





E4 DTP STUDENT-LED PROJECT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION GUIDANCE

The E4 DTP offers two different routes for students to apply for a PhD position. They can apply to a **supervisor-led project**, chosen from the list of projects advertised by E4 DTP supervisors (projects can be viewed on the E4 DTP webpages during the application period, from early November to early January). They can also come up with their own project based on their previous research, own ideas and/or strengths, this is the **student-led project** route.

Student-led projects still need to be submitted in advance (**by 15 December 2023**) in order to be reviewed and approved by the E4 DTP selection panels before the applicant send their application by the application deadline (**by 4 January 2024**).

The below chart describes the steps for student-led projects to be submitted. **Students are advised to check** that they are <u>eligible to apply for the E4 DTP</u> before they start the process below.

- 1. Student finds a supervisor
- Students who wish to submit their own PhD project first need to find a primary supervisor who is willing to both submit the project on their behalf and support their application throughout the selection process.
- Primary supervisors can be registered in any of the E4 DTP partner schools (all the 7 schools of the UoE College of Science and Engineering and the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies).
- •E4 supervisors can support up to 2 student-led projects per recruitment round if they have not submitted any supervisor-led project but only 1 student-led project if they have submitted 1 (or 2 if CASE) supervisor-led project(s).
- 2. Student & supervisor draft the project proposal
- The student and supervisor prepare the project proposal following the guidance below.
- 3. Supervisor submits the project for approval
- The supervisor uses the usual E4 DTP internal procedure to submit the project proposal and the supervision team's details.
- The supervisor ticks the "student-led project" box on the proposal form.
- Student-led projects must be submitted **by 15 December 2023** and the E4 DTP team be made aware of submission.
- The E4 DTP team confirms approval of the project to the student and supervisor after review by a selection panel.
- Student-led projects are NOT advertised.
- 4. Student applies to the E4 DTP by the application deadline
- The student applies through the normal route (see the application process details on the E4 webpages) by the application deadline (4 January 2024). Eligiblity criteria apply.
- The student goes through the same selection procedure as any other applicants applying for advertised projects. There is no benefit or advantage to candidates applying through this route.

GUIDANCE ON WRITING AN E4 DTP STUDENT-LED PROJECT PROPOSAL

Students can use the guidance below to draft their project proposal.

There are additional fields that will need completed at the time of submitting the project through the online form but these should be completed by the supervisor (who has access to separate guidance for the online submission of the project). If the supervisor is not familiar with the E4 DTP project submission procedure, they should get in touch with the E4 DTP team at e4dtp.info@ed.ac.uk to receive guidance.

Title: project title

CASE Partner: If there is a CASE partner attached to the project. Only the name is needed at that stage. (More information and guidance is available on CASE studentships, please contact the supervisor).

Summary: [Max 200 characters]

Project Background: The rationale for the proposed project. [Max 2000 characters]

Key Research Questions: [Up to 5 questions]

Methodology: Including a **3-year** timetable for the programme of research.

Training: Any specific training that the student would be expected to undertake within the project in addition to the generic DTP training. [Max 100 words]

Further reading or any references referred to in the proposal: [Max 6 references]

Supervisors: [Min 2 supervisors /Max 4 supervisors]

Resources and budget, facilities and equipment: A statement of any facilities (including UoE facilities), software, high performance computing, etc. required for the research and how these will be accessed.

Resources and budget: research costs: State the budget needed for the project (E.g. fieldwork, analyses, specialist training, software licences, data storage and computer costs etc.). All DTP students get standard RTSG of £3,450 total. If the project requires more than that, please state. You can also include external contributions (from CASE partners or external collaborators).

For partner schools that do not supply computers to students you must include computer purchase in these costs.

Partner institution hosts - if you envisage that a significant proportion of the project will be located at a partner institution away from Edinburgh, please indicate this here with an indication of the time to be spent away from Edinburgh.

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Supervisors can email the E4 DTP Manager, Stephanie Robin, at stephanie.robin@ed.ac.uk if they need more information or help on how to submit a project and supervisors' details through the online form.