DPhil in Cancer Science Programme
2022 Intake Guidance for Supervisors

Overview

With its first intake in 2020, the DPhil in Cancer Science Programme provides research-based doctoral training for cancer researchers from clinical, biological, chemistry, physical, engineering, mathematics and statistics backgrounds. For the 2022 intake, we are seeking to appoint a cohort of approximately 12 students made up of 3 equal-sized cohorts of medical, physical, engineering and mathematical scientists; medicine undergraduates; and clinical trainees.

We are now open to for applications from cancer researchers across the Oxford University and Oxford University Hospitals Foundation Trust who are interested in supervising a student/fellow, for project submissions. The deadline for applications is July 26th 2021. These will be reviewed and 35-45 projects advertised between September 2021 and January 2022 for potential students to apply. The top-ranked students after interview (late January 2022), will then be allocated their preferred project to start in October 2022.

Each studentship provides:
- Three years of salary for clinicians or 4 years of stipend for non-clinicians.
- Home tuition fees for three years
- Consumables / Training budget of £12k p.a.

Supervisor Eligibility

Before you submit a project for consideration for the 2022 intake, please ensure you are able to meet all of the supervisor eligibility criteria below.

- Each project must have a minimum of two named supervisors, and all supervisors must be independently funded investigators in posts that are expected to continue until the end of the Fellowship (September 2024/5)
- The Primary Supervisor must be laboratory based (this includes data/epidemiology laboratories) and not be supervising a studentship of fellowship that started in 2021.
- Each Primary Supervisor can only submit one project for consideration in this call.
- They should have adequate space and support for the student and a strong track-record of supervising students. Excluding students that failed to transfer, at least 80% of their students in the most recent 5-year cohort must have submitted within 4 years
- The Primary Supervisor is also responsible for ensuring relevant operational groups within their departments are aware of the Fellowship, appropriate contact details are supplied on the project submission form, and endorsements are secured e.g. HR / Personnel, Finance, Director of Graduate Studies, Head of Department
- If any supervisors have previously supervised an Oxford Centre student who has completed their Fellowship, they must have reported to the Centre on the Fellow to the satisfaction of the Committee. If you are unsure if a report is due, or has been accepted, then please email cancer@medsci.ox.ac.uk.
Application Process

Please complete the attached application form and return to cancer@medsci.ox.ac.uk by July 26th. Supervisors should outline the fundamental scientific premise of the project, and the clinical/translational relevance of the project and the potential impact on patient care. If you would like to develop a project for a specific trainee already identified, please feel free to do so.

Projects will be ranked based on:

- The quality of the scientific rationale behind the studentship request
- Potential impact of the project on the scientific community or patient care
- The extent to which the project/programme draws together collaborators from different disciplines.
- Track record of supervisor
- Their alignment to Cancer Research UK and the Oxford Centre’s research strategy focusing on the following scientific themes:
  - Cancer Big Data
  - Genes and Epigenetics
  - Infection, Inflammation and Immunity.
- Priority will be given to projects targeting digestive and blood cancers, however, it is not the intention that awards will be made exclusively in these fields.

Please contact cancer@medsci.ox.ac.uk with any questions regarding the application process.