

University of Birmingham

EPSRC Vacation Internship application guidance

Overview

The University, in conjunction with The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), has a number of summer Vacation Internships available for undergraduate students.

The Vacation Internship scheme aims to encourage promising undergraduates to consider a career in research and provides funding for Home/EU undergraduate students to gain first-hand experience of research in a UK university. The internships are aimed at Home/EU undergraduate students in the middle years of their degree programme who are undertaking their degree in a subject that falls within the remit of EPSRC.

Vacation Internships are available in the following Schools/departments:

- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electronic, Electric and Systems Engineering
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Metallurgy and Materials
- Physics and Astronomy

We particularly welcome projects in the areas of:

- Strategic and critical materials
- Quantum technology
- Gravitational waves
- Particle physics
- Combinatorics
- Rail & vehicles
- Buried infrastructure
- Robotics for extreme environments
- Energy and Energy storage
- Mathematical Biology
- Imaging & diagnostics
- Healthcare Technology
- Materials for health
- Formulation engineering

Please note, the project must not be used as a bridge between finishing undergraduate study and starting a PhD, therefore students who are currently in their final year and who will have completed their degree by the summer are not eligible.

Award duration and value

Nine internships are available in the College of Engineering and Physical Sciences, each for a duration of 2 months to take place during the summer vacation 2020. Successful applicants will be employed by the University of Birmingham for a maximum of 36 hours per week, at an hourly rate of £12.36.

Eligibility criteria

- Students must be in the middle years of their undergraduate degree programme (i.e. have completed their 2nd year of study on a 3 year degree course, or have completed their 2nd or 3rd year of study on a 4 year degree course)
- The Vacation Internship is open to those paying Home fees on their undergraduate degree programme
- Students should be registered for a first degree at any UK university in a subject that falls within the EPSRC's remit
- Students should be performing at 2:1 level in their undergraduate programme (as evidenced by degree transcripts)
- The research project must take place at the University of Birmingham. The Vacation Internship cannot be used to pay for travel/accommodation for a project taking place at another institution or organisation
- Students who have already been given another award (for example, by Careers Network) to support their research project are not eligible for a Vacation Internship

Review Criteria

Applications will be reviewed based on track record and academic potential of the student.

How to apply

You are strongly encouraged to identify a potential research project and supervisor before applying for a Vacation Internship.

Please complete the University of Birmingham EPSRC Vacation Internship application form to tell us about yourself and the proposed project, and return this to epsgraduateschool@contacts.bham.ac.uk.

Please include with your application:

- A copy of your CV
- A copy of your undergraduate degree transcript showing all marks to date

The closing date for applications is: Friday 17 April 2020.

Conditions of the award

- Successful candidates will be required to produce a short report following the completion of their project, summarising the methods, results, conclusions etc. in addition to a brief reflection on the experience.
- Successful applicant's project and personal details will be reported to EPSRC for monitoring purposes.