

Academic, KTP officer and other University liaison officer information:
Frequently asked questions about the Industrial Mathematics shorter KTP
(sKTP) Programme

Who can apply to be an associate on an sKTP project?

Only currently registered PhD students in UK universities can apply to be an associate on an IM sKTP project.

I am an academic. How do I get involved?

Please encourage your PhD students to apply for opportunities and/or to register for updates by sending an email to the Programme Administrator, Judy Reynolds at jr@industrialmaths.net and putting REGISTER FOR sKTP in the subject line.

If you have any company contacts, please encourage them to consider undertaking a project and to send an email with their ideas to the Programme Manager, Lorcan Mac Manus at lbmm@industrialmaths.net.

I would like to raise awareness of this programme at my University. There is a good event coming up soon at which there will be many Maths/Physics/Engineering PhD students.

What can I do?

Please contact the Programme Manager, Lorcan Mac Manus (lbmm@industrialmaths.net). He will be happy to advise and to come and make a presentation at the event if possible.

I am an academic with a great business idea. None of the current vacancies are remotely close to what I am doing and so I need to find a company partner. Can you help?

Unfortunately not. We are only in a position to act on expressions of interest from companies without academic partners (not the other way round) as the programme is an industry led mechanism.

How will the student retain continuity with their studies during the sKTP?

The university will be paid £300 per month to cover university fees and the KTP associate retains student status throughout. (IM sKTP is considered to be part of the student's PhD training.) The students' PhD funding is extended by the duration of the project at the EPSRC rate (£1,500 per month).

Can industry apply with a specific student and academic partner?

Yes, please develop your ideas in the first instance using the Word version of the sKTP Application Form. Then send completed forms to the IM KTP Programme Manager, Lorcan Mac Manus, at lbmm@industrialmaths.net for feedback and guidance on the next steps.

What can the £1,000 academic fees paid to the University cover?

This is put towards academic supervisor time so that they can engage with the company.

How actively is the academic supervisor involved in day to day supervision during the project?

Day to day supervision is provided by the company. The supervisor is expected to have an active interest in the project and so is expected remain contactable throughout the project to assist the student and industrial supervisor as needed. He/she is also expected to participate in and attend up to three meetings during the project. Attendance at these meetings can be by conference call if travel is impractical.

How is the grant claimed back?

The grant is claimed back in four stages. Details are explained in the Grant Offer Letter.

Is the monthly payment of £1,500 per month to the student set in stone?

This is a minimum – it can be increased at the company's discretion (they need to cover any excess).

Is the monthly payment to the student effectively the stipend and therefore tax-free?

Yes – the project is tailored between the academic and the company supervisors so that it forms a suitable training programme in research methodology for the student. It is therefore part of their PhD training.

How are formal agreements with companies organised?

The formal agreement is the Joint Commitment Statement (JCS), signed and agreed by all parties. Certain variations to the JCS may be allowed, provided that such variations are agreed to by all parties.

I do not see anything specifically related to my area of interest right now, but would like to be updated about new vacancies that might suit my PhD students. Can I register for updates?

Yes, please send an email to the Programme Administrator, Judy Reynolds at jr@industrialmaths.net and put REGISTER FOR sKTP in the subject line.