

## **Research Council Common Terminology for Postgraduate Training**

Research Councils continue to work together to share best practice and evolve their mechanisms for supporting postgraduate training. To provide clarity we have agreed a common terminology for our four different approaches to training. Annex A sets out the funding routes used by the different Research Councils as mapped against these approaches (correct at July 2013).

### **(1) Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTP)**

Partnerships provide training for students across a broad range of subjects determined by a Research Organisation or consortia of Research Organisations. Partnerships involve strategic engagement between the Research Organisation(s) and the Research Council funder(s) in developing the overall programme of training.

### **(2) Centres for Doctoral Training (CDT)**

Centres provide training for students within focused research areas, often defined strategically by the Research Council funder(s) from the outset. Centres can be focused on academic or industrially-relevant research topics, or a mix of both.

### **(3) Associated Studentships**

Associated studentships link students to a larger strategic investment supported by the Research Council(s). Studentships are not associated with all types of strategic investments and are only available where the Research Council(s) identify the strategic investment as also a priority for training/capacity building.

### **(4) Collaborative Training**

Collaborative Training provides doctoral students with a first-rate, challenging research training experience, within the context of a mutually beneficial research collaboration between academic and partner organisations in the private, public and civil society sectors. The term 'industrial' is sometimes used as a short-hand for these awards, although they are relevant to all non-academic partners including industry, business, public and third/civil society sectors.

Underneath the umbrella term Collaborative Training two additional terms are in use: CASE and CDA (Collaborative Doctoral Awards). In addition to the major routes listed below some of those listed above can also be collaborative.

#### **4a. Collaborative/Industrial Partnerships**

These awards are a specialised type of Partnership (see above), whereby block allocations of studentships are provided to industry/other non-academic Organisations to support collaborative projects relevant to their interests in association with selected university collaborators.

#### **4b. Collaborative/Industrial Competitions**

These are competitive awards of studentships for specific PhD projects. They are intended to provide students with experience of collaborative research with a non-academic partner, and encourage and develop collaboration and partnerships between Research Organisations and non-academic partner organisations.

#### **4c. Collaborative/Industrial Targets**

The proportion of studentships allocated through other mechanisms that must be converted to collaborative studentships.

**Annex A**  
**Research Council Approaches to Doctoral Training: Funding Routes Used - correct at July 2013**

<b>Council</b>	<b>(1) Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTP)</b>	<b>(2) Centres for Doctoral Training (CDT)</b>	<b>(3) Associated Studentships</b>
<b>AHRC</b>	DTP competition (to replace the name Block Grant Partnerships for new awards).	CDT competition (subset of the previously named Block Grant Partnerships, change of terminology for new awards).	Studentships linked to strategic calls, and large strategic investments e.g.KE Hubs
<b>BBSRC</b>	DTP competition.	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Targeted Priority Studentships,
<b>ESRC</b>	DTP competition (will move to DTP terminology at next round of commissioning, replacing the name DTC).	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Project-linked students on strategic/directed grant calls.
<b>EPSRC</b>	DTP (will move to DTP terminology at next round of commissioning, replacing the name Doctoral Training Grant (DTG).	CDT competition	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>
<b>NERC</b>	DTP competition.	CDT competition to be launched 2014.	Research Programme Project-linked studentships. Research Programme Competition Studentships. Large Grant Project-linked Studentships. NERC Centre/Survey Studentships.
<b>MRC</b>	DTPs (replaced the name Doctoral Training Grants in 2012).	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Partnership grant studentships. Centre grant studentships. Institute, Unit or University Unit studentships.
<b>STFC</b>	DTPs (replaced the name Quota awards in 2013).	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Competitions linked with strategic areas/programmes. Project-linked studentships on grants aligned with STFC strategic priorities.

<b>Council</b>	<b>(4a) Collaborative/Industrial Partnerships</b>	<b>(4b) Collaborative/Industrial Competitions</b>	<b>(4c) Collaborative/Industrial Targets</b>
<b>AHRC</b>	Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships (CDPs)	Collaborative Doctoral Awards (CDAs)	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>
<b>BBSRC</b>	Industrial CASE Partnerships.	Industrial CASE Competition.	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>
<b>ESRC</b>	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	20% target for DTCs (to be renamed DTPs).
<b>EPSRC</b>	Industrial CASE (Will move to Industrial CASE Partnership terminology at the next round of commissioning).	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	10% target for DTPs.
<b>NERC</b>	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Industrial CASE Competition.	30% target for DTPs.
<b>MRC</b>	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Industrial CASE Competition.	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>
<b>STFC</b>	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>	Industrial CASE Competition.	<i>Mechanism not used.</i>