

Call for PhD studentship funding applications for fourth generation light source science

STFC Photon Science Research Institute

Aim

The Photon Science Research Institute (PSRI) aims to support and develop the UK community's efforts in fourth generation light source science. We invite applications for PhD studentship funding specifically for projects associated with Free Electron Laser based research.

Key points of the call

- This call is limited to projects directly associated with a program of work involving Free Electron Laser
- research
- Research projects must be suitable for doctoral level training
- Applications should be based on one research project, with only a single or co-funded studentship requested
- Projects are expected to be 3.5 years in duration
- The start date of the project should be October 2009. No slippage of the start date will be permitted

Funding

Funding is available for a number of 3.5 year PhD studentships, to cover the student's stipend and tuition fees at the UK student rate. Funding is available for a total of 2.5 studentships, funded at the standard research council fee and stipend level. The standard research council fee and stipend level is detailed at <http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/rescareer/rcdu/postgradtrain.htm>. Applications are welcomed for either fully funded studentships, or studentships co-funded at the 50% level. Where co-funding is requested, a letter of support from the co-funder is required. In addition to the studentship funding, applicants may request up to £5000 per annum for consumables and travel related to the project, which should be justified in the proposal. Estates costs, indirect costs, and investigators time will not be covered.

Eligibility

Eligibility for this scheme is detailed in the STFC Research Funding handbook which is available online at <http://www.stfc.ac.uk/rgh/>.

Application details

Proposals should contain the following elements:

- Track record of proposers (maximum 1 page)
- Project description (maximum 4 pages)

- Justification of resources (maximum 1 page)
- Diagrammatic work plan (1 page)
- Where facility access has already been granted, the proposal must have letter(s) of support from a facility scientist, director or equivalent for each of the facilities. (Note: existing facility access is **not** a pre-requisite for application)
- Any supporting information, for example, letters of support or CVs

The **project description** must contain the following:

- Key science objectives
- Programme of research and methodology
- Details of synergy with existing funding projects led by the applicants
- Detail of FEL facilities to be used for the research, and detail of agreed or anticipated facility access arrangements where required
- A detailed description of the PhD training programme
- Justification for the student in terms of the research programme - please detail the role of the PhD student in the work programme
- Dissemination and exploitation details
- Relevance to beneficiaries

The application must also include names and contact details of two nominated expert referees.

Full proposals should be sent electronically in PDF format to m.king@rl.ac.uk

Assessment procedure and timetable

The deadline for applications is 14th November 2008. All proposals will be sent to at least two expert referees (both independent from the PSRI board), and successful applicants will be notified by mid February 2009.

Contact details

Further questions should be addressed to:

Prof Justin Wark

Email: justin.wark@physics.ox.ac.uk

Tel: 01865 272251

Dr Jonathan Underwood

Email: j.underwood@ucl.ac.uk

Tel: 0207 679 2564