

Pen Picture for IRC Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Programmes

Pen Picture for Irish Research Council Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Programmes (GOI, EPS and EBP)

Funder & Programme	IRC Postgraduate and Postdoctoral Programmes
Success Rates	PG schemes nationally 18%. PD schemes nationally 13%. Similar success rate across AHSS and STEM.
Award Value	Postgraduate: 31,000 euro per annum, 1 to 4 years Postdoctoral: c. 52,000 euro per annum, 1 to 2 years
Success Factors for Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor/mentor must be involved in research project development • Applicant must ensure references are completed • Applicant must present a clear project plan and a specific training and career development plan
Applicant Profile* – GoI Postgraduate Scholarships – UCD Success Rate 20%	<p>AHSS: Most applicants (80%) hold a master's degree and have commenced their PhD studies. Most applications were seeking 24/36 months of funding. Some applicants have received awards (many, 60%, have not) for high academic achievement. Most applicants (65%) have a record of publishing/presenting their work, or have been in a non-presenting capacity at a related conference in their field. Many applicants also have non-academic work experience. All of them have some research experience.</p> <p>STEM: Most applicants (70%) were new entrants to the PhD degree and apply for 48 months funding. About 60% had 1st class honours, whilst the rest had an upper 2nd class. All applicants had some research experience, but fewer had experience outside academia. Most (65%) of applicants did not have some form of previous academic achievement. About 35% of people had previous research published, but about 50% had presented at a conference related to their proposed study, or participated in some other way.</p>

Applicant Profile* – Gol Postdoctoral Fellowships – UCD Success Rate 14%	<p>Most awardees (90%) have an undergraduate degree related to the proposed research. 70% also had a Masters in a related field. Most have at least one year of post-doc experience. The average had 3-5 published works, e.g. in journals or books. All applicants had presented at several conferences. Nearly all have been awarded some significant level of funding.</p> <p>Nearly all applications are seeking 2 year fellowships and demonstrate mobility from their PhD supervisors.</p>
Applicant Profile - IRC Programmes with Industry Partners	<p>On the average applicant profiles are similar to those for the Gol postgraduate and postdoctoral programmes (see next page for more detail). 80-90% awards are held in STEM schools. Most awards are for a 48-month PhD or a 2 year fellowship.</p> <p>Enterprise Partner link. Usually the school or the academic mentor has a strong existing collaboration with the industry partner. Several projects are linked to UCD spin-out companies. For employment-based postgraduate programme some applicants have been employed by the industry partner for 2+ years.</p>
Suggested Local Supports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor/mentor feedback and review • Sharing of experiences from those who have been successful in the scheme
Summary of supports offered by UCD Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UCD Help pack support issued to applicants and available on UCD Research Portal • Information session held and recorded • Institutional submission via IRC SmartSimple • Handling of queries (proposalsupport@ucd.ie)
Employment-based Postgraduate Programme	<p>Applicants are likely to possess a master's degree and have 2 years of relevant research experience (have commenced their PhD/undertaken a research masters/have worked as research assistant/held internship roles). Most can demonstrate some form of publishing their work. Applicants for funding to complete research masters funding hold a strong undergraduate degree and have some (6 months) research experience.</p> <p>Enterprise Partner link: Applicants have been working at the enterprise partner for 2+ years or the enterprise partner and academic mentor have previously collaborated.</p> <p>Industry contribution: at minimum 8,000 per annum paid to scholar as part of salary.</p> <p>Primary location for scholar: industry partner's premises.</p> <p>Scholar must be employed by the company for the duration of the PhD.</p>
Enterprise Partnership Postgraduate Programme	<p>Applicants are likely to possess a master's degree and have 2 years of relevant research experience (have commenced their PhD/undertaken a research masters/have worked as research assistant/held internship roles). Most can demonstrate some form of publishing their work.</p> <p>Enterprise Partner link – the school or the academic mentor has a strong existing collaboration with the</p>

	<p>enterprise partner. Several projects are linked to large multinational companies who have collaborated with UCD for many years.</p> <p>Industry contribution: one third of the total value of the Scholarship paid to IRC (maximum contribution of €8,000 per annum)</p> <p>Primary location for scholar: UCD</p>
Enterprise Partnership Postdoctoral Programme	<p>Awardees have 0 to 2 years of post PhD experience. All applicants have at least 1-2 peer-reviewed publications, few applicants have been invited to present at conferences. Some applicants have completed PhD projects that were linked to industry. All awards were made for 2 years of funding.</p> <p>Enterprise Partner link – the school or the academic mentor has a strong existing collaboration with the enterprise partner. Several projects are linked to UCD spin-out companies.</p> <p>Industry contribution: one third of the total value of the Fellowship paid to IRC (maximum contribution to a 24 month Fellowship is €30,597)</p> <p>Primary location for fellow: UCD</p>

* Profiles are based on new awards made in 2022