



**TU Dublin ARISE**

**Research and Innovation Supporting Enterprise**

**PhD Scholarship Scheme**

**2024**

Contents

TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarships 2024 .....3

Introduction .....3

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPERVISOR APPLICANTS.....6

Terms and Conditions of ALL TU Dublin Research Scholarships ..... 12

# TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarships 2024

## Introduction

**ARISE**, funded via the Technological University R&I Supporting Enterprise scheme, is designed to enable researchers at Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) to enhance and contribute to Ireland's innovation system. The scheme is co-financed by the Government of Ireland and the European Union through the ERDF Regional Programmes 2021-27.<sup>1</sup>

The ERDF aims to strengthen economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU and to create a smarter, more resilient Europe, a greener transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and sustainable, integrated development at a regional level. Close engagement between universities and enterprise is a key foundation of successful innovation systems.

In Ireland, regional programmes focus on strategic outcomes including smarter and more competitive regions and the aim of the TU R&I Supporting Enterprise scheme is to support research capacity building in the higher education technological sector, with a focus on enhancing engagement with regional enterprises. The scheme also aims to bring knowledge and expertise out of TUs and into the regions, generating opportunities for enterprises to draw on academic expertise and operates in two regions. TU Dublin is included in the Eastern and Midland Region (EMR) shown below in Figure 1 and further information on the region is available at <https://emra.ie/>



Figure 1. Configuration of the Regional Assemblies in Ireland available at <https://emra.ie/>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://eufunds.ie/european-regional-development-fund/erdf-2021-2027/>

ARISE is designed to unlock potential within TU Dublin, by providing additional capacity and supports for our R&I community to make their expertise available to enterprises in the EMR and across the priority sectors identified in the EMR Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy<sup>2</sup>:

- Biopharma, Life Sciences and Medical Technologies;
- Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering;
- Food, Agritech, Bioeconomy and Sustainability;
- ICT and Financial Services;
- Audio-visual, Creative and Cultural.

The purpose of TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarships is specifically to enhance our capability in areas that will stimulate engagement with enterprise in the region and are aligned to Ireland's Smart Specialisation Strategy.<sup>3</sup> Engagement with regional enterprise will be fostered through placement of PhD candidates in SMEs/industry relevant to their research.

ARISE offers PhD researchers the opportunity to gain valuable, industry-based experience while completing their research on a project that is use-inspired. PhD candidates will graduate with the ability to apply their deep domain knowledge, research and analytical capabilities and strong transversal skills to enhance the competitiveness of Irish enterprise. The scheme provides industry with the opportunity to build links with relevant TU Dublin research groups and access to high-calibre researchers.

The TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis and research proposals should be aligned to the university's ambition to "be known for the creation of new knowledge and the development of timely & practical solutions that address the UN SDGs." Proposals should also be aligned to the TU Dublin Research and Innovation Strategy 2023-2028, available at <https://www.tudublin.ie/research/discover-our-research/research-and-innovation-strategy/>, which specifies five research priority areas that are aligned to the EMR S3 priority sectors, Impact 2030 key challenges,<sup>4</sup> and the UN SDGs.<sup>5</sup> Our five research priority areas include:

- Health & Wellbeing for a Thriving Society,
- Transformative Digital Solutions,
- Sustainable Food Systems & Environmental Protection,
- Materials and Technologies for Sustainable Transformation

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<sup>2</sup> <https://emra.ie/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/innovation-research-development/smart-specialisation/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/27c78-impact-2030-irelands-new-research-and-innovation-strategy/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://sdgs.un.org/>

➤ Culture, Innovation & Inclusivity in a Changing Society

As part of the application process, applicants should make a concerted effort to identify and support indigenous enterprises that are led by women, by people with disabilities, and by people from minority backgrounds and applicants will also be asked to confirm compliance with each of the following:

- Equality and Human Rights Principle<sup>6</sup>
- Do No Significant Harm Principle<sup>7</sup>
- Smart Specialisation Strategy
- Public Procurement Policy<sup>8</sup>

Applicants will be required to assess the gender dimension of the proposed research work.

Awards will be made on the basis of excellence and subject to funding being available and TU Dublin reserves the right not to award all scholarships.

Students on the scholarship programme, in addition to their research, will attend training associated with the research programme approved by TU Dublin. Each PhD student will also need to spend 3 months on placement in an enterprise. In line with international practice to ensure wider dissemination of research to maximise its visibility, accessibility and scientific impact for society and the economy, TU Dublin supports free online open access to this body of work. Accordingly, TU Dublin requires self-archiving of research results by each researcher via the University repository, Arrow.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www.unfpa.org/resources/human-rights-principles#:~:text=No%20one%2C%20therefore%2C%20should%20suffer,established%20by%20human%20rights%20standards.>

<sup>7</sup> [chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcjpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-11/ESMA30-379-2281\\_Note\\_DNSH\\_definitions\\_and\\_criteria\\_across\\_the\\_EU\\_Sustainable\\_Finance\\_framework.pdf](https://efaidnbmnnnibpcjpcglclefindmkaj/https://www.esma.europa.eu/sites/default/files/2023-11/ESMA30-379-2281_Note_DNSH_definitions_and_criteria_across_the_EU_Sustainable_Finance_framework.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/c23f5-public-procurement-guidelines-for-goods-and-services/>

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
SUPERVISOR APPLICANTS**

## TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarship Scheme

The ***TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarship scheme*** is an initiative by which TU Dublin researchers can partner with enterprise and scholarships are available for 4 years full-time Doctoral-level study.

ARISE facilitates the establishment of new relationships and the strengthening of existing ones between enterprise and academia while offering financial support to researchers at an early stage of their career development.

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### DETAILS OF THE SCHEME

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Each award under the TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarship Scheme will include, for each of the four years of the full-time PhD:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Student stipend   | €25,000,  |
| Registration fees | €5,500  |
| Project Costs     | €2,000, (additional €1,500 provided in year 1 to cover the costs of a laptop) |
| Travel            | €1,000  |

Awards will be made on the basis of excellence and subject to funding being available. Awards will be reviewed and renewed annually, based on successful completion of annual evaluation by the research student.

Proposal should include details of the enterprise partner who will host the ARISE PhD student for a 3 months placement as part of their programme. It is anticipated that such placements will take place during the students' 2nd year of their PhD programme. Enterprise includes Multinationals, SMEs, Semi-state and other profit-oriented companies and also social enterprises, but excludes charities, NGOs, public sector bodies and Government departments.<sup>9</sup> The enterprise can be based in the Eastern & Midland region (preferred), the Southern region (permitted), but not in the Northern &

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<sup>9</sup> The enterprise is the smallest combination of legal units that is an organisational unit producing goods and services, which benefits from a certain degree of autonomy in decision making, especially for the allocation of its current resources. Enterprises are profit-oriented organisations that produce goods and services to satisfy market needs "a social enterprise is an operator in the social economy whose main objective is to have a social impact rather than make a profit for their owners or shareholders. It operates by providing goods and services for the market in an entrepreneurial and innovative fashion and uses its profits primarily to achieve social objectives. [TU RISE FAQ]

Western region or internationally

There will be a maximum of 25 awards, 5 in each of the priority areas identified in the EMR Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy:

- Biopharma, Life Sciences and Medical Technologies;
- Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering;
- Food, Agritech, Bioeconomy and Sustainability;
- ICT and Financial Services;
- Audio-visual, Creative and Cultural.

The university reserves the right to award as many of the twenty-five as appropriate.

All students will be recruited through open public competition and funding approval is required before public recruitment of the research student may commence. Recruitment of candidates for the approved project must be in line with the Graduate Research Regulations. Selection panels should be established, including all supervisors and an enterprise partner representative.



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## APPLICATION PROCESS

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The *TU Dublin ARISE PhD Scholarship Scheme Application Form* should be completed and sent as a PDF file to [research.scholarship@tudublin.ie](mailto:research.scholarship@tudublin.ie) by **12 noon (GMT), 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024**. The subject line of the email must read “ARISE - 2024”.

Applications are invited from all full-time and pro-rata researchers at TU Dublin. Applicants are encouraged to name a co-supervisor for the PhD project, and applications from supervisory teams promoting gender balance are welcomed. At least one of the proposed supervisors must hold a PhD qualification and have a contract of employment with TU Dublin that extends beyond the proposed thesis submission date.

Preference will be given to applications that already have the support of an eligible enterprise at the time of application. Applications should include a Letter of Support from the enterprise partner, including:

- Explicit commitment to host the PhD student for a 3 month placement, during Year 2, including a commitment to pay the student.
- A description of the activities (including training) the PhD student will undertake during the placement
- A description of the value to the enterprise of hosting the student for the placement

All applications received will be acknowledged by email within two working days. If no acknowledgement is received, the applicant is advised to contact [research.scholarship@tudublin.ie](mailto:research.scholarship@tudublin.ie).

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## ASSESSMENT

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All eligible applications will be assessed via a rigorous international peer-review process. Applications will be assessed and ranked based on the following criteria:

- **Quality of the proposed research and contribution to knowledge: 30%**  
Clarity and coherence of the proposed research project  
Suitability of research methodology including consideration of Equality and Human Rights Principle, Do No Significant Harm Principle, Smart Specialisation Strategy, State Aid Rules and Public Procurement Policy  
Feasibility and credibility of the proposed research plan in the proposed time period  
Originality and innovative nature
- **Strategic alignment 30 %**  
Applications should demonstrate alignment to relevant International, National or University policies such as UN Sustainable Development Goals, Impact 2030 key challenges, TU Dublin Research and Innovation Strategy 2023-2028 etc
- **Impact on Regional Enterprise: 30%**  
Applications should demonstrate the potential impact on enterprises in the relevant sector and EMR region. Applications should demonstrate alignment to Ireland's Smart Specialisation Strategy and EMR S3 priority sectors. Firstly, preference will be given to applications that already have the support of an eligible enterprise at the time of application. Secondly, preference will be given to applications with enterprise partners from the EMR
- **Dissemination Plans and Impact 10%**  
Plans on how the results of the project will be disseminated and the potential impact of the research nationally and internationally. Evidence of real thought as to why research is to be undertaken and the impact of the proposed research.

To be eligible for funding, applicants must achieve a threshold of at least 60% of the total marks available and, for each criterion, must achieve at least half of the available marks. Applicants will be awarded funding on the basis of their scores. **Late applications will not be accepted**

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## RESULTS

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Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by return email at the end of May 2024. As such, it is important to ensure that the email address provided for correspondence is accurate and current..

Students must be recruited and available to start on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. **There will be no extension to this date.** If a student has not been recruited by the above date, the offer of funding to the PI will be withdrawn. If the student cannot start by the above date, the offer to the student will be withdrawn.

PIs that are successful but that do not have enterprise support, will need to work with the ARISE team to identify and approach potential enterprises that will take the student on placement (i.e. the placement is a mandatory part of the scholarship). In such cases enterprise partners must have confirmed support before the student start date of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024.

Offers will also be withdrawn if there is any canvassing on behalf of the applicant and the student registration is not endorsed by the Head of School.

## **Terms and Conditions of ALL TU Dublin Research Scholarships**

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The following Terms and Conditions will apply to your scholarship in addition to any other terms and conditions from other funders, if appropriate:

1. The current edition of the TU Dublin Graduate Research Regulations will apply to all research students in receipt of scholarship support from TU Dublin.
2. Research students in receipt of funding must engage in all aspects of the research programme including the training elements.
3. Research students in receipt of a full stipend cannot receive any additional stipend supports.
4. Research students in receipt of funding must reside within Ireland for the duration of their studies. They must maintain an actual presence within their respective schools for the duration of their scholarship and reside within a reasonable travelling distance of the HEI.
5. Travel to conferences and short-term visits to other research organisations are encouraged but cannot exceed 3 months duration in a given year.
6. TU Dublin will appoint at least one academic supervisor from its full-time or pro-rata cohort of staff who will hold a qualification equivalent to, or higher than, the award being sought.
7. At least one of the academic supervisors must have previously supervised a student to completion for a qualification equivalent to, or higher than, the award being sought.
8. At least one of the academic supervisors must have a contract of employment with TU Dublin that extends beyond the thesis submission date of the student.
9. All new supervisors (i.e. those who have not previously supervised a research student to successful completion at the level of the award being sought) must within 12 months of the student's first registration undertake the Licence to Supervise course offered by the Graduate Research School Office. A suitably experienced advisory supervisor must also be appointed.

10. If appropriate, a research agreement including arrangements for intellectual property and confidentiality must be negotiated in advance of student registration. The TU Dublin Technology Transfer Office can provide advice on IP policies and procedures.
11. All proposed publications arising from the project must have the approval of the academic supervisor.
12. In so far as it is feasible, all publications must be lodged in TU Dublin's institutional repository ARROW.
13. TU Dublin reserves the right to suspend or terminate any scholarship and/or require reimbursement by the student of some or all payments if any of the terms and conditions as outlined here or any of the regulations of TU Dublin are breached.
14. All offers of awards must be accepted and students registered within 2 months of the offer being made and awards are not transferrable.
15. Non-EEA students must comply with all immigration regulations as determined by the Department of Justice and Law Reform.
16. There is no requirement to teach as part of any scholarship award at TU Dublin, and any additional duties such as teaching, tutoring or demonstration work must be appropriately remunerated and contribute to the professional development of the awardee.
17. Research students in receipt of funding must engage full-time in research, but are permitted to engage in additional duties such as teaching, tutoring or demonstration work at TU Dublin provided:
  - (a) the work does not take place in the first year of the awardee's programme,
  - (b) the work is relevant to the research project and consistent with the awardee's training and career development plan
  - (c) the awardee has the written permission of their academic supervisor
  - (d) the work does not exceed a total of 50 hours per academic term, including contact and non-contact hours, and does not prevent the awardee from carrying out their research activities

18. All project expenditure by research students and their supervisors must comply with TU Dublin procurement and financial policies and if relevant, policies of other funding agencies. Suppliers must be on the approved list of TU Dublin suppliers.

19. Only vouched expenses incurred in carrying out the research project during the agreed funding term are permissible and all claims must be submitted in a timely fashion. Students must have advance approval of supervisors for all expenditure.

20. Expenses may include:

- Project materials and consumables.
- Project equipment.
- Software and hardware critical for the proposed research.
- A maximum limit of €1,500 for computers or laptops and all peripherals applies, unless required for high-performance computing and all must be in line with TU Dublin IT procurement policy.
- Pay-as-you-go access to national research infrastructures.
- Archival research costs.
- Reasonable and vouched travel (use of own car without prior approval of the Head of the Graduate Research School and first class or business travel will not be considered).
- Reasonable and vouched hotel costs.
- Reasonable and vouched subsistence (all subsistence must be vouched and per diems will not be considered.) Subsistence claims cannot exceed and must be in line with Government rates.
- Registration costs for conferences/workshops/meetings directly related to the award.
- Normal (not emergency/express/priority) visa costs for travel to conferences/research events.
- Skills training directly related to the objective(s) of the award.
- Publishing and write-up costs, excluding professional proof-reading and/or editing costs.
- Reasonable travel and refreshment costs for subjects and volunteers in studies.

Expenses cannot include:

- Living and/or accommodation costs (e.g. rent).
- Study visa costs for Non-EU students (unless funding agency permits payment).
- Emergency, express or priority visa costs of any type.

- *A per diem* rate for conferences/workshops/meetings.
- Incentives such as cash or gift vouchers for subjects and volunteers in studies.
- Secretarial costs e.g. cost of interview transcription, professional proof-reading, editing etc.
- Payments to any 3<sup>rd</sup> party not on the TU Dublin Supplier List, apart from reasonable travel and refreshment costs for subjects and volunteers in studies.
- Use of own car, without prior approval of the Head of the Graduate Research School.
- First class or business travel.
- Alcohol