CALL CONDITIONS

Industrial CASE 2021 Training Grant - Additional Conditions

The following additional Terms and Conditions apply specifically to EPSRC Industrial CASE training grants. Where they contradict UKRI Training Grant Conditions (TGC), these additional conditions take precedence. Failure to uphold the Terms and Conditions applicable to ICASE may affect your future involvement in this scheme.

GAC 1. Use of Funds
Each ICASE Grant comprises a number of ICASE awards. ICASE funding may only be used to support Industrial CASE (ICASE) doctoral studentships of 4 years’ duration. Alongside the financial contribution of the industrial partner (GAC 4), each ICASE award represents funding for one studentship and is to be used in support of a specific student / project.

If a student terminates their studies before completion of the project, EPSRC must be informed via industrialCASE@epsrc.ukri.org. If there is sufficient time and money remaining on the grant, the original industrial partner should be approached in the first instance with a view to identifying a suitable replacement student. The replacement must receive the same ICASE studentship entitlements as the original student. Any shortfall in the studentship funding will be covered by the university and/or industrial partner, providing UKRI TGC 4.5 is met. It may be possible to request a no-cost extension of up to 12 months – please contact industrialCASE@epsrc.ukri.org. The approximate cut-off for permitting recruitment of a replacement student is once 5 quarters of spending has been drawn from an award – after this point, there will likely be insufficient funds remaining for the EPSRC contribution to meet the 50% funding minimum (UKRI TGC 4.5).

If the industrial partner withdraws, EPSRC must be notified via industrialCASE@epsrc.ukri.org. EPSRC will continue to fund the student(s) through the ICASE grant, but it is expected that, where possible, another cooperating body is sought to maintain the industrial dimension of the ICASE award.

GAC 2. Visits to the Industrial Partner
Students are expected to spend at least three months on the premises of the Industrial Partner associated with their project. Students can spend longer periods with the Industrial Partner, subject to the HEI’s minimum attendance requirements for students to remain registered for the higher degree as well as any conditions associated with the doctoral qualification. Where more than one industrial partner is involved, the placement may be with either industrial partner, or both. The placement should be tailored to the project, be appropriate for all parties, and does not necessarily need to be delivered in one full-time block. Placements may be at partner premises outside the UK, providing a risk assessment is completed, the student’s expenses are covered, government travel guidelines are followed, and the student remains in contact with their host university.

GAC 3. Responsibility of the Industry Project Supervisor and Academic Supervisor
Contact should be maintained between the Industry Project Supervisor, the Academic Supervisor, and the student throughout the duration of the award. Please refer to the Statement of Expectations for Postgraduate Training (linked elsewhere in this Offer Document) for other principles and expectations, many of which apply to Industry Project Supervisors as well as Academic Supervisors.

GAC 4 Financial Contribution of the Industrial Partner
As a measure of its interest and involvement the Industrial Partner must make a financial contribution to the project. Where there is an additional industrial partner (such as an SME) on a project, the industrial partner which was allocated the ICASE voucher is considered the Lead Industrial Partner. The lead partner remains responsible for ensuring the minimum cash contribution is delivered and student expenses are covered, as outlined above. Contributions from an additional partner may form part of a Collaboration Agreement (GAC5). Such a contribution must cover:

a. all expenses (e.g. travel and accommodation costs incurred by the student as a result of periods spent with the Industrial Partner). The student should not be out of pocket as a result of undertaking the project.

b. an annual cash contribution to the Research Organisation which is at least one third of the funding provided by EPSRC. For ICASE 2021, the EPSRC funding for a single studentship is £88,885, so the Industrial contribution must be at least £29,628. Provided it is used to support the Industrial Partner’s project and associated student, the HEI can choose how to use the contribution, noting there is an opportunity to enhance the student’s stipend (but see GAC 6, below).
GAC 5 Collaboration Agreements
Further to TGC 11, the basis of collaboration between the Research Organisation and Industrial Partner(s), including the allocation of resources throughout the grant (or individual student project as appropriate) and ownership of intellectual property and rights to exploitation, is expected to be set out in a formal collaboration agreement. This agreement must also formalise exactly how any additional industrial partner’s contribution (GAC4) is delivered (e.g. via the lead industrial partner, or directly to the university).

It is the responsibility of the Research Organisation to put such an agreement in place before the relevant project begins. The terms of collaboration agreements must not conflict with UKRI’s terms and conditions nor prevent the future progression of research or the dissemination of research results in accordance with academic custom and practice.

GAC 6 International Students
The annual cash contribution to the Research Organisation can not be used to contribute to the difference between home and international fees. The industrial partner can provide additional support to contribute to the difference between home and international fees, or it can be sought from other sources.

As per the UKRI training grant conditions, the cap on international recruitment applies to all the students registered on a single ICASE grant held by the university. The cap is dependent on the number of studentships that can be supported by the ICASE grant. Where 30% of the number of studentships on the grant is equal or greater than 1 (i.e. if there are 3 or more studentships on the grant), then the cap of 30% applies. If 30% is less than 1 student (i.e. if the grant comprises 1 or 2 studentships), a maximum of 1 international student can be recruited.

GAC 7 Parties’ awareness of Grant Conditions
These Additional Conditions, as well as the main UKRI Training Conditions, must be made available to all relevant parties involved in this ICASE project: Industrial Partner(s), Academic Partner(s), and the student.