

**SGSAH AHRC Doctoral Landscape Award Application Form Template 2026**

It is essential that you discuss the application with your supervisor/s and have their approval to submit. Applications are due at 4pm GMT on December 15, 2025.

Late applications will not be accepted.

The application form should be read alongside the latest version of the University of Stirling’s Doctoral Landscape Award Application Guidance, available on the website here:

We strongly recommend that applicants attend the briefing and information sessions run by the University. Applications must have supervisory support and reflect a knowledge of the DLA scheme in order to make it through the review process.

**Personal Details**

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| Name |
| Email  *We will normally contact you by email so please ensure you use an address you check regularly, and which will be available to you****at least until September 2026*** |
| Permanent Address |
| Correspondence Address, if different |
| **Eligibility**  Please check one of the following based on your circumstances.  □ I am a UK national AND will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for three years as of 1st October 2026  □ I am an EU, EEA, or Swiss national resident in the UK having obtained pre-settled/settled status AND will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for three years as of 1st October 2026 (please provide immigration share code and your date of birth)  □ I am a non-EU national and have settled status in the UK and will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for three years as of 1st October 2026 (please provide documentary evidence of your immigration status in the UK)  □ None of the above (I am an international student) |

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| **Ring-fencing and Optional Flags for Reweighting Scoring**  [ ] Please indicate whether you are eligible to be considered for a ring-fenced interview.  [ ] Please indicate whether you wish to have your scoring reweighted under the optional flags listed in the guidance. |

**University of Stirling PhD Programme of Study**

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| Name of the PhD Programme in which you will enroll |  |

**Subject(s) and Division(s) of PhD Project**

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| *Please select the University of Stirling Subject/Division in which your project will sit. If your supervisory team is drawn from subjects covered by different Divisions* ***and*** *your**supervisors are equally weighted (50%/50%), you may select two. Both panels will review your application.*  Communications, Media, and Culture   * Digital Media * Film and Media * Journalism * Public Relations   History, Heritage and Politics   * History * Heritage * Politics   Law and Philosophy   * Law * Philosophy [Philosophy applicants must first have been nominated through the St Andrews and Stirling Graduate Programme. See guidance for further information.]   Literature and Languages   * Creative Writing * Languages (Chinese, French and Francophone Studies, Spanish and Latin American Studies) and Translation Studies * Literature * Linguistics * Publishing Studies * Religion |

**Qualifications**

*The AHRC expects applicants to have****completed or to be studying towards a Postgraduate Masters qualification in a relevant subject****.  If you are****not****in this position, you****must use****the ‘Relevant professional experience’ section to provide evidence that the training and development you have received is equivalent to that obtained through a Masters course in a relevant subject and, therefore, prepares you to continue to doctoral study****.***

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| **University or College** | **Dates of award** | **Degree/Diploma** | **Main subjects** | **Grade, Class or GPA** |
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**Qualifications pending**

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| **University or College** | **Anticipated date of award** | **Degree/Diploma** | **Main subjects** |
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| **Relevant professional experience (300 words maximum)**  **If you complete this section, it will be reviewed in place of qualifications.**  *You should only complete it if:*   * *You do not have and are not studying towards a Masters degree or equivalent* * *Or are returning to Masters study after a considerable break in higher education* * *Or gained a Masters degree more than five years previously* * *Or if your Masters degree is not in a relevant subject* * *AND you have significant professional experience, which is relevant to your research proposal.*     *You should use this section to provide evidence that the training and development you have received is equivalent to that obtained through a relevant Masters course and, therefore, prepares you to continue to doctoral study.* |

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| **Research proposal title** |

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| **Research Summary (100 words)**  *Summary of the proposed research project that will be comprehensible to non-specialists and suitable for PR and communication channels.* |

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| **Research Proposal (1000 words)**  *We seek innovative, cogent and coherent proposals that are well-written in their entirety and have been designed for completion within the funded period. The methodology should be demonstrably appropriate and the whole proposal well-grounded in current research literature and/or practice. Full bibliographic referencing is not required. Please use the subheadings below to ensure that you speak to each section of the criteria.*   1. *Research question(s)/problem*   What question or problem is your project designed to answer, and why is it a timely and important one? Why is the University of Stirling the right place to investigate it?   1. *Research context, methods and sources, originality/innovation and contribution to knowledge (academic impact*): In what context/s will your study be situated? What methods and sources will you use to answer your question, and why are they particularly well suited to do so? How will your project be original? 2. *Knowledge Exchange, Public Engagement & Impact*: What plans do you have for identifying and engaging with groups beyond the academy who might be interested in, or benefit from, your research? Why might these communities be interested, and how might they benefit? How will you engage/communicate/network with these communities? |

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| **Preparedness to Undertake Doctoral Project and Complete a PhD (300 words)**  *Please explain how your academic and/or professional experience has prepared you to undertake this particular doctoral project, and to complete a project of this length within the designated time frame.* You may wish to refer to:   1. the topic(s) and length of successfully-completed dissertations and modules; 2. specific and appropriate methodological training and/or expertise (e.g. proficiency in a relevant language, archival research or IT skills etc.); 3. work-based learning or employment in a relevant occupation, etc.;d) notable achievements, either academic (prizes, conference presentations, publications) or non-academic (professional or personal accomplishments, overcoming barriers, etc). |

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| **Individual Training Allowance (ITA) and Engagement with the DLA Cohort Training (400 words)**  *All awards include a 3.5 year studentship and an additional 6 months of funding that will form an Individual Training Allowance that can be to either extend your study period/and or pursue bespoke training opportunities necessary for the completion of your research project and professional goals. In this section, we want to hear how you plan to use your ITA, and how you will engage with the cohort-wide training opportunities offered by the DLA Hub and the University.*  *First, check one of the following boxes:*  My project requires (Drop-down check box options):   * A 3.5 year studentship + 6 months of additional funded research * A 3.5 year studentship + 3 months of additional funded research + additional activity (fieldwork, internship, visiting research placement, + associated costs) equivalent to 3 months of funding * A 3.5 year studentship + additional activity (fieldwork, internship, visiting research placement, + associated costs) equivalent to 6 months of funding * A 3.5 year studentship + other (explain)   Now, please tell us more about your plans.   * Why have you chosen to use your ITA in this way? Why is your chosen combination of additional funded research time and/or additional activity necessary to the successful completion of your project and to your professional development goals? What kinds of activity will you use your funding to pursue? * How will you contribute the life of the Hub, and how will the three components of the Hub training offer be relevant to your project? |

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| **Ethics and Research Integrity (300 words maximum)**  *Are there any ethical or safety issues attached to this research project and/or its impact plans? If so, how these will be addressed. You can find details of the University of Stirling’s Research and Ethics policy and procedure* [*here*](https://www.stir.ac.uk/research/research-ethics-and-integrity/)*.* |

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| **Plagiarism and generative AI**  *[Tick box] This application constitutes my own original work. I understand that if any plagiarism is detected in the review process, my application may be withdrawn from consideration.*  *[Tick box] In producing my application, I have not used generative AI*  *[Tick box] I have used generative AI in the preparation of my proposal, but only in the terms permissible within UKRI’s* [*Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Application Preparation and Assessment*](https://www.ukri.org/publications/generative-artificial-intelligence-in-application-and-assessment-policy/use-of-generative-artificial-intelligence-in-application-preparation-and-assessment/) *policy.*  *If you ticked the box above, please describe your use of AI below. In what sections, and for what functions, have you used it? How have you mitigated against the risks of AI use explained in the policy? [300 words maximum]* |

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| **SGSAH Requirements**  *All SGSAH DLA funded doctoral researchers are required to participate in core training elements provided by Hub.  Key mechanisms for delivery of this training include Knowledge Exchange (KE) Hubs and Skills Development Spokes.*  *Information about these can be found in the Guidance.*    **You must be a member of at least one KE Hub. Please indicate which KE Hub(s) you will join:**  Citizenship, Culture and Ethics   □  Creative Economies   □  Heritage  □    **You must be a member of at least one Training Spoke. Please indicate which Catalyst(s) you will join:**  Concepts and Critiques   □  Empirical Enquiry   □  Creation and Practice    □ |

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| **Lead Supervisor Name and Email** |  |

**Data Sharing and Storage**

□ I consent to the sharing of aggregated anonymised Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) information with the Scottish Graduate School for Arts and Humanities (SGSAH)/DLA Hub to enable them to identify inequality gaps, inform strategic planning and to create an inclusive research environment. This data will not be used to identify individuals.

□ I consent to the sharing of individual details, including title, email address, and research summary, with the SGSAH/DLA Hub. This information will be used to help deliver essential services and comply with funding requirements including delivery of training, network building, and showcasing doctoral research.

Applications from nominees not in receipt of funding will be destroyed by 1st October 2026. Applications from nominees in receipt of funding will be retained for the duration of the studentship. This application may be read by up to twelve reviewers.