

Undergraduate research experience - summer 2024

Terms and Conditions

Closing date for applications:

Monday 11 March 2024

Contents:

[Scheme Aims and Overview](#)

[Conditions of the award](#)

[Review and assessment of applications](#)

Aims of the scheme

This research experience scheme, funded by Santander, is intended for women and people of other under-represented gender identities who are studying for an undergraduate degree at the University of Bath. It will provide an opportunity to conduct independent research under academic supervision to develop essential research skills and experience and is ideal for students who are considering post-graduate research or a career in research.

Overview Q&A

Who can apply for the scheme?

Women and people of other under-represented gender identities (including non-binary, transgender, gender-fluid, gender non-conforming) who are studying for an undergraduate degree at the University of Bath and who are not in their final year.

What funding is available?

The scheme will fund up to 3 undergraduate summer research projects at £300 per week for up to 10 weeks (max funding £3,000). There is no additional funding for any other expenses or overheads.

When will the research take place?

Duration and dates of the research project should be agreed by the student and the supervisor but should take place between **3 June and 27 September 2024**. All projects should start before **29 July 2024**.

Where will the research take place?

All research projects must be supported by an academic supervisor at the **University of Bath** and aligned to one of three Centres for Doctoral Training ([AAPS](#), [ART-AI](#), [SAMBa](#)). You should make plans for how and where you anticipate your project will be delivered (on campus / online) and include this in your application, building in contingency.

What is the deadline for applications?

The deadline for applications is **11 March 2024**. You are advised to check all the requirements and ensure that you allow time for everything to be completed, signed off and submitted before the deadline.

How do I apply?

You will need to complete your application form and obtain the necessary signatures then save it as a pdf and upload it on the Santander [Open Academy webpage](#) (select 'Enroll' on the right of the screen).

How will my application be assessed?

A panel will review all applications and will score them against the criteria shown in the 'Assessment Criteria' section below.

When will I hear the outcome?

Applicants will be notified of the panel's decision by **28 March 2024**.

Can I submit more than one application?

No, academic supervisors should not be named on more than one application and students should not submit more than one application.

Scope of the undergraduate research experience award

Alignment with one of the Centres for Doctoral Training

Research projects must be aligned with at least one of the following University of Bath Centres for Doctoral Training: [AAPS](#), [ART-AI](#), [SAMBa](#), and must be supervised by an academic employed by the University of Bath.

Research project

Research projects should have a clearly defined objective which is achievable by the student in the time available. Projects should give scope for thought, creativity, and initiative on the part of the student and enhance the student's experience. Students should not be used as a general assistant. The project should not form part of the student's degree work.

Scheme funding

The scheme provides students with a stipend (non-taxable funds) of up to £3,000 each for a research project of up to 10 weeks in duration (£300 per week). No additional funding is available e.g. for overheads or research expenses. The financial award is earmarked for the student named on the application form; awards are not transferable between students.

Eligibility

The Santander Summer Research Experience has specific eligibility criteria. The panel's decision is final and there is no right of appeal. You must comply with all requests for additional information within the timeframes provided.

The Santander Summer Research Experience is limited as well as being discretionary and even if you meet the eligibility criteria you are not guaranteed to receive the stipend.

To be eligible for this bursary you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a woman or a person of an under-represented gender identity studying for an undergraduate degree at the University of Bath
- You must not be in the final year of your degree
- You should be on track for a first or upper second class degree
- Your research supervisor must be an academic staff member at the University of Bath
- Academic supervisors should not be named on more than one application
- Students should not submit more than one application

Assessment criteria

Applications will also be assessed against the following criteria:

A. Intention to pursue postgraduate study / a career in research or a desire to explore research as a career option

Career aspirations are to be detailed by the student on the application form. Personal tutors are required to provide comments that support this intention on the application form.

B. Fit with the research themes of a Centre for Doctoral Training

Projects should match against the research themes and topics of at least one Centre for Doctoral Training at the University of Bath ([AAPS](#), [ART-AI](#), [SAMBa](#)). You will need to provide details of how your project aligns on the application form.

C. The academic merit of the proposed research

Research projects should have a clearly defined objective which is achievable by the student in the time available and detailed on the application form.

D. Project design

Projects should give scope for thought, creativity, and initiative on the part of the student to enhance the student's experience. Please provide details on the application form. Students should not be used as a general assistant.

E. Quality/merits of the student

Assessment of the quality/merits of the student and their ability to undertake and benefit from the proposed research project (assuming Criteria A to D have been met). You will be asked to provide examination results from all university modules to date along with unit titles and codes.

You will need to answer questions to demonstrate the applicability of these criteria, which you can find on the application form.

REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF APPLICATIONS

Applications will be assessed by a panel of University of Bath academic and management staff selected from the [AAPS](#), [ART-AI](#), [SAMBa](#) Centres for Doctoral Training. The panel will check that applicants are eligible to apply and will score applications against the criteria outlined above. Applications that are judged to be eligible will be ranked according to the assessment criteria and the top ranked applications will be awarded. Subject to quality, priority will be given to students who have not previously had the opportunity to undertake research experience.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Expectations of students during the research experience

Students are expected to participate in all elements of the scheme which may include a welcome meeting, networking with other students undertaking research experience, and development activities provided to support the research experience. At the end of the project, you will be expected to submit a brief report to your supervisor and to complete an evaluation survey and provide feedback to the organisers and funders of the scheme.

Expectations of supervisors during the research experience

The supervisor must be a member of staff at the University of Bath. The supervisor is expected to oversee the research project and provide the student with supervision meetings of a minimum of once a week.

Acceptance of the award

By accepting the award, the student and supervisor are committing themselves to take part in the scheme as stated on the application form and in line with these conditions. Please don't apply unless you intend to take up the offer and can commit to taking part in the scheme.

Successful applicants will be expected to contribute to social media content on the University of Bath's web page and social media channels, sharing their experiences and recognising Santander as the donor of this funding. Successful applicants may also be asked to participate in other activities to acknowledge the support provided by Santander Universities.

The Use of Data & Confidentiality

Corporates who fund awards like to know who is benefitting from their donation. For this reason, we will ask that in receiving this funding students consent to information disclosed in the application being shared with the donor, Santander Universities. This is done in liaison with the CDTs and Department of Development & Alumni Relations. We will also provide you with information about your donor, as appropriate.

The Centres for Doctoral Training may use data/information you provide to inform and advise you about the University and its services as well as to inform our strategies for supporting you. Your data is treated confidentially and we will only discuss your application or share your data with third parties with your explicit consent.