

**Eligibility for Enterprise Partners to participate in the
Irish Research Council's Enterprise Partnership Scheme (EPS)**

Through the Enterprise Partnership Scheme (EPS), the Irish Research Council co-funds postgraduate Scholarships and postdoctoral Fellowships with a wide range of Enterprise Partners.

An Enterprise Partner can be a business, a company, a registered charity, a social, cultural, not-for-profit, governmental or non-governmental organisation in any sector. To date, the Council has engaged with over 220 Enterprise/Employment Partners and is always eager to support exciting new partnerships and collaborations that link employers with talented postgraduate and postdoctoral researchers.

A key goal of the Enterprise Partnership Scheme is to offer researchers the opportunity to learn additional skills (in line with the *Irish Universities' Graduates' Skills* statement)ⁱ by working with suitable partners outside of the academic environment.

The Board of the Irish Research Council have determined that where the following criteria are met, Enterprise Partners can co-fund postgraduate Scholarships and postdoctoral Fellowships with the Council through this Enterprise Partnership Scheme.

- The co-funding Enterprise Partner accepts that participation will require more than a financial input and has the capacity to provide professional guidance as well as access to experimental facilities or data.
- The co-funding Enterprise Partner can commit co-funding the Scholarship or Fellowship at a rate of one third for its duration.
- The proposed mentor in the co-funding Enterprise Partner can assist the researcher in acquiring graduate skills as set out in *Irish Universities' PhD Graduates' Skills* statement and contribute to the overall formation of the researcher.
- The co-funding Enterprise Partner has entered into a relationship with the academic research supervisor.
- The co-funding Enterprise Partner accepts that all awards will be governed by the Irish Research Council's Scholarship/Fellowship Terms and Conditions.
- The co-funding Enterprise Partner must commit to a Research Agreement, in particular relating to Intellectual Property and publishing) with the participating Higher Education Institute before a Scholarship/Fellowship is activated.

- Where the co-funding Enterprise Partner is a public body / agency or other publicly funded organisation, the co-funding Enterprise Partner cannot fund the full cost of the scholarship (with administration of the award through the Irish Research Council).

ⁱ Irish Universities Association (IUA), *Irish Universities' Graduates' Skills*,
<http://www.euraxess.ie/phd/Page.aspx?SD=155>