



# **THE DATA LAB & MASTS INDUSTRIAL DOCTORATE CALL**

Guidance for Universities and Industry Sponsors

## INTRODUCTION

The Data Lab aims to generate significant economic, social and scientific value to Scotland through the application of data science. To help achieve this, we intend to part-fund Industrial Doctorate studentships in collaboration with the [Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland](#) (MASTS). The intended start date for the Industrial Doctorate is September 2018.

### 1. WHAT WILL WE FUND?

For an Industrial Doctorate project to be eligible for The Data Lab and MASTS funding, it must meet the following selection criteria:

#### A. SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY

The project must be hosted at a MASTS partner University. There must be two academic supervisors from different MASTS affiliated institutions.

#### B. INDUSTRY SPONSOR BASED IN SCOTLAND

The project must be sponsored by at least one Industry Sponsor that has an operational base in Scotland. An Industry Sponsor can be from the private, public or third sector. The Project may consist of any number of Industry collaborators.

#### C. IMPACT FOR SCOTLAND

The project must have the **potential** to contribute to positive social / economic impact in Scotland and be related to Scottish marine science, for example, by focussing on the [key themes](#) of MASTS. Some examples of **potential** 'impact' include:

- increased company revenue or market share,
- development of a new product,
- increased number of exports,
- creation of new high-value jobs in Scotland.
- changed practice to achieve greater environmental, economic or social benefit

#### D. DATA SCIENCE RESEARCH

The project must focus on innovation in or application of data science techniques. Some **example areas** of data science research that we would consider funding include:

- Advanced automation systems
- Anomaly detection
- Artificial / Machine Intelligence
- Data Ethics
- Deep Learning
- Natural Language Processing
- Predictive analytics
- Real-time data



## E. INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

The project must be innovative. This could include the generation of new ideas, the application transformation of new ideas into useful forms, improving the application of pre-existing ideas or techniques, or the application of pre-existing ideas or techniques to a new domain.

For more information you can refer to the [innovation spiral](#) for a range of innovation classifications. Project proposals would typically be within [Technology Readiness Levels 3 to 6 \(TRL\)](#) (See section G in the link).

## 2. WHAT WON'T WE FUND?

We will **NOT** support projects without co-funding from at least one Industry Sponsor.

We will **NOT** support projects hosted by a university based outside of Scotland.

We will **NOT** support projects with Industry sponsors without a base in Scotland.

We will **NOT** support projects focused on standard business intelligence or data reporting.

We will **NOT** support projects that focus solely on data capture.

## 3. FUNDING THE DATA LAB CONTRIBUTION

We will provide a **maximum of 50% funding**, contributing to the fees, stipend and additional funding for the Industrial Doctorate studentship, for up to four years in duration. The sponsoring organisations and university partners are responsible for the remaining 50% of funding for the fees, stipend and additional funding (for training and conferences etc.). **In-kind contributions** are expected but they will not count as a contribution to the funding. In-kind contributions could include staff time for mentoring and equipment.

### AMOUNT

The exact funding amount for the yearly stipend and any additional funding should be determined by the University and Industry Sponsors. We have made suggestions below.

Fees: RCUK Rates (per annum) *as determined by the registering university*

Stipend: up to £16,000 per annum

Additional Funding (Training & Conferences): up to £1,500 per annum.

MASTS Graduate School membership at £1,400 (per studentship payment)

MASTS PG Cert registration fees at £1,600 (per studentship payment)

We will only provide funding for fees at the designated EU-level. The successful Data Lab student will be enrolled as part of the MASTS PG Cert programme. Students will also be invited to attend all relevant The Data Lab-sponsored events.

#### **4. NUMBER OF PROJECTS TO BE AWARDED**

We would like to fund one Industrial Doctorate project. The award in this call will be determined by the merit (see 8. Award Criteria) of the Projects submitted.

#### **5. HOW TO APPLY**

Please complete and submit our online application form here:

<https://datalab.submittable.com/submit/98893/masts-industrial-doctorate-call>

You must submit your completed application form by 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (17:00).

#### **6. BUDGET BREAKDOWN FORM**

We require every submission to have a completed budget breakdown form which should be uploaded as part of the application. The template can be found in Appendix A.

#### **7. FINDING A UNIVERSITY / INDUSTRY SPONSOR**

If you have an idea for an Industrial Doctorate project but you do not yet have a University Partner or an Industry Sponsor, you can submit a form that outlines your idea. The Data Lab's Business Development Team will use this information to make relevant introductions. This will include a referral to [Interface](#). These applications will be shown to, but not reviewed by, the Reviewing Panel.

##### **UNIVERSITY SEEKING INDUSTRY SPONSOR**

Please complete and submit our Academic-only application form here:

<https://datalab.submittable.com/submit/70255/university-seeking-industry-sponsorindustrial-doctorate-projects>

##### **INDUSTRY SEEKING UNIVERSITY PARTNER**

Please complete and submit our Industry Sponsor-only application form here:

<https://datalab.submittable.com/submit/70256/industry-sponsor-seeking-university-partnerindustrial-doctorate-projects>



## PRIVATE OR PUBLISHED?

You can choose to have your proposed project details published on The Data Lab website so that prospective partners can view it.

## 8. TIMELINE

PROCESS	DATE
Call opens	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Call closes	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 5pm
Reviewing panel	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Final decision	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Start Date	Autumn 2018, TBC

## 9. AWARD CRITERIA

Projects will be reviewed against the following criteria:

**IMPACT** – The potential to contribute to a positive social and economic impact in Scotland.

**INNOVATION** – Projects must focus on innovation in or application of data science techniques.

**TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY** – The likelihood of technical success.

**ACADEMIC SUPPORT** – The quality of academic guidance and practical support offered by the University Partner.

**INDUSTRY SUPPORT** – Their commitment to the research project and the quality of practical support they provide.

**RELEVANCE TO MASTS** – The project must relate to Scottish marine science and MASTS Themes.

The projects will be scored and ranked with the highest scoring projects that pass the scoring threshold being offered funding until the available funding pot is fully allocated.

The decision of the Reviewing Panel is final without calls for dispute. The process followed and decisions taken by the Panel will be minuted.

## **10. REVIEWING PANEL**

The Reviewing Panel includes independent representatives from The Data Lab, MASTS, and Academia. Members will be selected from existing The Data Lab boards. The review panel may request further information on a Project or refer the application to other The Data Lab and partner funding opportunities. If a Reviewing Panel member has a conflict of interest relating to a project they will not be involved in any discussion, scoring or selection decision of that project.

## **11. FEEDBACK & RE-SUBMISSION**

We will provide feedback to all applicants and where appropriate, we will help promising applications make the necessary changes to their suggested projects to meet the criteria for funding.

## **12. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

Intellectual property arrangements will be agreed on a case by case between the University, Industry Sponsor and student.

## **13. CONTACT DETAILS**

If you have any questions relating to this call please contact The Data Lab at [skills@thedatalab.com](mailto:skills@thedatalab.com)



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	<b>University Contribution (£)</b>	<b>Company Contribution (£)</b>	<b>The Data Lab Funding (£)</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Stipend				
Fees				
Training & Conferences				
<i><b>In-kind support</b></i>				
Travel				
Supervision				
Overheads				
<b>TOTAL</b>				

## APPENDIX A - BUDGET BREAKDOWN FORM

