# Health Data Research UK (HDR UK)

## Call for New Master's Degree Programmes and Studentships in Health Data Science: FAQs

### Course development

**Q1. Could the panel define the term "recently established"?**

A. We are unlikely to fund a course whose first intake was in 2017/18 or earlier. We may offer reduced funding for courses whose first intake was in 2018/19 or 2019/20. The bid's plan for sustainability, as set out in section (4.1) of the bid, will be particularly important for bids based on existing courses.

**Q2. What do you consider to be self-sustaining?**

A. A course is self-sustaining if it is recruiting students in sufficient numbers that its continuation is not under threat.  The intention of the scheme is to grow national provision rather than advance already well-established courses.

**Q3. What can be included as a contribution in kind?**

A.  The budget template lists the categories under which expenditure can be classified. Amongst these, the *'in kind'* contributions could include existing staff time (time of new staff funded by the bidding institution would be considered a cash contribution) and student facilities (e.g. office space). The budget template should include an equivalent cash value for these using institutional norms for non-staff items, whilst the bid itself should include an explanation of each contribution under sections (5.7) and (5.8).

**Q4. Does the panel have a fixed view on the format and exit award eligible for support under this scheme?**

A. We welcome proposals that lead to an MSc or MRes qualification. For this call a programme that does not include an extended project component (e.g. PGCert or PGDip) is unlikely to be funded.

**Q5. Does the panel have a fixed view on the eligibility of programmes designed specifically as Master's-level intercalated degrees for clinical undergraduates?**

A. Courses of this kind are eligible and will be judged by the same criteria (1 to 4 on page 1 of the call document) as others (see section (3.1) of the call document).

## Studentships

**Q6. Are fee-only and/or part-stipend awards allowable?**

A. No. We require every HDR UK-badged student to be in receipt of a full stipend and to have no personal liability for fees. We would very much welcome co-funding of studentships by HDR UK, the bidding institution and/or non-academic partner.

**Q7. We would be keen to facilitate applications from students who are able to commit some funds to their training costs but cannot currently afford the full fee and stipendiary costs. Does the scheme allow the award of part-studentships?**

A.  We expect every student in receipt of HDR UK funding to be fully-funded. We would be very pleased for studentships to be co-funded by HDR UK, the bidding university and/or non-academic partner institutions.

**Q9. Are studentships available for part-time students?**

A. Yes. A part-time HDR UK-badged student should be in receipt of the relevant fraction of a full stipend and should have no personal liability for fees.

**Q10. Are studentships available for distance-learning students?**

A. Yes.  Programmes based on distance-learning will be judged by the same criteria (1 to 4 on page 1 of the call document) as face-to-face-learning programmes.

**Q11. Can students who are not receiving any financial support from HDRUK register for an HDRUK-supported course?**

A. Yes.

**Q12. Are studentships open to students of any nationality and do students need to apply directly to the institutions?**

A. HDR UK will make awards to individual institutions who will then be responsible for recruiting students and allocating studentships.  HDR UK imposes no nationality restrictions on students funded through this scheme.

## Masters' programme funding call

**Q13. How many proposals do you expect to fund, and with how many students?**

A. This will depend on the number and quality (as judged by the selection panel) of proposals that we receive, and the amount of match funding offered by the bidding universities.  We anticipate that a successful proposal will be awarded five or more studentships, with up to 8 proposals funded.