



GW4 BioMed3 MRC DLA: Supervisor Project Proposals 2027/28

This form should be submitted by 17:00 on Friday, 10th July 2026

Project Declaration

1. Please tick the boxes below to confirm the following before submitting your GW4 BioMed3 MRC DLA project for consideration. You must agree to all conditions in order to proceed.

*

- I understand that accepted projects will only be advertised if we are awarded funding to support the GW4 BioMed3 MRC DLA.
- I understand that the funding structure of studentships in this DLA is different to the package provided previously for BioMed 1 and 2 studentships.
- I understand that there may be no provision for high cost training.
- I have read and understood the Project Proposal FAQs.

GW4 BioMed3 DLA Project Application - October 26/27 - Cohort 3.1

- This form should be submitted by **17:00 on Friday, 10th July 2026**.
- Please refer to the FAQ document when completing your project proposal.
- Please note that this form can be saved and completed in stages BUT cannot be shared with other people. If you wish to collaborate and share your answers before submission, then you will have to do this via a Word document then cut and paste your answers into this form at a later stage.
- **Once you have submitted the form it cannot be revised or amended.**
- If you realise you have made a mistake after submission (clicking on the 'Finish' button) you will need to re-do the whole form and let us know before the closing date so that we can delete the previous version.
- Please download your submission receipt and save a copy of your answers at the end of the form.

Project Details

2. Project Title:

*

The title is important for attracting applicants. Please take care to make your title understandable to those who are not yet experts in the area.

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3. Research Theme: Please indicate the research theme that is most appropriate for this project: *

- Infection, Immunity & Antimicrobial Resistance
- Neuroscience & Mental Health
- Population Health Sciences
- Cardiometabolic Disease

4. Please provide a summary of your project which will attract students to apply, if your project is shortlisted and advertised. This should be written for a general science audience to ensure a broad reach for your project description. (Maximum 100 words)

*

We use this section on our website to advertise your project. Try to avoid descriptions which are jargon laden and impenetrable to those who are not yet experts in the field.

The Supervisory Team: Lead Supervisor

Please ensure and confirm that you meet the requirements for supervisor eligibility by your lead HEI.

5. Lead supervisor: Title

*

- Professor
- Dr
- Other

6. If you selected Other, please specify:

0/32,000 characters

7. Lead supervisor: First name

*

0/32,000 characters

8. Lead supervisor: Surname

*

0/32,000 characters

9. Lead supervisor: Affiliation

*

- Bath
- Bristol
- Cardiff
- Exeter

10. Lead supervisor: College / faculty

*

0/32,000 characters

11. Lead supervisor: Department / school

*

0/32,000 characters

12. Lead supervisor: Email

*

0/32,000 characters

13. Lead supervisor: Telephone number

0/32,000 characters

14. Please indicate if there are any existing associations between the supervisory team members outside of a work capacity.

0/32,000 characters

15. Does one or more members of the supervisory team identify with the following? Please tick all that apply.

*

- Early career researcher
- Minority ethnic or gender identifying group
- Other area of diversity
- None

The Supervisory Team: Co-Supervisor 1

16. Co-supervisor 1: Title

*

- Professor
- Dr
- Other

17. If you selected "other", please specify:

0/32,000 characters

18. Co-supervisor 1: First name

*

0/32,000 characters

19. Co-supervisor 1: Surname

*

0/32,000 characters

20. Co-supervisor 1: Affiliation

*

- Bath
- Bristol
- Cardiff
- Exeter
- Other

21. If you selected "other", please specify:

Please check your University regulations regarding co-supervisor eligibility.

0/32,000 characters

22. Co-supervisor 1: College / faculty

*

0/32,000 characters

23. Co-supervisor 1: Department / school

*

0/32,000 characters

24. Co-supervisor 1: Email

*

0/32,000 characters

25. Add another supervisor?

*

Yes

No

The Supervisory Team: Co-Supervisor 2

26. Co-supervisor 2: Title

*

- Professor
- Dr
- Other

27. If you selected "other", please specify:

0/32,000 characters

28. Co-supervisor 2: First name

*

0/32,000 characters

29. Co-supervisor 2: Surname

*

0/32,000 characters

30. Co-supervisor 2: Affiliation

*

- Bath
- Bristol
- Cardiff
- Exeter
- Other

31. If you selected "other", please specify:

Please check your University regulations regarding co-supervisor eligibility.

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32. Co-supervisor 2: College / faculty

*

0/32,000 characters

33. Co-supervisor 2: Department / school

*

0/32,000 characters

34. Co-supervisor 2: Email

*

0/32,000 characters

35. Add another supervisor?

*

 Yes No

The Supervisory Team: Co-Supervisor 3

36. Co-supervisor 3: Title

*

- Professor
- Dr
- Other

37. If you selected "other", please specify:

0/32,000 characters

38. Co-supervisor 3: First name

*

0/32,000 characters

39. Co-supervisor 3: Surname

*

0/32,000 characters

40. Co-supervisor 3: Affiliation

*

- Bath
- Bristol
- Cardiff
- Exeter
- Other

41. If you selected "other", please specify:

Please check your University regulations regarding co-supervisor eligibility.

0/32,000 characters

42. Co-supervisor 3: College / faculty

*

0/32,000 characters

43. Co-supervisor 3: Department / school

*

0/32,000 characters

44. Co-supervisor 3: Email

*

0/32,000 characters

The Proposed Project

Please refer to selection criteria and the FAQ's and consider how your project offers high quality doctoral training and research.

45. Describe the proposed project. Please include a brief background, the key research question that the project aims to address and a breakdown of the specific objectives that the student will work towards over the course of the studentship. Please also indicate areas where the student will be able to take ownership and steer the project. (Maximum 800 words)

*

Descriptions will be considered by the Theme Panel, which may include non-specialist members, and will be advertised on HEI websites to potential applicants, so must be written in a style/language understandable to both audiences.

46. Can this project be completed on a part-time basis (minimum 50%)? *

Yes

No

47. Without reference to the characteristics of the supervisory team, please provide details as to whether equality, diversity and inclusion are considered within the design or scope of the project, or the intended training of the student.

*

0/32,000 characters

48. Has this project received ethical approval? *

Yes

No

Other

49. If you selected Other, please specify:

0/32,000 characters

Training provision

50. Describe how you propose to support the student to tailor the project and take ownership of it, during the initial 3 month 'Prep' period (Maximum 500 words)

*

51. Please state how you intend to use existing courses/resources across GW4 that can be accessed to provide specialist training (Maximum 500 words)

*

Project Funding

This section asks you to describe how the project costs will be met year by year. Please note that you do not need current or previous MRC funding to be eligible for these studentships. This section should be completed after reading our FAQ's document.

52. Would you consider the project to be wet-lab or dry-lab based?

*

- Wet lab
- Dry lab
- Other

53. If you selected Other, please specify.

0/32,000 characters

54. We provide a **Research Support Training Grant (RTSG)** of £2,000 per year for dry lab projects and £5,000 per year for wet lab projects. Please describe how these funds will be used after reading the restrictions outlined in question 15 of our FAQ's document.

Please note that these costs are for training only, ongoing consumable costs are not covered by MRC funding.

*

55. The MRC **does not provide high cost training costs** for DLA's, which is a change from our previous DTP funding structure. Depending on the funding that we receive, we **may** be able to support a small number of requests.

High-cost training not identified at this stage cannot be financially supported later in the studentship.

Would you like to request any high-cost training funding, as outlined in question 16 of the FAQ's document? (Maximum 120 words)

*

If applicable, please provide a description and costing for each request.

56. What are the anticipated additional project costs per year (e.g. for consumables) not outlined in your answers above?

*

Please provide an indication of the nature of the costs.

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57. Please indicate how you, as a project team, plan to fund these additional costs as they will not be covered by the studentship funding, including any high-cost training requirements outlined in your response to question 55.

*

Please note that funds can come from any member of the supervisory team if it is relevant to their participation, but this should be indicated

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Excellence of the Research and Training Environment

Please refer to selection criteria and FAQ document and consider publication record; PhD submission rates; and critical mass; both in terms of the named supervisors and their wider research group(s)/network(s), of relevance. Please limit to 4 supervisors only.

58. Lead supervisor: How many students are currently being supervised as 1st supervisor?

*

0/32,000 characters

59. Lead supervisor: How many students have been supervised to completion (starting 2016/17 onwards).

*

0/32,000 characters

60. Lead supervisor: Of those, how many completed within 4 years?

*

0/32,000 characters

61. Co-supervisor 1: How many students are currently being supervised as 1st supervisor?

*

0/32,000 characters

62. Co-supervisor 1: How many students have been supervised to completion (starting 2016/17 onwards)?

*

63. **Co-supervisor 1:** Of those, how many completed within 4 years?

*

0/32,000 characters

64. **Co-supervisor 2:** How many students are currently being supervised as 1st supervisor?

*

0/32,000 characters

65. **Co-supervisor 2:** How many students have been supervised to completion (starting 2016/17 onwards)?

*

0/32,000 characters

66. **Co-supervisor 2:** Of those, how many completed within 4 years?

*

0/32,000 characters

67. **Co-supervisor 3:** How many students are currently being supervised as 1st supervisor?

*

0/32,000 characters

68. **Co-supervisor 3:** How many students have been supervised to completion (starting 2016/17 onwards)?

*

0/32,000 characters

69. Co-supervisor 3: Of those, how many completed within 4 years?

*

0/32,000 characters

70. Comments on above (optional but explanation encouraged).

0/32,000 characters

Excellence of the Research and Training Environment continued

71. Please provide evidence of the quality of the research and training environment, including how the training experience will contribute to the students' future career development. (Maximum 1000 words)

*

This includes illustration of the research profiles of all members of the supervisory team which could include publications, funding, public engagement, other measures of research quality or impact.

72. As outlined in the 'Supervisor Expectations' document, the DTP requires Lead Supervisors and Co-Supervisors to contribute to the training environment of the DTP during the course of the studentship. Please tick the box/es to indicate that you agree with the following, *

- The Supervisory team have read the 'Supervisor Expectations' document.
- We will complete a termly online student progression survey.
- We will attend at least one Supervisor training session each year.
- Supervisors and co-supervisors agree to have their engagement with the DTP monitored.

73. Supervisors are required to take part in at least one additional role during their allocated studentship. Please indicate the roles that you may be interested in (select all that apply). *

- Participation in project shortlisting.
- Participation in student shortlisting.
- Delivering training at one of our events.
- Standing as a Deputy for theme or institutional lead.
- Participating as an online CORE training tutor.

74. Please suggest the title of an academic skills training seminar that you or a member of your Supervisory team could deliver to our students.

This should focus on transferrable skills applicable to PhD students across theme and university.

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Alignment of the Project with Relevant Strategic Priorities

Please refer to selection criteria in the FAQ document (point 23), and describe how the project will address, as applicable: one or more of the DLA's strategic aims - data science & digital innovation, genetics and genomics and commercialisation and entrepreneurship across GW4 partner institutions. We also aim to increase diversity in our supervisory teams (including early career researchers, gender, ethnicity and other areas of diversity).

75. Please indicate by tick-box(es) which of the strategic skills areas will be developed through the project. *

- Data science and digital innovation
- Genetics and genomics
- Commercialisation and entrepreneurship

76. Please indicate if there is an element of collaboration across the GW4 institutions. *

- Yes
- No

77. If yes, please indicate which GW4 institutions will be involved. Please tick all that apply.

- Bath
- Bristol
- Cardiff
- Exeter

78. Please describe how the project will address the strategic skills as listed above, including collaboration within the GW4. (Maximum 600 words)

*

Approvals

79. I confirm that I have institutional approval, e.g. from Head of School/Faculty/Dept, to submit this project proposal.

Yes

No

- A GW4 BioMed Studentship includes a UKRI level stipend, fees, RTSG of up to £5k per annum (depending on nature of project) and a travel grant of £300 per annum.
- Studentships are funded for 4 years with the submission deadline at 4 years which includes a 3-month prep period and a 3-month Broadening Horizons placement.
- There are **NO** additional DLA funds for ongoing or incidental project costs.
- Note the RTSG is for research training and support and in line with UKRI and MRC policy and must be made available to the student for costs of, for example, training workshops, conference attendance and travel associated with attending development activities and placements.
 - It must not be used solely for the purchase of consumables and **MUST NOT** be used at all for the purchase of items which would reasonably be expected to be provided by the institution, including laptops.
 - Project costs must therefore be covered by laboratory or programme grants.
 - GW4 BioMed3 DLA funding must be used to support **ONLY** the student appointed to your submitted project.

Please note: this is the last question. Clicking "Finish" will submit your proposal and it cannot be undone.