

I am undertaking my studies with the Open University, am I eligible to apply?

Yes, students currently undertaking full time undergraduate degree studies at the Open University are eligible to apply

I am currently enrolled on an undergraduate degree programme but have also completed another undergraduate degree previously. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes, students currently enrolled on an undergraduate programme are eligible even if they have already completed a different undergraduate degree previously

I am an undergraduate medical student in my penultimate year. I have also completed an intercalated BSc. Does the completion of an intercalated degree have any impact on my eligibility for this internship?

Your completion of an intercalated BSc does not have an impact on your eligibility given that this is compulsory in some universities.

I am in my final year of an undergraduate degree programme and will graduate in the summer. Am I eligible to apply?

Yes, final year undergraduate degree programme students are eligible to apply as they have not yet graduated.

Can I apply if I have already undertaken an SPCR undergraduate internship?

No. Any previous SPCR undergraduate interns are not eligible to apply again.

Can I apply to any of the projects, or do I have to be studying at the host university?

Yes, any UK undergraduate student can apply to any of the projects. You do not need to be studying at that university to apply.

I didn't submit my application before the deadline. Can I still be considered?

Our deadline is firm and under no circumstances will any flexibility be given. Please ensure your application is submitted with time to spare in case you encounter personal or technical issues.

What are the criteria used to select applications for each project?

Applications will be reviewed by the supervisors within the member department hosting the project applied for and will be judged on the quality of the personal statement. Please ensure you answer the questions to the best of your ability and within the specified word count.

Will I have to have an interview if my application is shortlisted?

Some of the nine member institutions do conduct an interview process when selecting interns. If your application is shortlisted, you will be contacted to arrange this.

Are the internships hybrid/remote/in person?

Each project is different and has different requirements - some are virtual, and some may have some in person requirements. Each project sheet has some information on this.

Would I be required to live in the area of the chosen project host institution? For example, do I apply for a project that is closer to my home or university?

You do not necessarily need to live locally to the department hosting the internship. Please refer to the individual project details, section 'How will the internship be conducted' which states whether it can be undertaken remotely, in person, or a mixture of both.

Will the programme be providing accommodation?

The programme does not cover the cost of or provide accommodation. Costs such as conference attendance, travel etc will not be covered.

If my application is unsuccessful, will I be able to apply for another project?

If your application is unsuccessful, you will not be able to apply for another project for this year's cohort, however, you may wish to apply again next year.

Can I apply for two projects?

Students can only submit one application for one project. If you apply for more than one project, the first application you submitted will be considered.

Can I undertake an internship project from outside of the UK?

It is not possible to undertake an internship from outside the UK

Does the internship have to start on 1st June 2026? I have semester exams in June which clash with this date?

Monday 1st June 2026 is the earliest a project can start. Each project will have different dates depending on the student and research team availability. Dates are listed on the project sheets. Most will have some flexibility; however, this should be discussed with the supervisory team.

When will I know if my application has been shortlisted?

Applicants will be informed if they have been shortlisted by 5pm on Tuesday 5th May 2026.

What is required of me when the internship finishes?

Interns are required to submit a brief report detailing their experience within two weeks of the end of the placement.