

## AHRC Eligibility Requirements for UK Project Students

Within the UK budget of their HERA bid, applicants were able to request funding for one or two full-time (3-year) project studentships. When recruiting candidates to these studentships, ROs are responsible for ensuring that the students meet AHRC eligibility criteria. Full eligibility requirements are outlined in the [Student Funding Guide](#), but please see below for key points.

### Student Recruitment

- The studentship must fall completely within the duration of the CRP. Funding cannot be sought to complete a PhD which has already started or will start prior to the start date of the project.
- Each studentship must provide added value to the project, but also allow the student sufficient independence to make their own original contribution to scholarship. The CRP must be a viable project without the contribution of the project student, but the student(s) should benefit from working within the structure of the project as a whole.
- Project Students must be supervised by a UK-based Principle Investigator or Co-Investigator named on the grant. The supervisor must be based at the RO where the student is registered.
- Whilst recognising the specific nature of research projects, in order to meet the requirements of equal opportunities and to ensure that the best applicants are attracted, project studentships should be advertised as widely as possible and by the most appropriate method to reach the target audience.

### Student Eligibility

#### Academic eligibility

- A student should have gained an undergraduate degree from a recognised RO, and should normally have, or be studying for, a Master's degree or similar postgraduate qualification (or have equivalent experience).
- If, by the start date of a studentship, a student will have already gained or completed the requirements for a doctoral degree in any subject, however funded, they are not eligible to receive doctoral studentship funding.

#### Residency Eligibility

The following students are eligible for a **full studentship award** (which covers the cost of approved tuition fees and provides a maintenance grant):

- Students who are ordinarily resident in the UK, i.e. have been ordinarily resident in the UK for the 3-year period preceding the date of application for an award (except for the purposes of full-time education) and have settled status in the UK (i.e. are not subject to any restriction on the period for which they may stay).
- Students who are ordinarily resident in the Channel Islands or Northern Ireland.
- EU students who have been ordinarily resident in the UK throughout the 3-year period preceding the start of the course (including for full-time education).

- *\*Exceptionally, for HERA grants, students who are ordinarily resident in any HERA country (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia or Sweden) are eligible for the full studentship award.\**

A student will be eligible for a **fees-only studentship** (which covers the cost of approved fees only) if she/he is ordinarily resident in a member state of the EU (other than a HERA country).

### **Further Information**

The full eligibility requirements are outlined in the AHRC Student Funding Guide:

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Student-Funding-Guide.pdf>

If you have any questions, please contact:

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