

ICA

HEE/NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic Programme
for non-medical healthcare professionals



HEE / NIHR INTEGRATED CLINICAL ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

For registered non-medical healthcare professionals

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INTRODUCTION TO THE HEE / NIHR ICA PROGRAMME

Health Education England (HEE) has an objective to increase the number of staff across all clinical and public health professions with a sound understanding of research and the role it plays in improving health outcomes.

The National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) was established to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. The NIHR administers research training awards in order to build NHS research capacity and develop the research leaders of the future.

Together, HEE and the NIHR have developed the HEE / NIHR Integrated Clinical Academic (ICA) Programme; a collaboration for the benefit of England's non-medical clinical academic career infrastructure. The ICA programme plays a key role in:

- Supporting the delivery of HEE's Research and Innovation Strategy
- Meeting the NIHR's commitment to the development of future clinical research leaders from all professional backgrounds

The ICA Programme offers personal research training awards for non-medical healthcare professionals who wish to develop careers that combine clinical research and research leadership with continued clinical practice and clinical development.

ICA Programme awardees enjoy salaried time to undertake fully funded independent research and a bespoke training and development package.

The programme comprises five levels of award, which together offer a career pathway for aspiring and developing non-medical clinical academics:

- HEE / NIHR ICA Internships
- HEE / NIHR ICA Masters in Clinical Research Studentships
- HEE / NIHR ICA Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowships
- HEE / NIHR ICA Clinical Lectureships
- HEE / NIHR ICA Senior Clinical Lectureships

The Programme exists to support the development of registered non-medical healthcare professionals conducting research that fits within the NIHR Remit and HEE Priorities.

Read more at: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica>

The full list of eligible professions and their required registration bodies is available from the NIHR website: <http://www.nihr.ac.uk/ica-eligible-professions>

ICA INTERNSHIPS –

A PRE-MASTERS CLINICAL RESEARCH TASTER

Internships offer an introduction to all aspects of clinical academic research from trial design and data management through to undertaking practical research in a clinical environment.

Internships provide a range of taught and academically supervised interventions and allow the possibility for interns to undertake a research project supported by an expert clinical academic supervisor.

Internships are available annually and run for six months.

Funding covers:

- Up to 30 days of salaried contact time over a 6-month period
- Exposure to leading research, research groups and eminent clinical academics
- The provision of experience that might support applications for further formal research training

Eligibility:

- A registered professional belonging to one of the eligible professions
- No previous research qualification

To apply:

Applications are administered and managed by HEE's local teams based on local requirements.

Applications are invited on an annual basis with awards starting at the beginning of the academic year.

Contact details for the local Internship leads are available from the HEE website:

<https://hee.nhs.uk/our-work/developing-our-workforce/clinical-academic-careers/internships>

More Information:

Email: HEE.RI@nhs.net

CASE STUDY – BEING A NURSE AND A RESEARCHER

“My experiences as an intern have plugged me in to new networks and given me confidence to take the next step and undertake a Master’s Degree that I hope will lead to an incredible research career.”

Lyndon Borrill
Neuro Data Specialist Nurse, Sheffield

ICA MASTERS IN CLINICAL RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS –

AN INTRODUCTION TO CLINICAL RESEARCH THEORY AND PRACTICE

The Masters in Clinical Research (MRes) Studentships support non-medical healthcare professionals who aspire to a career that combines continued clinical practice with independent research.

Studentships are available annually at our partner HEIs and provide a comprehensive grounding in, and experience of, clinical research.

The MRes can be undertaken full-time over one year, or part-time over two years.

Funding covers:

- The salary costs of the award holder
- Course fees

Eligibility:

- A registered professional belonging to one of the eligible professions
- A graduate
- At least one year of NHS service
- Employed by a publicly-funded healthcare provider
- A commitment to future doctoral level study – this will be assessed during the selection process

To apply:

Applications for studentships are managed by the funded universities.

The current list of funded institutions is available from the NIHR website:

<http://www.nihr.ac.uk/02-documents/funding/Training-Programmes/TCC-ICA-MRes-Currently-Funded-Institutions.pdf>

Competitions launch each spring, awards start at the beginning of the academic year.

More Information:

Website: www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica Email: tccawards@nihr.ac.uk

CASE STUDY – BEING AN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST AND A RESEARCHER

“The studentship has given me the tools and the confidence to interpret published research for the benefit of patient care, as well as to pursue my own research projects in the future.”

Victoria Leonard
Occupational Therapist at Nottingham University Hospital

ICA CLINICAL DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS –

OBTAIN A PHD BY RESEARCH WHILST STILL DEVELOPING CLINICAL SKILLS

Clinical Doctoral Research Fellowships (CDRFs) support graduates with some research experience who aspire to a career that combines research with continued clinical practice. Award holders undertake PhDs at an English Higher Education Institute (HEI) but also require a clinical host in order to maximise their development as a clinical academic.

Fellows are supported to complete a clinical research project of sufficient quality to obtain a research doctorate, develop their research and clinical skills, disseminate their research findings through publication and to further their collaborative relationships.

Fellowships can be taken up full-time over three years or part-time over four or five years and fund:

- The salary costs of the award holder
- PhD tuition fees
- The costs of an approved research project
- An overseas research visit
- Conference attendance
- A bespoke training and development programme, including both professional and research specific elements

Eligibility:

- A registered professional belonging to one of the eligible professions
- At least one year's experience of professional, post-graduation, clinical practice
- A First Class or Upper Second Class bachelor's degree (or eqv.) or a Masters degree
- Sufficient research experience and/or research training to undertake a PhD

To apply:

Awards are made annually following open competition. Competitions launch in March and are managed by the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre.

More Information:

Website: www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica Email: tccawards@nihr.ac.uk

CASE STUDY – BEING A MIDWIFE AND A RESEARCHER

“The support I receive from the ICA Programme is fantastic, my fellowship encourages and fully funds my development as a clinician as well my PhD.”

Yana Richens (OBE)
Consultant Midwife in Public Health
at University College London Hospitals

ICA CLINICAL LECTURESHIPS – COMBINE POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH IN AN ACADEMIC POSITION WITH CONTINUED CLINICAL PRACTICE

Clinical Lectureships support non-medical healthcare professionals who have doctoral level research training and wish to combine development of their academic and clinical expertise. Award holders split their time equally between clinical and research activities. The development of their clinical academic career is enabled by a committed partnership between their academic and clinical host organisations over the course of the Lectureship and post award.

Clinical Lecturers enjoy the support and resource to complete a clinical research project, develop their research, clinical and leadership skills, increase their independence as a researcher and strengthen their publication record through dissemination of results from the funded research.

HEE / NIHR Clinical Lectureships can be taken up full-time over three years or part-time over four or five years and fund:

- Up to 50% of the award holder's total salary
- The costs of an approved research project
- An overseas research visit
- Conference attendance
- Bespoke training/development programmes including development of clinical skills

Eligibility:

- A registered professional from one of the eligible professions list
- A minimum of one year's experience of professional, post-graduation clinical practice at the point of application
- Less than five years WTE post-doctoral research experience
- A relevant PhD (or submitted PhD at the point of application)

To apply:

Awards are made annually following open competition. Competitions launch in March and are managed by the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre.

More Information:

Website: www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica Email: tccawards@nihr.ac.uk

CASE STUDY – BEING A DIETICIAN AND A RESEARCHER

“By being able to split my time between clinical practice and research, I find myself well placed to inspire others to follow in my footsteps, and have been able to support colleagues in their own pursuit of research grants.”

Dr Lina Johansson
Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Nutrition and Dietetics,
Imperial College London

ICA SENIOR CLINICAL LECTURESHIPS – COMBINE RESEARCH AND RESEARCH LEADERSHIP IN A SENIOR ACADEMIC POSITION WITH CONTINUED CLINICAL PRACTICE

Senior Clinical Lectureships support the development of practicing clinicians with independent post-doctoral clinical research experience to become clinical academic research leaders.

Award holders split their time equally between clinical and research activities. The development of their clinical academic career is enabled by a committed partnership between their academic and clinical host organisations over the course of the Lectureship and post award.

Senior Clinical Lecturers enjoy the support and resource to complete a clinical research project, attract significant further research funding, increase their publication record and make a significant contribution to the development of health research capacity.

The HEE / NIHR Senior Clinical Lectureship is a five-year award and can be taken up full-time or part-time. The award funds:

- Up to 50% of the award holder's total salary
- The costs of an approved research project
- An overseas research visit
- Conference attendance
- A bespoke training and development programme including development of clinical skills

Eligibility:

- A registered professional belonging to one of the eligible professions
- A minimum of five years' experience of professional, post-graduation clinical practice at the point of application
- Extensive post-doctoral experience
- Demonstrable independence and leadership as a researcher
- Not currently holding a Chair (personal or otherwise)
- Considerable experience of undertaking health related research and demonstrable ongoing commitment to such research

Applicants should also have a demonstrable track record in the following areas:

- Publishing in peer review journals
- Holding grants as principal or co-investigator
- Establishing collaborations at a national/international level
- Research team building and management
- Research capacity building.

To apply:

Awards are made annually following open competition. Competitions launch in March and are managed by the NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre.

More Information:

Website: www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica Email: tccawards@nihr.ac.uk

CASE STUDY – BEING A HEALTHCARE SCIENTIST AND A RESEARCHER

“My Senior Clinical Lectureship enables me to direct research priorities, leading the research that my continued clinical activity tells me matters to patients and will make a difference to them.”

Dr Jackson C. Kirkman-Brown MBE
HEE / NIHR Senior Clinical Lecturer

ICA MENTORSHIP AND OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The Mentorship Programme is open exclusively to ICA Programme doctoral and post-doctoral award holders.

Awardees benefit from one-to-one mentorship with a senior healthcare research leader. Our mentors have essential and unique sector knowledge and appreciate the leadership challenges that clinical academic researchers from the non-medical healthcare professions face. Applications for mentorship are invited on receipt of an ICA CDRF, Clinical Lectureship or Senior Clinical Lectureship award.

“In my mentor, I have a pragmatic, objective, reliable sounding board without a hidden agenda, which is proving invaluable to my personal development and my ability to give strong leadership to others.”

Dr Joanne Paton,
HEE / ICA Award Holder and Mentee on the Mentorship Programme

More information about the programme: www.healthresearchmentor.org.uk/

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

Further information about the HEE / NIHR ICA Programme:

NIHR website: www.nihr.ac.uk/hee-ica

Support for ICA Programme Applicants:

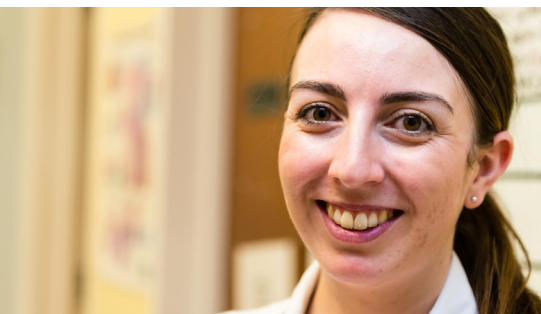
NIHR Research Design Service: www.rds.nihr.ac.uk ICA webinar: bit.ly/ICAwebinar2015

Support for aspirational non-medical clinical academics:

NIHR Academic Training advocates: www.nihr.ac.uk/trainingadvocates

NIHR Guide for Building a Research Career: www.nihr.ac.uk/building-a-research-career

Transforming healthcare through clinical academic roles in nursing, midwifery and allied health professions: A practical resource for healthcare provider organisations:
<http://www.medschools.ac.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Transforming-Healthcare.pdf>



For more information on pursuing a clinical academic career, or supporting a colleague to do so, contact:

NIHR Trainees Coordinating Centre

Leeds Innovation Centre

103 Clarendon Road

Leeds

LS2 9DF

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