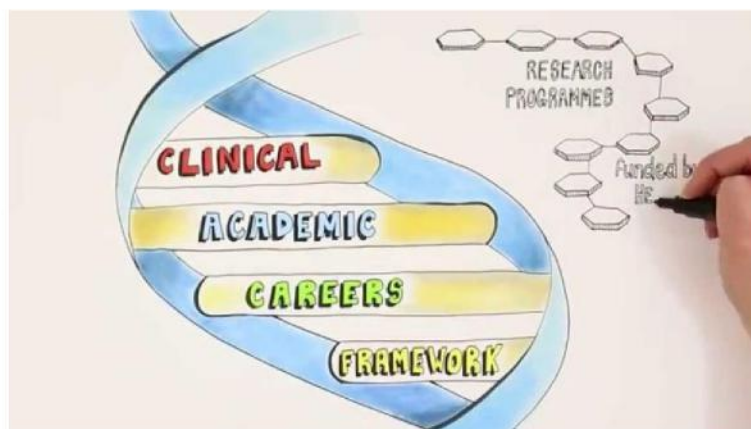


# Wessex Clinical Academic Career Programme:

HEE/NIHR ICA Internships 2019/20

Information and application process



**For further information, contact:**

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## **Introduction:**

Health Education England (HEE) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) have established an overarching Integrated Clinical Academic (ICA) Programme for healthcare professionals, other than medics and dentists. This Programme is intended to increase research capacity in the NHS with the aim of improving health and healthcare, by developing people with the potential and aspiration to become leading clinical academics and independent researchers in the future.

This year (2019/2020) we have received national funding to support internships in Wessex. These awards support individuals who are early in their clinical academic career and are thinking about doing postgraduate academic study at Master's level and beyond. The internship offers an introduction to aspects of clinical research through gaining research experience by observing/visiting/working in a clinical research environment and undertaking study in research in preparation for applying for a Master's degree.

It is important for successful interns to have support from their line manager. NIHR have produced a guide for aspiring clinical academics and their managers to help early conversations. The objectives of the internship and future clinical academic aspirations should align with team/service clinical priorities and needs.

## **Eligibility:**

The internships are open to Allied Health Professionals, Nurses, Midwives, Pharmacists, Clinical Psychologists, Healthcare Scientists, and wider Dental Team Professions. The internships are available to those who have received no formal long term training in research. If, as part of your registration requirements, you had to complete a Post-graduate diploma or Post-Graduate Master's, degree you are still eligible to apply.

To be eligible for one of these awards you will need to provide evidence that you have the following:

1. Current registration to practice in the UK with the appropriate regulatory and professional bodies
2. Work in practice for at least one (1) day per week for an organization who provides NHS healthcare within Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Dorset, or Salisbury
3. One (1) year's post-registration practice experience
4. Support from your employer to undertake the internship
5. A keen interest and clear suitability for a research focused clinical academic career
6. Mentorship from a named clinical academic supervisor (identified by you)
7. Access to learning about research - this could include attending an academic module(s) or a short course(s) at a Master's degree level or equivalent in an aspect of research methods or data analysis
8. The opportunity to develop links with an existing clinical research team (identified by you).
9. Ability to complete the internship by 31 March 2020.

These elements are designed to help you to develop a research support network. You will have the opportunity to develop a bespoke Programme tailored to suit your needs and aspirations with your identified clinical academic supervisor.

In addition, you can participate in other activities which may include working with current researchers; visiting clinical research facilities, and/or attending research presentations and seminars.

## **How much is the internship award and how can the funding be used?**

Each successful applicant will be awarded £10,000 to cover costs including: partial backfill salary, incidental costs, research and clinical supervision, and formal education costs.

Suggestions on how the budget can be spent are presented below;

1. **Salary backfill** - it is recognised that this may form the main budget expenditure. The most efficient backfill arrangements should be decided by you and your team/service manager.
2. **Research project expenses** – this could include anything related to the applied research objectives e.g. patient and public involvement expenses, digital voice records, reference management systems, dictation services etc. **Please note** that we are unable to fund laptops or computers.
3. **Academic supervision and formal teaching** – it is essential to have academic supervision throughout the award. Ideally this support should be from a University within the Wessex region, however we recognise that some professional groups may have to find this support from outside of the region. We recommend that academic supervision costs do not exceed 20% of the overall spending plan. In addition to academic supervision, it may also be appropriate to access formal teaching on research methods depending on the objectives of your internship.
4. **Dissemination costs** – an element of the award should be used to disseminate any research findings through publications and/or conference presentations. So please include some funding for that purpose.

***NB: Please get your spending plan checked by your finance teams prior to submission. The amount awarded will be paid directly to your NHS employer in September 2019.***

## Evaluation

A brief progress report will be required at a half way point and a final evaluation is required at the end of the award. In addition, you will also be required to produce a poster for presentation at a local internship close event in March 2020.

## Application process:

Prior to submitting an application, please contact the research leads within your NHS Trust to discuss your application for this award and investigate what support and help is available within the organisation.

Please submit a completed checklist (see Appendix 1) and all corresponding documentation to: [qualityimprovement.WX@hee.nhs.uk](mailto:qualityimprovement.WX@hee.nhs.uk) by 9.00am on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

## Key dates:

Closing date for applications:	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 9.00 am
Notification of outcome:	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Interviews: (Southern House, Otterbourne SO21 2RU)	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> July 2019
Launch event:	Monday 14 October 2019
Close event*:	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2020
Award period:	September 2019-March 2020

\*Please note that line managers and academic supervisors will be invited to the close event

***Applicants who choose to apply must be available for interview on the above date.***