

Graduate School *High Flyers* PhD Scholarships 2017-18

The High Flyers PhD Scholarships scheme is designed to encourage DMU's highest quality alumni to remain at the university to study for a PhD.

Eligibility:

This scheme is open to UK, EU and overseas students who are currently studying at DMU or who are alumni of the university. Research groups/centres are encouraged to identify potential candidates at an early stage and work with them to structure their application and research proposal.

Research projects in any field supported by the university are eligible.

Projects involving external partners such as commercial or charity organisations will require a formal contract with the partner organisation. Supervisors of such projects are required to complete an additional information form at the initial stage of the application process. If the project is awarded funding, DMU's Legal Affairs Office will then support the drafting of a suitable contract. Partner organisations must be made aware of the need for a formal contract prior to the submission of this scholarship application.

The Awards:

Under this scheme, up to five prestigious full bursary scholarships will be offered to graduates who obtain or have obtained a first class honours degree at UGT level or a distinction at PGT level from a DMU course. Each scholarship will include a fee waiver (UK/EU or overseas as appropriate) and an enhanced stipend of £15,000 per annum to recognize the top class performance of the student. Each student will also get an automatic £500 allowance towards travel and accommodation costs so that they can present their work at prestigious international conferences and meetings and visit key researchers in other universities as part of their career development.

DMU will provide the following additional support to differentiate between this scheme from existing Graduate School scholarship schemes:

- Professional student membership of one organization paid for the duration of their PhD, to provide support in achieving professional status as quickly as possible to enhance employability which will be provided by faculties.
- Access to industry mentors to help shape the student's future career and provide advice on related issues such as starting a new business etc. It is proposed that this will be organised by the faculty and should be available through the new Doctoral Training Programmes.
- VIP invitations to Faculty and University events, such as industry presentations, opening of new facilities etc.

Selection process:

Each Faculty is invited to submit up to two candidates for these awards. The application should be jointly prepared by the student and the potential supervisors. The supervisors are responsible for the submission of the application to their faculty by the relevant deadline (given below). This should include:

- A completed **High Flyers application form, standard PhD application form, academic transcript/s, copies of degree certificates and two references.**
- Details of the student and his/her performance to date.
- Details of the proposed research project and how it maps onto DMU areas of research excellence.

When completed, the application form should not exceed three pages in length.

Applications selected by faculties will include a supporting statement from the PVC/Dean/Head of Research (eg email) when these are sent to the Graduate School.

Interviews:

All shortlisted candidates will be interviewed in late January by an academic panel chaired by the Director of the Graduate School. Scholarships will only be awarded to those candidates deemed by the panel to be of the highest calibre. In person interviews are preferred, but may also be conducted via Skype.

Deadlines:

Faculties have set the following internal deadlines for receipt of applications.

Current students or alumni interested in applying to the scheme should have applications prepared in conjunction with their prospective supervisors ready for submission by the following dates:

ADH: 28 November, 2016

BAL: 6 January, 2017

HLS: 6 January, 2017

TEC: 6 January, 2017