

Useful contacts

For application forms and full guidelines visit:
<http://www.sulsa.ac.uk/bioskape>

For further information please contact:

- Your local SULSA knowledge exchange representative:
See www.sulsa.ac.uk/KE for their contact information
- Dr Liz Rattray
e.rattray@abdn.ac.uk
+44 (0) 1224 274369

Assistance for industry: The following organizations can help companies identify an academic partner and provide advice:

- SULSA Knowledge Exchange Committee. Rob Ford
r.p.ford@dundee.ac.uk
- Scottish Lifesciences Association (SLA). Scott Johnstone
sjohnstone@scottishlifesciencesassociation.org.uk
- Scottish Enterprise – Life Sciences Scotland. Oonagh Loughran
oonagh.loughran@scotent.co.uk

BBSRC website: <http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/>

Linked applications (e.g. related PhD Studentship and Industry Interchange applications from the same company) are welcomed.

About SULSA

SULSA was established in 2007 as a research pooling partnership between the Universities of Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, St Andrews and Strathclyde that is supported by the SFC. It aims to maintain and advance Scotland's global position in the life sciences by recruiting international research leaders and funding world-class research facilities. SULSA also connects researchers across Scotland through events and collaborative PhD studentships.

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BioSKAPE

Funding for life sciences collaborations
between companies and academics



BioSKAPE- open call for proposals

Scottish Universities Life Sciences Alliance (SULSA) is pleased to announce an open call for proposals funded through the Bio-industry Skills Knowledge and People Exchange (BioSKAPE) programme.

This Scottish Funding Council (SFC) supported initiative aims to drive collaboration between industry and the Scottish Life Sciences research base. Three different BioSKAPE programmes are included in this open call. Applications will be assessed as they are received.

Industry interchanges

Type of projects funded: Short-term exchanges of researchers in either direction, between academia and industry. The aim of the exchanges is to foster new links between industry and academia by providing access to knowledge, skills, expertise, equipment and facilities. By pump-priming relationships between academia and industry, it is expected that they will lead to mutually beneficial long-term collaborations. Interchanges may be full-time or part-time, or in tranches. Applications with Scottish-based SMEs as the industrial partner will be given priority.

Some examples of interchanges:

- *Academia to industry:* A postdoctoral scientist could spend some time in a business environment and have the opportunity to gain the skills and experience that are required to develop and launch new commercial products and applications. By engaging through an interchange with a university postdoctoral scientist, the company may gain expertise in a particular research technique or be given access to a cutting edge research facility that could fast forward one of their R&D projects.
- *Industry to academia:* A company could send one of their scientists into a University research lab to gain the knowledge, expertise and techniques required to expand an innovation project or to resolve a roadblock in an R&D project. The company scientist will benefit from access to world-class academic expertise and equipment, allowing them to potentially build strong academic links for their company and further their career and skills.

Number of projects available: Around 5 interchanges.

Eligibility: The programme is open to researchers and scientists within SULSA universities and UK companies. This programme may be co-funded by the BBSRC in the event projects have had previous BBSRC funding. Interchanges that involve SULSA research facilities are particularly encouraged.

Amount awarded: Individual awards are not expected to exceed £50K.

Industry PhD and MRes studentships

Type of projects funded: Projects must address a clear area of demand for the Scottish Life Sciences sector and demonstrate commercial and doctoral or masters level training for the student.

Number of projects available: Around 7 - 15 industry PhD or Masters by Research (MRes) studentships to start before October 2011.

Eligibility: Researchers from SULSA universities in conjunction with employees from UK companies are eligible to apply. Scottish-based small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) will be given priority. International companies will only be eligible if there is clear demonstration of impact on the Scottish economy.

Amount awarded: 50% of the student stipend and home-fees (around £38K for a PhD and £6K for an MRes). The matching 50% of the stipend, fees and full consumables-costs must be provided by the company and/or the university. The minimum contribution expected from the company is a total of around £20K for a PhD or £3K for the MRes over the period of the training (at least 25%). The Company contribution can be in cash or in-kind, or a combination of both, with the level of overall contribution being considered as part of the assessment process.

Masterclasses for industry

Type of projects funded: Development by SULSA Universities of Masters level training courses for graduates working in industry. Training courses should be developed in close collaboration with industry and a clear industrial demand within Scotland must be demonstrated. This programme is co-funded by BBSRC and courses within the BBSRC remit are particularly encouraged.

An example of a Masterclass: A SULSA University could offer an advanced course on the theory and practice of confocal microscopy, which would be useful to academics and companies planning to engage or invest in projects that use this technology.

Number of projects available: 3 Masterclasses.

Eligibility: Employees from SULSA Universities.

Amount awarded: Pump-priming funding of £10 - 20K per course. It is expected that these courses will become self-sustaining through course fees following completion of the award. This programme may be co-funded by the BBSRC in the event that projects have had previous BBSRC funding or are aligned to BBSRC's strategic plan.