

Research Experience Placements: further information

1. Responsibilities of the awarding department/institution

The awarding department or institution is responsible for administering all aspects of the award including:

- selecting a suitable undergraduate student
- identifying a suitable project that relates to a relevant strategic area as directed in the allocation letter (for DTP lead institutions, REPs should be allocated across the partnership and in areas in line with the strategic allocation of DTP studentships)
- ensuring that appropriate supervisory arrangements are in place for the student during the placement
- ensuring any necessary ethical committee approvals, animal licences and requirements of regulatory authorities are in place before the work begins and are maintained during the duration of the work
- the identification, protection and exploitation of any intellectual property rights arising from the work
- ensuring that all facilities, agreements about access and collaborations necessary for the work are obtained before the work commences and can be ensured through the period of the work
- ensuring that all support costs awarded by through the REP are used and accounted for appropriately
- ensuring that details and assessment of the project are reported to BBSRC, as directed in the allocation letter or subsequent correspondence

2. Eligibility of students

Selected students must be:

- In the middle years of their first degree studies
- Registered for a basic science (including mathematics and engineering) or veterinary degree at a UK university
- Expected to obtain a first or upper second class UK honours degree

Preference should be given to students who wish to use the placement to find out more about their suitability and aptitude for further research, particularly if the project is in an area of science different from their main subject area.

3. Duration

Each REP is for up to 10 weeks during the summer vacation in a UK higher education institution or research institute.

4. Support costs

The value of a REP is **£2,500** to cover a minimum stipend of **£200 per week** to the student and a contribution towards research expenses during the placement.

5. Reporting and payments

The student and the awarding department are required to submit a brief report on the outcome of the REP to BBSRC **within three months of completion of the placement**. Payment will be released by BBSRC on receipt of the final report.

6. Research projects

Research projects must:

- Have a clearly defined objective

- Be within the remit of BBSRC and relate to a relevant strategic area as directed in the allocation letter
- Be suitable for a student to sensibly complete within the timescale of the award
- Not be part of the normal degree course or propose that the student undertakes the research outside of the UK
- Give scope for thought and initiative on the part of the student and should not use the student as a general assistant