



PhD studentships with the South West Biosciences Doctoral Training Partnership (SWBio DTP)

Up to 34 fully-funded 4-year PhD studentships* available to start in September 2026, across a wide range of bioscience disciplines.

To view [projects available](#), and [how to apply](#), visit the [SWBio DTP website](#).

** Subject to meeting [eligibility requirements](#).*

About

The [BBSRC](#)-funded SWBio DTP involves a [partnership](#) of world-renown universities, research institutes and industry, based mainly across the South West and Wales.

This partnership has established international, national and regional scientific networks, and widely recognised research excellence and facilities.

We aim to provide you with outstanding interdisciplinary bioscience research training, underpinned by transformative technologies.

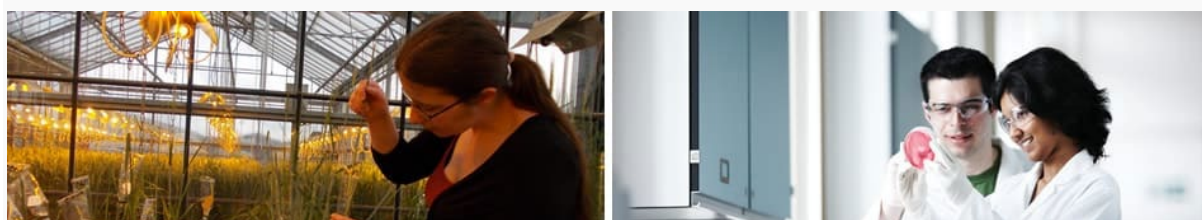


Programme overview

You will be recruited directly to a broad, interdisciplinary project, supported by a multidisciplinary supervisory team, with many cross-institutional projects available. There are also opportunities to:

- apply your research in an industry setting ([DTP CASE studentships](#)).
- undertake research jointly with our core and associate partners ([Standard DTP studentships with an associate partner](#)).
- work with other national/international researchers.
- undertake fieldwork.

Our structured training programme will ensure you are well equipped as a bioscience researcher, supporting careers into academia, industry and beyond.



First year

We provide a broad awareness of the fundamental research approaches in biosciences and how they could be applied to real-life situations through:

- **two rotation projects** – both allied with but in different disciplinary areas related to the PhD project.
- **three taught units** – training in Statistics, Bioinformatics, coding, experimental design, innovation and understanding the impact of your research.

Note: You will need to complete the first year to progress into your second year of studies. Also, if you are unable to continue your PhD, an MRes exit route is available upon completion of the first year.

[Further information >>](#)



1 Our Students enjoying a day of Statistics training (Cardiff)

Second to fourth years

The remaining years will be more like a conventional PhD, where you will focus on your PhD project.

Note: The PhD thesis must be submitted within 4 years (full-time equivalent) of starting the programme.

Placements

To help broaden your career horizons, you will undertake

- a 3-month placement of your choice, outside of an academic research environment – *examples include working within policy, science communication, industry and scientific publishing.*
- or a 3-18 month industry placement with your CASE partner – *CASE studentships only.*

These are to provide you with highly desirable skills, experience and knowledge that can be applied to many career sectors.

[About our placement schemes >>](#)

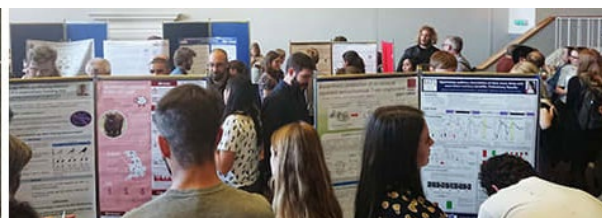
Cohort activities

You will have the opportunity to join many partnership cohort activities, such as student conferences, workshops and outreach events. Here you will meet students across the partnership, giving you access to a thriving multidisciplinary and supportive student network.

[About our cohort activities >>](#)



At Glastonbury Festival



Sharing their research at our Annual Student Conference (Exeter)

Funding and eligibility

Information about [funding](#) and [eligibility](#) >>

A limited number of funded-studentships are available for international students.

Supporting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

We support inclusive and flexible work environments, and welcome applications from all backgrounds and communities.

[Our SWBio DTP EDI statement >>](#)

[How we support our diverse student cohort >>](#)

[PhD study adjustments and support >>](#)

DTP virtual support events

We have events available to help you with deciding on a bioscience PhD, and support with applications and interviews.

[Further information >>](#)

Application deadline

Midday, Wednesday 3 December 2025

[How to apply](#) and [projects available](#) >>