘ

UK

▼

Are you normally resident in either the Channel Islands or Isle of Man? * ⓘ

☒ No ☐ Yes

Have you been living in the UK or an EU country for the three years immediately before the start of the academic year to which you are applying? *

ⓘ

☐ No ☒ Yes

Do you have settled or pre-settled status in the UK? *

☒ No ☐ Yes

APPLICATION FORM

✓ Course Details

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✓ References

✓ Funding

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✗ Declaration

Application Saved Successfully.

Supporting Documentation

In this section, you should upload any other documents to support your application. If your documents are not available at the point at which you submit your application, you can upload them later via the portal.

You will be required to produce original supporting documents when you come to Durham University to register for your course.

Documentation

Research Proposal

[more details...](#)

Qualification Documentation

[more details...](#)

Application Documents

Add New Document

Add Existing

Name ↑	Document Type	Current Status	Uploaded On
Elizabeth Fulhame - Scholarship Document	Scholarship Document	Document Received	02/12/2025 1:41 PM

Previous

Save

Next

Create

Document Details

Document Type ⓘ

Select

Select

AS Level Chemistry (or equivalent)

CAS Evidence

CV

Degree Certificate

English Language Evidence

Fee Status Assessment Form

Further Information (Misc)

GCSE English

GCSE Maths

GCSE Science

ILR/Refugee Document

Passport

Personal development self-assessment form

Personal Statement

Qualification

Reference

Research proposal

Results Evidence

Sample of written work

APPLICATION FORM

[✔ Course Details](#)[✔ Personal Details](#)[✔ Contact Details](#)[✔ Education and Qualifications](#)[✔ Professional Experience](#)[✔ Personal Statement](#)[✔ References](#)[✔ Funding](#)[✔ Visa and Residential](#)[✔ Supporting Documentation](#)[✔ Declaration](#)

Declaration

Declaration

Before submitting your application to study a postgraduate programme at Durham University, please read the [Durham University Recruitment & Admissions Privacy Notice](#). Once you have read this, please tick below to continue with your application.

☒ I confirm I have read the Durham University Recruitment & Admissions Privacy Notice and understand that by submitting my application, I agree to the processing of my personal data for the purposes stated in the Privacy Notice *

[Previous](#)[Save](#)[Submit](#)



Application-Submission Complete

Submitted.



Thank you for submitting your application for a postgraduate programme at Durham University. Your application has been successfully received and is now under consideration.

Please allow up to 8 weeks for the University to make a decision on your application.

If you do have any queries about your application or the postgraduate admissions process, please use the enquiry form found on your [Applicant Home Page](#), where you may also view a summary of your application or create a new application.

Once again, many thanks for submitting your application.

[Apply with Same Information](#)

We've got it! Inbox x



DURHAM-ADMISSIONS <durham.admissions@durham.ac.uk>

1:47 PM (3 minutes ago)

to me ▾

Dear Elizabeth

We are delighted to receive your application to Durham University for PhD - Chemistry, Application ID N4W241571 starting in the academic year 2026/2027.

Use your [Applicant Portal](#) to follow the status of your application and to view details of any actions that you may need to complete.

Forgotten your password? Follow the 'Forgot Your Password?' link from the [Applicant Portal Login Page](#).

Thank you for choosing Durham University.

Durham University – A World Top 100 University

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

↩ Reply

➦ Forward



Hello Elizabeth

We are now open for applications for admission in the 2026/27 academic year.

When applying, please make sure you use your full legal name.

Please upload the following documents with your application if possible:

- A transcript of your qualification and certificate if you have completed
- English language test certificate (if applicable)
- Scholarship documentation (if applicable)

The above can be added after submission, but as a minimum we need your academic transcript in order to be able to make a decision on your application.

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Submitted Applications

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Upcoming Interviews

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Outstanding Actions Required

Overview

Course Search

My Details

My Applications

Create New Application

Course Title (Programme)	Application Reference	Date of Application	Academic Year	Portal Application Status
PhD - Chemistry	N4W241571	02/12/2025	2026/2027	Application Received

Upcoming Interviews

Date of Interview	Start Time	Interview Method	Application Reference	Interview Status
There are no records to display.				

Application Documents

Date Uploaded	Document Type
02/12/2025	Application PDF

- View Application
- View Fee Status
- Submit Deferral Request
- Submit Change of Programme Request
- Withdraw Application
- View Documents
- Add Supporting Document
- View Application History
- Create Enquiry
- Use Information in Application To Apply Again

Durham University

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Elizabeth Fulham

Home / Fee Status Information

Fee Status Information

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- has been ordinarily resident in the UK and Islands for the three year qualifying period before the first day of the first academic year of the course, which will be either the 1 September, 1 January, 1 April or 1 July, and
- that no part of the relevant period of residence was wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education

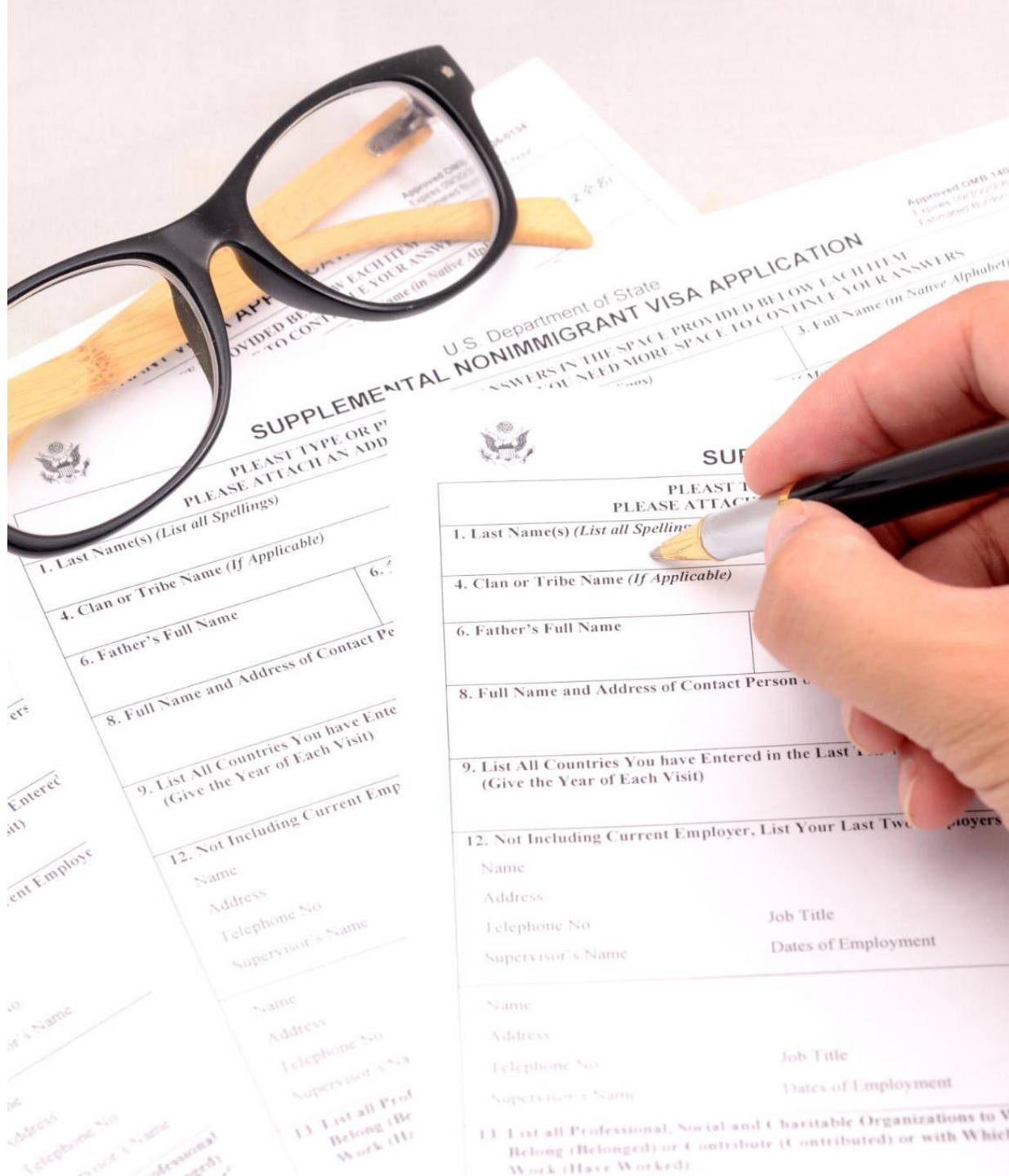
Please note that the criteria apply equally to all applicants, regardless of nationality. UK citizens who have not been resident in the UK for the three year qualifying period, will not normally qualify for home fee status. Such students will be charged fees at the overseas rate, unless they can demonstrate that their absences from the UK were temporary in nature. Although students from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not nationals of the UK or EU, they will pay fees at the home rate.

Assigned Fee Status : H - Home

You can view the rules we used to determine your fee status on the UKCISA website.

Back

Submit Fee Status Review Request



Offer Types and Language Requirements

Conditional vs Unconditional Offers

Conditional offers require pending requirements like degree results or language proficiency. Unconditional offers mean all conditions are fulfilled. Only final degree can be pending for application to scope studentships

English Language Requirements

Durham expects IELTS 6.5 overall with no band below 6.0. TOEFL and Pearson tests are accepted alternatives.

Funding Application Process



SCOPE and EPSRC DLA Funding

Separate Funding Process

Funding applications are distinct from academic PhD applications, requiring additional submission steps.

SCOPE Funding Requirements

SCOPE funding demands a strong CV and a brief, focused research proposal from candidates.

EPSRC DLA Funding Coverage

EPSRC DLA funding supports tuition fees, stipends, and training for qualifying students.

Eligibility and Preparation

Eligibility depends on academic excellence, research potential, and proposal / strategic fit; early understanding with supervisor aids competitive applications.



SCOPE – Eligibility Criteria

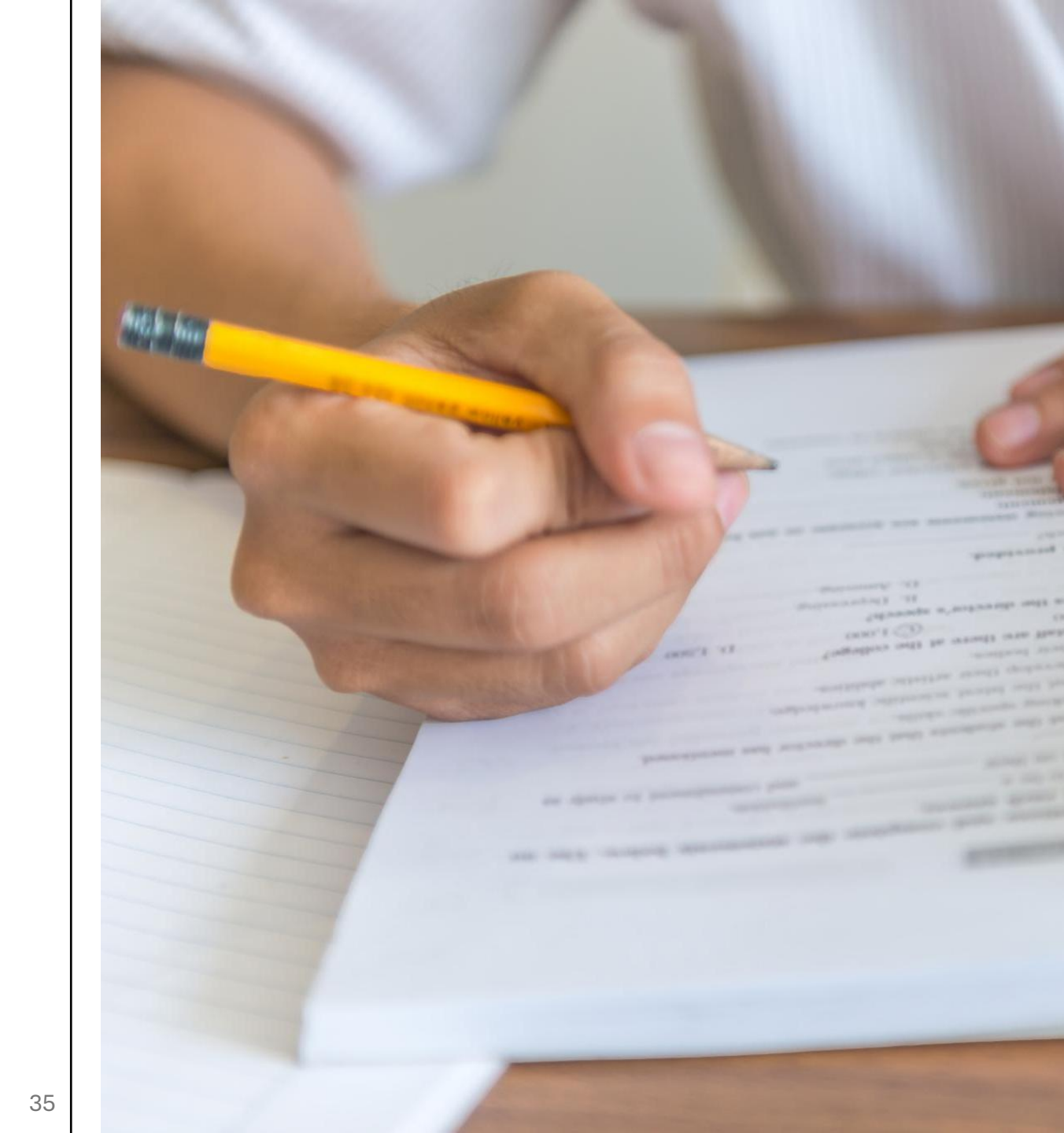
- Applied to a full-time PhD programme at Durham University, and eligible for a place without concessions (except for degrees you are still completing between now and the PhD start date). This requirement includes meeting the Durham University's current English language requirements.
- Hold an excellent academic record (preferably MSc/MEng and first-class honours).
- Evidence of awards, publications, or research contributions.
- Excellent research proposal with societal impact.
- Commitment to professional conduct and adherence to EDI policy.
- Not currently enrolled in a doctoral programme, have studied for over 12 months on a doctoral programme or previously awarded a PhD.
- Not currently applying for other UKRI or university funded studentship related to their PhD studies at Durham University. (Note this does not include CSC-Durham award, which you may apply for in parallel).

A close-up photograph of a hand with dark red nail polish holding a rolled-up white diploma. The diploma is tied with a vibrant red ribbon in a bow. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting.

Application via MS form

- **Application Requirements (Main)**
- Durham University application number.
- Confirmation of eligibility (including English language & degree).
- CV (max 2 pages, PDF).
- Brief research proposal (max 300 words + 1 figure as PDF).
- Strategic fit statement (max 200 words).
- Supervisory team statement (max 150 words).
- Letter of support (PDF, if collaborative studentship with external partner).

Demystifying the Process



Building a Strong Application

Strong CV Elements

Highlight academic achievements, relevant skills, and research experience in your CV to stand out.

Clear Research Proposal

A concise proposal should state aims/hypothesis, methodology, and project impact clearly.

Dispelling Application Myths

Entry-level applicants don't need prior publications; focus on potential and clear ideas instead. No "PhD student type." Supervisors will (usually) be keen to work with good students.

Support and Resources

Links for submission of application to SCOPE, October 2026 start:

[Student submission form for Faculty of Science SCOPE Doctoral Studentships for 2026 Entry – Fill in form](#) – open until January 14th 5 pm. (see [here](#) for a pdf of all the questions on the form to help prepare your application).

Additional documents for this call can be uploaded here (<https://shorturl.at/Cnu6D>)

Other Useful Links

Durham Online Application Portal (apply for a place here):

<https://studyatdurham.microsoftcrmportals.com/en-US/>

Webinar (10th December) Registration: <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/61b0a0fe-608e-40ab-809e-c24d606edc30@7250d88b-4b68-4529-be44-d59a2d8a6f94>

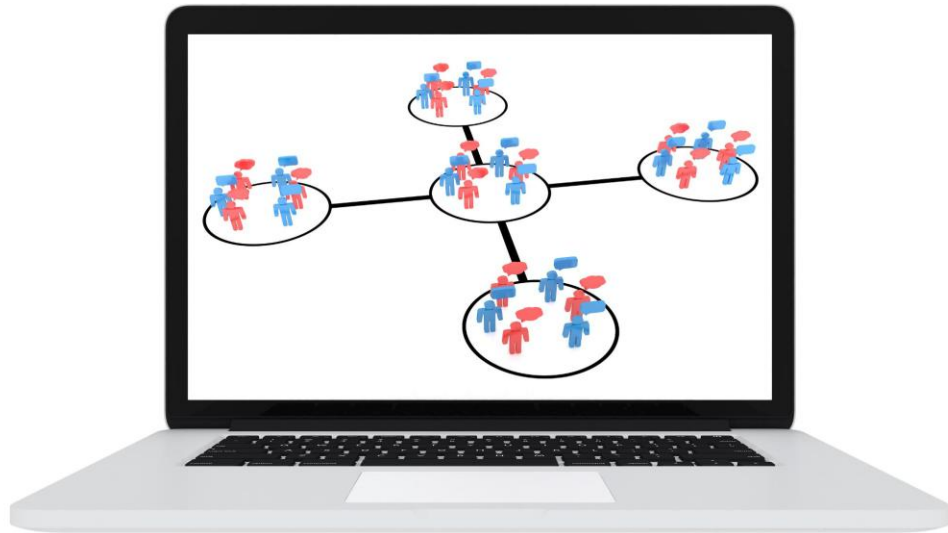
Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Policy:

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/about-us/environmental-social-and-economic-sustainability/our-sustainability-policies/equality-diversity-and-inclusion-policy/>

Faculty PGR Funding Routes: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/science/research-excellence/science-doctoral-training/pgr-funding-routes/>

PDF version of the online MS Form to be completed by student: https://durhamuniversity-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/vmzt89_durham_ac_uk/lQCsHzhgvCgwT61eJZmi70q5ATpSu8DziUAcrZ_6LniGgyk?e=5IL23o

Where to Get Help and Information



Faculty Website and guidance

Science Faculty PGR Funding Routes:

<https://www.durham.ac.uk/departments/academic/science/research-excellence/science-doctoral-training/pgr-funding-routes/>

Supervisor

Key support from supervisor in navigating the process

Host Department

Each department has a PGR Co-Ordinator who's job is to look after PGR students and applicants – they can help if you can't find it in the guidance documents.

Contact me

associatedeanpgr.science@durham.ac.uk

Q&A