

Research in Practice Placement Scheme

Information for Placement Providers

The NWSSDTP's Research in Practice Placement Scheme forms an integral part of the doctoral training for all NWSSDTP-funded students whose awards began after September 2024. It is designed to help students develop core employability and research-related skills by undertaking a placement outside of their primary PhD research.

Purpose of the Placement

The key aims of RiPPS placements are to help students:

- Apply research skills in non-academic or cross-sector settings
- Collaborate across disciplinary and organisational boundaries
- Enhance communication, leadership and networking skills
- Gain insights into diverse career pathways and sectors
- Reflect on and develop their personal and professional growth

What We Expect from Placement Providers

NWSSDTP students can either apply for advertised placements or propose their own by working with a willing host organisation. When hosting a student, we ask placement providers to meet the following expectations:

- Provide a meaningful and distinct project that offers the student the chance to apply their research or analytical skills.
- The project must be separate from the student's core PhD research (though it may complement it). For CASE students, the placement project must be distinct from the CASE-funded doctoral project.

- Assign a named contact or supervisor responsible for supporting the student throughout the placement.
- Offer regular support meetings and guidance to ensure a successful placement experience.
- Deliver an induction that includes relevant policies, health and safety procedures, and organisational orientation.
- Facilitate access to necessary resources and systems, and ensure the student feels welcomed and included.
- Confirm alignment with the NWSSDTP's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion principles.
- Provide any necessary reasonable adjustments for disabled students or those facing barriers to inclusion.
- Ensure appropriate ethics procedures are followed where applicable.
- Assist in any required risk assessments.
- Provide a written letter of support when a student applies to propose their placement. This letter should confirm:
 - The placement project details
 - Named supervisor/contact at your organisation
 - Induction and support arrangements
 - Alignment with EDI values
 - Maintain open communication with the NWSSDTP Placement Coordinator if issues arise.

Key Features of the Placement Structure

Duration: 13 weeks in total; this can be split across two shorter placements if needed. Full-time and part-time working is available.

Location: In-person, remote or hybrid arrangements are permitted.

Compensation: Students receive a full stipend and tuition funding during the placement. Hosts are not expected to provide additional pay. Students can also apply for reimbursement for any necessary travel or accommodation costs.

Reporting: Students submit a short report to the NWSSDTP upon completion of the placement and will have regular meetings with their supervisor.

Contact and Further Information

For any questions, to discuss a potential placement, or to confirm your interest in participating in the scheme, please contact:

Amy Connolly (NWSSDTP Research in Practice Placement Coordinator)

Email: ripps@liverpool.ac.uk

More information: <https://nwssdtp.ac.uk/ripps>