

# NIHR INSIGHT Programme for South West Central

NIHR INSIGHT SWC MRes Studentship Webinar  
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FUNDED BY

**NIHR** | National Institute for  
Health and Care Research



**BU** Bournemouth  
University

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[www.insight-southwestcentral.net](http://www.insight-southwestcentral.net) ->

Website:



# This webinar

## Introduction to:

### NIHR INSIGHT

- NIHR
- [INSIGHT programme](#)
- South West Central (SWC) region

### Research Masters

- SWC Courses
- Eligibility
- Studentship
- How to Apply

### Q & A

- I'm not eligible?
- Links to further info
- Questions and Answers

✓ About us

✓ Research funding

✓ Career development

✓ Support and services

✓ Our research

✓ Get involved

# National Institute for Health and Care Research

We fund, enable and deliver world-leading health and social care research that improves people's health and wellbeing, and promotes economic growth.

→ [Learn more about us](#)



[www.nihr.ac.uk/](http://www.nihr.ac.uk/) -

## INITIAL EXPERIENCE

### Internship

- health and care professionals
- social care
- public health
- methodologists
- new medical schools

### INSIGHT programme

- regional based engagement and masters programmes

## PRE PHD

### Predocutorial Award

Applications reviewed by the following committees:

- methodology committee
- primary care committee
- health and care professionals committee
- local authority, social care and public health committee

### Academic Clinical Fellowship

- doctors and dentists

## PHD

### Doctoral Award

Applications reviewed by the following committees:

- doctoral committee
- health and care professionals committee
- local authority, social care and public health committee

## BEYOND PHD

### Postdoctoral Award

Applications reviewed by the following committees:

- postdoctoral committee
- health and care professionals committee
- local authority, social care and public health committee

### Global Health Advanced Fellowship

### Clinical Lectureship

- doctors and dentists

### Senior Clinical and Practitioner Research Award

## CHAIR

### Research Professorship

Applications reviewed by the following committees:

- committee for all backgrounds
- global health committee

### Senior Investigator

Applications reviewed by the following committees:

- nurses, midwives and AHPs committee
- social care and public health committee
- medical committee

### Bridging and short term support

- Pre-application Support Fund
- Short Placement Award for Research Collaboration (domestic, global health and local authorities inc social care and public health)
- Development and Skills Enhancement Award

### Opportunities within wider NIHR

- Within NIHR Biomedical Research Centres, Applied Research Collaborations, Patient Safety Research Collaborations, Health Protection Research Units, NIHR Schools of Primary Care, Social Care and Public Health and Global Health Programmes

### Research programmes and team awards

- Team Science Award
- NIHR Research programmes

# INSIGHT Programme

## NIHR “Initial Experience”

Inspiring and equipping first steps into Health and Care Research

Health and  
Care  
Professional  
Internship

For early career &  
experienced HCPs

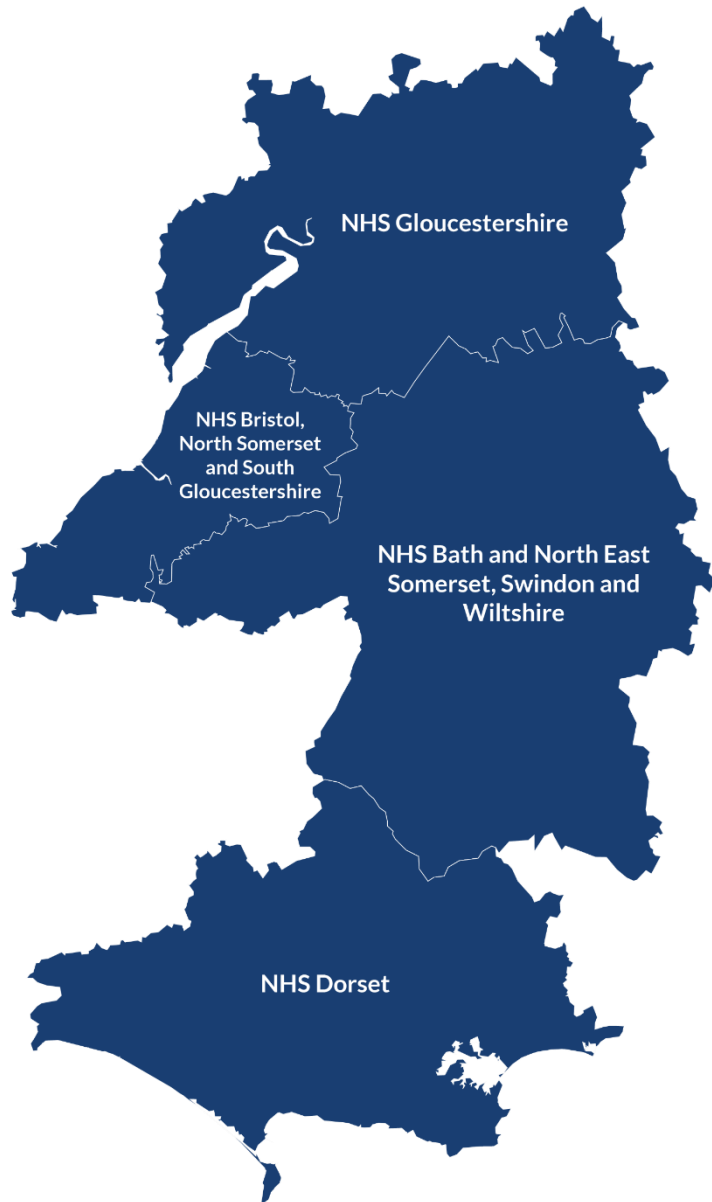
[NIHR Health and  
Care Professionals  
Internships  
Programme SWC](#)

INSIGHT Programme

INSIGHT  
Engagement

INSIGHT MRes  
Studentships

# NIHR INSIGHT South West Central Region



South West Central (SWC) includes the following integrated care systems:

- Gloucestershire
- Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire
- Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire
- Dorset

Note: Participation is NOT limited to NHS organisations.

# South West Central - Collaborators

- Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership
- Dorset Healthcare University
- North Bristol Trust
- Royal United Hospitals Bath
- Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust
- Sirona Care & Health CIC
- St John Ambulance
- SWAST
- University Hospitals Bristol and Weston
- University Hospitals Dorset
- Dorset Integrated Care Board
- Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board
- NIHR ARC Wessex
- NIHR School of Primary Care Research
- NIHR Bristol Biomedical Research Centre
- NIHR CRN West of England
- People in Health West of England
- Wessex Health Partners
- Wessex Secure Data Environment
- West of England AHSN

- Bath & North East Somerset Council
- Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council
- Bristol City Council
- Swindon Borough Council
- Gloucestershire Health and Care
- Gloucestershire Hospitals
- Great Western Hospitals
- Wiltshire Health & Care
- Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire ICB
- Gloucestershire ICB

## Collaborators -South West Central

*Please Note: if you work for a different employer not listed, this does not exclude you. Please get in touch!*

# Research Masters Studentships

## Studentship

Tuition fees for  
your research  
masters

Paid directly to University

Studentship  
Stipend  
(tax free)

Paid to student\*, monthly

UKRI studentship rate **2025/26**: £20,780

Full time: £20,780 for 1 year

Part time: at least £10,390 per year

(UKRI rate reviewed annually in February)

\*exceptions apply

# Eligibility Criteria - Masters Studentships

Working towards registration or registered with one of the following:

- Academy for Healthcare Science
  - General Chiropractic Council
  - General Dental Council
  - General Medical Council
  - General Optical Council
  - General Osteopathic Council
  - General Pharmaceutical Council
  - Health and Care Professions Council
  - Nursing and Midwifery Council
  - Social Work England
  - UK Public Health Register
- (Not doctors and dentists)

Up to 5 years practice experience as a registered health or care professional.

Meet the eligibility criteria for UK home student status  
or  
Working in the UK on skilled worker visa with employer support for clinical release

Planning to apply and study for one of the research masters at UWE Bristol or Bournemouth University

# Research Masters Studentships - South West Central



## **MRes Health and Care Research**

A modular course with the project accounting for 50% of the credits



## **Masters in Research (MRes)**

An independent research project (100%) with in-built research training

### **Both:**

- Option for 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time (September to September)
- Start date: 21<sup>st</sup> September 2026 with delivery days: Thursdays/ Fridays
- Shared and collaborative learning opportunities across both programmes
- Project options offered by health & care researchers within the region, linked to priorities and/or ongoing research.

# Master of Research (MRes) Health and Care Research

A blended learning, modular programme comprising compulsory and optional modules.

Preparation for Health & Care Research 30C

Qualitative Health & Care Research 15C

Quantitative Health & Care Research 15C

Research Practice  
placements and/ or  
CPD modules.

30C

Tailored, relevant to your  
professional or research  
interests.

Assessed via  
coursework,  
presentations,  
written  
examination  
or a portfolio

**Extended Research Project**  
**90C**

supported by supervisor(s)

Assessed  
via  
report  
written as a  
journal  
article, a  
poster  
presentation  
and oral  
discussion

An independent research project (100%) with in-built research training

# Independent Research Project

## 180 C

Literature  
Review

Training via the  
doctoral college

- Masterclasses
- webinars
- modules

Research examples:

- quality improvement
- service evaluation
- data analysis of existing project surveys
- interviews
- PPIE

assessed  
by  
submission  
of a thesis  
and a viva

Guided through the MRes process via Action Learning Group.  
Supervision by a team of clinician(s) and academic(s)

# Entry Requirements - Masters of Research Programmes

Bachelors honours degree of 2:1 or above or a higher degree in an appropriate subject.

If you do not meet the above grade requirements, you can be considered on an individual basis if you have at least 12 months relevant professional experience and/ or equivalent qualifications.

# Research Masters and Part – Time Work

## Full-Time Study

- 1 year full time course
  - Sept 2026- Aug 2027
- 1 FTE Studentship commitment
- Recommended Maximum work 0.2 FTE (1 day/ 7.5 hrs)

## Part-Time Study

- 2 years part-time course
  - Sept 2026- Aug 2028
- 0.5 Studentship commitment
- Recommended Maximum work 0.6 FTE (3 days/ 22.5 hrs)

Mon

Tues

Weds

Thurs

Fri

Sat

Sun

Teaching

Teaching

Both Full and Part time: delivery days: Thursday/ Friday  
Both groups have same teaching and lecturers

# INSIGHT South West Central Studentship Application Process 2026/2027

**Pre-  
application**

Understand  
your options

Liaise with  
your employer

Application  
Mentoring  
(February)

**Apply to  
both**

1) INSIGHT  
Studentship  
by 15<sup>th</sup> March

2) Your  
chosen MRes  
Programme  
by 30<sup>th</sup> April

**Selection  
Panel**

Interviews  
(online)

Outcome  
(May)

# Group INSIGHT Application Mentoring

Throughout February and first week of March 2026.

Process:

Check [INSIGHT Application](#) page for dates and time slots.

To book please email:  
[insight.swcentral@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:insight.swcentral@uwe.ac.uk)

In preparation please:

- Review [INSIGHT SWC website](#), including the 2026 (PDF) application form.
- Bring your questions!

# What if I'm not eligible? / Other Options

## NIHR Pre-doctoral Opportunities

- Predoctoral Award

## NIHR Health and Care Professional Internship Programme (National)

- HCP Internships (South West Central)

Other NIHR INSIGHT Programmes outside South West Central:

[INSIGHT: inspiring students into research | NIHR](#)

## NIHR Pre-Application Support

Fund: provides funding to prepare a competitive application to an NIHR career development scheme

Research focused Responsibilities/ Roles – approach your organisation's research lead to enquire whether you could be involved.

# Additional Resources to Check Out

## NIHR

[Introduction to health and care research](#)

[Support by profession](#)

## University

Your  
Online  
Careers  
“Toolkit”

Lecturers

## Podcasts & Webinars

[Podcast series: Clinical Research Career Conversations \(Edinburgh\)](#)

[How to get into research if you work in the NHS or care](#)

## Other

[Play the your path in research game | NIHR](#)

[NIHR INSIGHT SW Central](#)

## Q & A

- What else would you like to know?
- Are you missing information?
- Is anything unclear?

Further questions : [insight.swcentral@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:insight.swcentral@uwe.ac.uk)

Note: These slides (including hyperlinks) will be uploaded to FAQ page alongside the 2026 webinar recording.

# NIHR INSIGHT programme for South-West Central

## Contact Details

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