NuSec Network PhD Studentship - Guidance for Applicants

Completed applications should be submitted to info@nusec.uk by 17:00 on **Friday 1st November 2019**. Late applications will not be accepted. Receipt of your application will be confirmed via an e mail from the NuSec network with 72 hours. If you do not receive an e mail within 72 hours of your submission then please e mail e.fletcher@surrey.ac.uk

2.1 Supervisory Team (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Describe the members of the supervisory team and their role and the relevance of their expertise for the project. Include any co-supervisors from the project partner, if applicable.

One supervisor must be identified as the main supervisor.

Conflicts of Interest: discuss any potential conflicts of interest, if applicable, e.g. due to supervisor connections with the partner company, existence of University spin-out companies, etc. In such cases provide details of how both the academic and non-academic supervisor roles will be defined to give the student the best all round experience. Applicants should declare any interests which anyone named on the application has with any individual, organisation, project partner or supplier involved in the research, or any interest that might be perceived to influence the applicant's objectivity in conducting the research.

2.2 Monitoring Arrangements (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Describe the procedures used by the University to ensure high quality supervision of the student and proper monitoring of student progress throughout the duration of the award.

Provide details of how you will monitor the student and their training needs during the course of the studentship, including:

- Supervision arrangements, assessment arrangements, frequency of supervisor/student contact and the involvement of staff other than the principal academic supervisor in the supervisory process (if appropriate);
- How you will manage the partnership with the industrial company to ensure high quality supervision of the student and the proper monitoring of student progress;
- Opportunity for students to provide feedback.

3.2 Project details (Up to 3000 characters including spaces)

This section enables the assessors to consider the scientific merit of the project; please write clearly with sufficient detail.

Provide a detailed description of the milestones, methodology, experimental approaches, study designs and techniques to be used. Highlight plans which are particularly original or unique.

Identify the extent to which the project is innovative both commercially and technically. Highlight and explain the timeliness and novelty of the project. Describe any evidence you have to substantiate your belief that the intended project is innovative.

Identify key risks and uncertainties of the project and provide a risk analysis for the project content and approach. Explain how the project would mitigate these key risks and alternative approaches that may be used in contingency. Give details of the arrangements that are in place for managing risks (both technical and environmental).

3.3 Alignment to NuSec Objectives (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Give references to NuSec's research objectives priorities and explain how the project is aligned to these areas of work.

3.4 Impact Summary (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Give details of the economic, social and environmental benefits that the project is expected to deliver. List any beneficiaries from the research, for example those who will benefit from the proposed research- directly or indirectly. It may be useful to think of beneficiaries as 'users' of the research outputs.

Beneficiaries must consist of a wider group than that of the investigator's immediate professional circle carrying out similar research.

For economic benefits, highlight benefits to users, suppliers, the broader industrial markets and the UK economy. The application should identify and quantify where possible the benefit to each of the beneficiaries.

For social benefits, quantify any expected social impacts, either positive or negative, on, for example, the quality of life, social inclusion/exclusion, education, public empowerment, health and safety, regulation, diversity and any expected impact on Government priorities. Environmental – If applicable, demonstrate how the project will benefit the natural environment.

4.1 Academic Research Environment (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Give details of the academic training and research environment, and explain how this will benefit both the student and the project.

Project Plan: Provide a clear project plan of how the project will be managed, including how the student's time will be split between the academic partner and the non-academic partner if appropriate. Give details of how the training and research environment will enrich the student's experience.

You may wish to include: • integration with existing students; • interactions with other researchers and staff; • opportunities to participate in interdisciplinary team work; • current infrastructure, expertise, facilities and technologies available in the department/group and the organisation; • a

timeline showing how the student's time will be split between the academic RO and the non-academic partner.

Research Training: Give details of how you will address the project-specific and generic training needs of the student, highlighting how this addresses strategic skills gaps (where relevant) and how the project will be managed so that the work at the university can derive greatest benefit from the placement for the student.

You may wish to include: • appropriate practical and technical research training; • specific training courses and seminars; • arrangements to support interdisciplinary research training; • internal arrangements for planning, managing and monitoring its provision of postgraduate research training (including the procedures in place for student representation on relevant departmental committees and opportunities for student feedback on the training environment); • computing; • statistical techniques; • health and safety; • business and finance related training; • transferable skills and employability.

4.2 Non-Academic Research Environment (Up to 1500 characters including spaces)

Complete this section if your project includes an industrial project partner.

Give details of the non-academic training and research environment, and explain how this will benefit the student and the project. Clearly state what facilities will be available and how the project will relate to them.

Give details of any project-specific and generic training needs of the student that are relevant to the project partner, highlighting how this addresses strategic skills gaps (where relevant) and how the project will be managed so that the work while at the non-academic partner will be carried out with greatest benefit to the student.

5.1 Industrial Project Partner information

Complete this section if your project includes an industrial project partner.

5.2 Partner Contribution

Complete this section if your project includes an industrial project partner. Include here whether the partner has experience of research student supervision or plans to have any input into supervision; why the partnership will be of benefit to the student and project; whether there is a past history of working with the partner on research activity, and what procedures will be in place to ensure the smooth running of the collaboration

6.1 Financial Table

Complete this financial table as indicated. Costings should be based on current tuition fee and stipend rates from STFC. The following guidance is indicative of the total costs only.

The NuSec award will be made to the host University from Surrey University. <u>The NuSec award will cover 21 months of funding, up to a maximum value of £42,065, for the period 1st October 2020 to 30th June 2022</u>. This will be the limit of NuSec's liability to the host University. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the external funding for the project is available to fund the period from July 2022 to the end of the project.

The proposal should request funding across the following categories:

- UK PhD tuition fee: £4,260 per annum
- PhD Stipend: £14,777 per annum
- Training and Support: up to £5,000 per annum

The maximum total cost of the proposal is £84,130 for a period of 42 months. Consequently the maximum amount requested from NuSec cannot exceed 50% of the total cost (or £42,065).

Additionally, the amount requested from NuSec cannot exceed the value of the committed funds from the host or external partner. Specifically, the tuition fee element of the NuSec funding will not exceed 50% of the value of a UK tuition fee.

Any standard terms and conditions that STFC requires for studentship funding will be passed by Surrey to the host University. Any special post-Brexit arrangements will follow the guidance and funding rules of STFC.

6.2 Training and Support Grant costs

Please itemise all requested training and support grant costs, which can be up to a maximum of £5k per year. Eligible costs include student training courses, attendance at research conferences, publication costs, laboratory consumables and materials.

Substantial items of equipment greater than £10k (inc VAT) are not permitted.