

Edinburgh Doctoral College Scholarships Terms and Conditions

1. Duration

The scholarships are awarded for between three and four years as agreed by the School/Deanery (or pro-rata if taken on a part time basis) and subject to the award holder's satisfactory progression at annual review.

2. Termination

The award will be terminated when the thesis is submitted, if the programme of study is changed and the new programme is not eligible for the scholarship, if the student is excluded or withdraws.

3. Suspension

The award may be suspended if the student is on Authorised Interruption of Study. In some circumstances the stipend may be continued, see 7 and 8 below.

4. Level of stipend

The level of stipend awarded to eligible Students will be at least equal to the UKRI minimum rate for the relevant academic year (£20,780 for 2025/26). The precise value will be determined by the School/Institute or Deanery.

5. Extensions

The period of a Student's support can be extended in line with the [UKRI Terms and Conditions](#), to offset a period of absence for maternity leave, shared parental leave, adoption leave, absences covered by a medical certificate and extended jury service. The total period of an agreed extension should not normally exceed 12 months during the lifetime of an award.

6. Early Submission

Students may submit their thesis prior to the end of their award in line with the [UKRI Terms and Conditions](#). Where the Student continues to undertake work that is directly linked to their thesis, it is permissible to continue their funding until the end of the quarter in which the thesis is first submitted. Where the Student submits on or after the original end date of their award, funding must cease on the original award end date.

7. Maternity, Paternity, Adoption and Parental Leave

Students are entitled to 52 weeks of maternity or shared parental leave in line with the [UKRI Terms and Conditions](#). The first 26 weeks should be paid at full stipend rate, pro-rated as necessary for part time Students. The following 13 weeks should be paid at a level commensurate with statutory maternity pay. The final 13 weeks are not paid. Partners are entitled to up to 10 days paid Ordinary Paternity Leave on full stipend. Partners may be entitled to up to 50 weeks of Shared Parental Leave; this may include paid and unpaid leave, depending on the individual circumstances, any paid leave should be at full stipend. Adoption leave should be granted on the same basis as maternity leave. There is no qualifying period for maternity, paternity, adoption or shared parental leave. Additionally, their Studentship end date should be updated to reflect the period of leave.

8. Sick Leave

Payment of a Studentship must continue for absences covered by a medical certificate for up to thirteen weeks within any 12 month period in line with the [UKRI Terms and Conditions](#). If the illness lasts for more than thirteen weeks the Studentship will be suspended for the period beyond the thirteen weeks.

9. Annual Leave

Research students are entitled to a maximum of eight weeks annual leave each calendar year. Students must seek approval for vacation leave from their supervisor and the School Postgraduate Office. Visa restrictions may also apply in the case of International students. The [Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations](#) apply (Regulation 46).

10. Intellectual property

The default position is that the student will automatically own all intellectual property rights to work done and results created by them during their research project / studentship. The University Policy on [Student Intellectual Property Rights](#) applies.

11. Training

All students are expected to undertake training in both Equality, Diversity and Inclusion as well as Responsible Research.