

# PhD placements in HM Government's Open Innovation Team

HM Government's *Open Innovation Team* generates analysis and insight for government by helping officials collaborate with outside experts and research. We are sponsored by four leading universities — *Essex, Lancaster, York and Brunel*. Over the past three years, we've hosted more than 75 PhD students, with many going on to policy jobs after completing their studies.

Our recruitment round for placements across 2022 is now open. We are inviting PhD students to join our team for three months to help us deliver projects on a wide range of policy areas.

## Responsibilities

PhD students working with us on placement will be expected to carry out a range of tasks, including:

- Reviewing evidence to inform policy discussions
- Generating analysis and policy ideas working alongside officials and outside experts
- Pitching and scoping new projects
- Managing stakeholders inside and outside Whitehall
- Organising engagement activity, including arranging meetings and policy seminars

## What we are looking for:

We are looking for PhD students who can:

- Communicate well and translate complex ideas to non-expert audiences
- Manage their time effectively, juggling a variety of tasks with minimal supervision
- Collaborate with a variety of team members, government officials and academics
- Adapt as projects and partners evolve, making effective decisions along the way
- Demonstrate an interest in policy and a willingness to learn about new issues

## Training and experience expected to be gained on the placement

The placement offers training covering the skills we use on a daily basis, and will provide an excellent opportunity to:

- Understand more about how Whitehall works and how policy is developed
- Hone writing and communication skills for non-expert audiences
- Develop networks in government, including a wide range of central government departments
- Build knowledge of new policy areas

Please note: Some office-based working is likely, however it is not a requirement of the placement. This can be discussed between successful candidates and their assigned line managers.

## How to apply

Applications are open until 11:55pm on Sunday 19th September. To apply, please complete this [application form](#). If you have any questions regarding your application, please contact [placements@openinnovation.gov.uk](mailto:placements@openinnovation.gov.uk).

## Eligibility

All current UK and EU PhD students are eligible to apply. Tier 4 Visa students are eligible to apply and will be considered on a case-by-case basis. All placements are provisional until security clearance is confirmed. Students who are successful in their applications will be expected to secure funding for the placement from their university, DTP or other funding bodies. We value diversity and inclusion and actively encourage and welcome applications from people of all identities and backgrounds, especially those who are under-represented in the Civil Service.

