Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentships

The Object of the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund is to promote, assist and extend the science and study of Analytical Chemistry and of all questions relating to the analysis, nature and composition of natural and manufactured materials for the benefit of the public.

Application deadline 17:00 19th January 2022

1. Purpose of the Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentships (ACSS)

The purpose of the awards is to give experience of research to undergraduates with research potential and to encourage them to consider a career in Analytical Chemistry research on completion of their undergraduate degree. The awards provide support for the student at a rate of £270 per week (£320 per week in London), for a period of between 6 and 8 weeks during the summer vacation.

2. Definitions

ACTF Means the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund.
Trustees Means the Trustees of the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund.
Trust Administrator Means the Administrator of the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund.
Studentship Means an Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentship (ACSS).
Student Means the holder of an Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentship.
Applicant Means the supervisor of the Project for which an application for an Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentship is being made.
HEI Means Higher Education Institution in the United Kingdom or the Irish Republic, as defined by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, the Scottish...
Funding Council, the Department of Employment and Learning Northern Ireland and the Higher Education Authority of the Republic of Ireland.

**Home Institution**

Means the UK or Irish HEI at which the applicant holds a permanent full-time academic appointment, or a fixed term post-doctoral appointment.

**Project**

Means the programme of work contained in the applicant's application for an Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentship.

**Analytical Chemist**

Means a practitioner of Analytical Chemistry, a discipline of the chemical sciences which in the judgment of the Trustees is consistent with the Object of the Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund.

### 3. Eligibility

#### 3.1. Supervisors

3.1.1. Academic research personnel engaged in research, development and application of Analytical Chemistry related to the physical sciences, earth and environmental sciences, and the life sciences at HEIs within the UK and the Republic of Ireland are eligible to apply.

3.1.2. Postdoctoral researchers, provided that their contract extends beyond the period of the Studentship, and new lecturers, early in their careers are also encouraged to apply, and should note this on the application form.

3.1.3. Only one application should be submitted by a supervisor.

3.1.4. No more than four awards will be made to an individual department or subject area within multidisciplinary departments or schools in any one year.

3.1.5. Private sector companies and non-HEI public sector organisations with an analytical chemistry research presence in the UK or the Republic of Ireland are also eligible to apply. No more than four awards will be made to any such organisation in any one year. SMEs are particularly encouraged to apply.

#### 3.2. Students

3.2.1. Students who are expected to achieve a 1st or 2.1 degree, who are considering a career in research, but who have not yet had an opportunity to experience research. Please note there is no requirement for a pre-nominated student.

3.2.2. Students will take up the award during the summer vacation in the middle year or years (i.e. 2/3; 2/4 or 3/4) of their undergraduate degree. Applications on behalf of first or final year undergraduates, or graduates, will not be considered.

3.2.3. Medical students, and medical students studying for intercalated science degrees, are not eligible for these awards.

3.2.4. There is no restriction on age. Mature students are eligible to apply, but must not have a previous degree in any subject.

3.2.5. Students must be registered at a UK or Irish HEI for the majority of their undergraduate degree.
3.2.6. Bursaries will not be awarded for projects that are a part of a Student’s degree course, or that contribute in any way to the Student’s final degree grade.

3.2.7. There is no restriction on nationality, but students must normally be resident in the UK or Ireland during their undergraduate degree.

3.2.8. For the avoidance of doubt, applications must come from the academic, public sector or industrial supervisor and not from a student.

4. **How to Apply**

4.1. The application form can be obtained by e-mailing the Trust Administrator at ruth@rhearn.net or from http://www.rsc.org/Membership/Networking/InterestGroups/Analytical/ACTrustFund.asp

4.2. The application, sent by e-mail, must be made by the supervisor, not the student.

4.3. The application form must be approved by the Applicant’s Head of Department or School in their Home Institution or public sector or industrial senior manager.

4.4. The applicant must nominate 3 referees who can comment on the applicant’s standing in Analytical Chemistry.

5. **Time Line**

- **Call for applications** October 2021
- **Deadline for receipt of applications** 21st January 2022
- **Decision by Trustees** Late Feb 2022
- **Announcement of awards** by early March 2022
- **Conduct of studentship** summer vacation 2022
- **Report** summer vacation + 1 month

Reports should include photographs where appropriate, together with permission to use them in ACTF publicity material.

6. **Project**

6.1. The Project must focus primarily on research, development or application of Analytical Chemistry.

6.2. The Project must have a clearly defined objective which is achievable by an undergraduate Student in the time available.

6.3. The Project must give scope for thought and initiative on the part of the Student. Students must not be used as general assistants.

6.4. Collaborations between academia, public sector organisations and industry are encouraged. In such an instance the Student may spend some time with both partners.
7. Assessment of Applications

7.1. Applications will be assessed by a panel of Trustees, all of whom are professional Analytical Chemists.

7.2. Trustees may call upon the assistance of the applicant’s nominated referees.

7.3. Trustees may consult independent referees.

8. Finances

8.1. Studentships are valued at £270.00 per week, or £320.00 per week in London, for a period of 6 to 8 weeks during the summer vacation; i.e. minimum £1,620.00; maximum £2,560.00.

8.2. The Studentship grant will not exceed £2,160.00 outside London or £2,560.00 in London under any circumstances.

8.3. HEIs - Payment will be made by BACS to the supervisor’s Home Institution up to one month before the start date of the Studentship upon receipt of the supervisor’s Home Institution’s invoice by the Trust Secretary. The supervisor’s Home Institution will be responsible for disbursement of funds to the Student. Trustees will not pay registration fees or overhead charges or consumables.

8.4. Public Sector Organisations and Private Sector Companies – Payment will be made directly by BACS to the Student’s bank account.

8.5. The Studentship grant is outside the scope VAT.

9. Reporting & Final Expenditure Statement

9.1. A short report of not more than two pages on the conduct of the Studentship must be sent to the Trust Secretary within 1 month of the end of the Studentship.

9.2. If a report is not received within 1 month of the end of the studentship, any applications in the next year, from the same supervisor will not be funded.

10. Variation & Termination

10.1. If a Student, for any reason, ceases to undertake the Project the Trust Secretary must be informed immediately in writing. Where possible, at least one month’s notice should be given of any material change in the Project’s circumstances. For the avoidance of doubt it will no longer be necessary to nominate a Student at the time of application. If a supervisor plans to transfer to another HEI before the beginning of the Studentship or during the Studentship, Trustees expect the grant to transfer with the supervisor to the new HEI. Agreement is required from the transferring and receiving HEI, from the Student and the Trust Administrator.

10.2. Trustees reserve the right to terminate the grant at any time, subject to reasonable notice and make any payment that may be necessary to cover outstanding and unavoidable commitments.

10.3. If an Applicant needs to withdraw an application, the Trust Administrator must be advised immediately by e-mail.
11. Miscellaneous

11.1. The Analytical Chemistry Summer Studentship scheme may be terminated or its conditions varied at any time at the discretion of the Trustees.

11.2. The Trustees reserve the right to make no awards if applications do not meet the required standard.

11.3. If appropriate, supervisors should seek to publish the results of a Studentship in accordance with normal academic practice, preferably in RSC journals. The supervisor shall acknowledge the support of the ‘Analytical Chemistry Trust Fund’ in all publications and materials resulting from a Studentship.

11.4. ACTF makes no claim to the intellectual property rights arising from a Studentship.

11.5. The Trustees accept no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for expenditure by the Student or supervisor or Home Institution or public sector organisation or commercial sector company in addition to the Studentship grant or liability financial or otherwise arising from the Studentship.

12. Contact
All enquiries and correspondence should be addressed to:-
Dr Ruth Hearn
ruth@rhearn.net