# University of Exeter and Université Paris-Saclay

# PhD Research Project Call

# Cohort 1

# Guidelines for Prospective Academic Supervisors

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## Background and Subject areas

Exeter and Paris-Saclay have established an agreement to promote and enable Double PhD Degree projects, with the aim of promoting mobility of PhD candidates and nurturing research cooperation between the Institutions.

In the agreement the institutions agree to focus on the following fields of study – but please note, this does not restrict the parties to agreeing to other individual projects outside of the below fields of Study:

- Mathematics

- Physics and Chemistry

- Health and Biology and Biological sciences

- Computer sciences and informatics

- Communication systems

- Earth Sustainability/Environment

- Energy management

- Universe sciences and Astronomy

- Earth and planetary science

Exeter and Paris-Saclay are committed to working together as critical friends and aspire to increased Horizon+ engagement - with the aim of carrying out impactful research together, as well as delivering in the next few years to strengthen the case for UK association to the next Horizon programme from 2027.

## The Studentships

### Tuition fees:

Exeter will waive tuition fees in full for students homed at Exeter to a total of 42 months (the duration of the funding award).

Paris-Saclay will waive registration fees in full for students homed at Paris-Saclay for the duration of their studies with the approval of the president. This means that no students will be charged any tuition or registration fees for the duration of their individual funding award.

###  Stipend:

For Exeter homed students, Exeter funds those Exeter registered students the usual amount (aligned to UKRI stipend rate) for the duration (3.5 years duration).

For Saclay homed students, Stipend rate dependent upon application. UPS funds those Saclay registered students for the duration.

### Research costs:

Research costs will be covered by the Party that is hosting the student, during the period they are hosting them. Research costs will need to be captured as part of the project call and agreed with Faculty management at the outset to avoid any unplanned/unknown costs. Funding for Research Training Support is not covered centrally.

Research costs will be covered by the Party who is currently hosting the student, to an agreed amount (to be confirmed in the individual student agreement) in accordance with the project requirements, and must be approved by the Supervisor whose lab the student will be working in.

**Project research costs will be reviewed and, at Exeter, final sign-off granted by the faculty APVC Research**.

### Personal expenses except travel costs:

Each Student will be responsible for paying all personal expenses including but not limited to housing, meals, books, sports activities.

### Travel costs:

Exeter homed students: students will be provided a list of items which UoE will cover the costs for, including Economy Return travel from Exeter to Paris by train (flights are not allowed within the new Exeter travel policy, unless a student has a medical reason for not taking the train etc), visas, and insurance. Exeter will also provide students with a ‘relocation allowance’ to cover other associated costs, which they have freedom to use as they choose. It is anticipated that this will total around £2500.

Paris-Saclay homed Students: will be funded during the whole thesis duration according to Paris-Saclay internal regulation related to “doctorate”. The thesis duration is expected to be 36 months but can be extended to 48 months with the agreement of the relevant authorities at both parties. Funding is subject to application by the student and their supervisor. The supervisor is responsible for providing the necessary information about funding opportunities and procedures for applying. They can apply for the ADI funding programme for international cotutelle thesis. The ADI funding programme finances the periods of stay in France under the cotutelle programme. If two students will be admitted by both universities, Exeter will fund the thesis of the first student and Paris-Saclay will fund the thesis of the second one. Each party will inform the students about the funding possibilities.

### General:

Note that the agreement is centrally funded, faculties will not incur the financial costs of tuition fee waivers or stipend.

## Project Application Process & Key dates of the ADI Programme

* Complete the University of Exeter project application form via the link below which will be available between 13th December 2023 and 29th January 2024. Note the project will be co-supervised by a member of academic staff from Paris-Saclay.
* Exeter project proposals will be reviewed w/c 29th January 2024.
* Lead supervisors will be informed if their project will be advertised 5th February 2024.
* Saclay Professors upload PhD projects on the ADUM platform, as a project under the ADI initiative. ADUM is open between 15th January & 23rd February 2024 - projects can be placed there during that period. Exeter projects will be uploaded to the system 5th February 2024.
* Students can apply for the PhD projects, through the ADUM platform, between February 28th, 2024, to March 31, 2024.
* The admission process happens in 2 steps – a) to decide whether to admit the applicant to do a Doctorate… b) to decide whether the student can be funded for joint supervision (cotutelle) to do a double PhD degree, under ADI. The Saclay supervisor should mention on ADUM that the doctorate will be prepared under cooperation with Exeter if that is the case.
* On 24/25th June, the final decision will be communicated to applicants regarding their admission and funding.

## University of Exeter project proposal Submission Form

To submit a project proposal please click the form link [**here**](https://forms.office.com/e/FPNYZP8ZQD)