

Part of City St George's, University of London



MRC London Intercollegiate Doctoral Training Partnership

2025-26 MRC LID Studentships Online Application Form: Questions & Guidance

This document is to provide guidance and information to prospective applicants applying for the 2025-26 MRC LID Studentships. Applicants should read through the information provided on the MRC LID How to Apply page and this document before and during the application process.

This document covers the questions that are asked in the application form, and provides some guidance on what we are looking for in responses from applicants. Please also look at the MRC LID Applicant Guidance and FAQs document before completing and submitting your application.

Quick overview with in-document links

<u>Pre-application and general hints, tips and notes</u> <u>Applicant Details</u> (Name and Contact)

Part 1

- Studentship mode of study and route
- Research project
- Curriculum Vitae
 - o Qualifications and skills
 - o **Employment**
 - o **Publications**
 - o Referees

Part 2

- Nationality and residency
- Fees assessment information
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and widening participation monitoring
- DTP-specific evaluation and feedback

Part 3

Applicant declaration

<u>Post-application general hints, tips and notes</u> Overview of application process timeline

Application Form Questions & Guidance

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Pre-application: General)

Throughout this document,

- MRC LID online application form text (headings, text and questions) is shown in green/turquoise.
- MRC LID (Doctoral Training Programme) tips, hints and notes text is in blue and black.

The link to the application is on our MRC LID How to Apply page.

You do not have to complete our application in a single visit. The system allows for 'Save and Return' as long as you save the return code provided before closing the application. REDCap Surveys – the system we are using for our application form – can send an email out with the application URL (you will be prompted for this) but it will not send the code by email. You must copy and save this from the web page before you close it. Applicants need both of these to return to their application.

Each scholarship is worth more than GBP 125,000.00 and competition for this scheme is fierce. Make sure that you have followed pre-application steps and guidance documents, answered questions asked as fully as possible, and submitted all required documentation.

Remember that those reviewing and scoring your application will not necessarily be experts in the same field. Please ensure that your application is suitable for a non-specific audience. Where more field-specific information is provided (for example, in your project proposal) you should include appropriate good quality science (methodology etc), but you need to explain it clearly too for the non-specialist reviewers.

Applications will be rejected where applicants do not meet the minimum eligibility criteria. Applications may also be rejected application is incomplete (where information or attachments are missing or what is provided is incomplete or insufficient).

Part 1 responses and uploads will be sent out to various academic panels for assessment and scoring.

Parts 2 and 3 responses and uploads will be kept separate from the rest of the application form, used for administration and aggregated data purposes only, and stored securely for the duration of this studentship scheme (for 7 years after the end date of the grant).

APPLICANT NAME & EMAIL

- 1. First or Given Name
- 2. Last or Family Name
- 3. Email address

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 1-3)

First or Given Name and Last or Family Name

Please give us your name as you like to be called. For example, if your name is Katherine but you prefer people to call you Katie please note Katie under the 'First or Given Name' section. In Part 2 of the form you will be asked to provide your full, formal (or official) name as it shows on official documents (for example, a birth certificate or passport).

If you only have one name please type '-' in the First or Given Name section and note your name in the Last or Family Name section.

Email address

Please type this very carefully, as this is only one of two instances where we are collecting contact details from you. The Application (survey) has been set up with as much anonymisation as possible, which means we have no way to identify and contact you in the system outside of this.

If there is a typing error in this section it may be that we are unable to communicate with you and will therefore have to withdraw your application, which would be unfortunate.

Please take a minute to double-check this has been entered correctly. If, after you have submitted your application, you realise you've made an error and can't update it (for example, because the application deadline has passed), please send an email to MRC LID: mrclid@lshtm.ac.uk to explain, and to advise that your email address needs to be updated/corrected on your application. (Please include your full name, as you've used on the application form, and date/time of submission in your email).

PART 1: STUDENTSHIP, PROJECT, AND CURRICULUM VITAE INFORMATION

STUDENTSHIP MODE OF STUDY & ROUTE

- 4. Proposed mode of study
 - a. Full-time
 - b. Part-time
- 5. Proposed studentship route
 - a. +4 route
 - b. 1+4 route
 - 1+4 route potential Master's programme
 - City St George's MSc Applied Biomedical Science
 - City St George's MRes Biomedical Science Antimicrobial Resistance
 - City St George's MRes Biomedical Science Clinical Biomedical Research
 - City St George's MRes Biomedical Science Infection and Immunity
 - City St George's MRes Biomedical Science Molecular Mechanisms of Cancer
 - City St George's MRes Biomedical Science Reproduction and Development
 - City St George's Data Science
 - City St George's MSc Genomic Medicine
 - City St George's MSc Global Health
 - City St George's MSc Global Health and Conflict
 - City St George's MSc Global Health and Humanities
 - City St George's MSc Global Health and Mental Health
 - City St George's MSc Global Health, Ethics and Law
 - City St George's MSc Global Health, Infection and Immunity
 - City St George's MA Medical Ethics, Law and Humanities
 - City St George's MRes/MSc Translational Medicine
 - LSHTM MSc Climate Change & Planetary Health

- LSHTM MSc Control of Infectious Diseases
- LSHTM MSc Demography & Health
- LSHTM MSc Epidemiology
- LSHTM MSc Global Mental Health
- LSHTM MSc Health Data Science
- LSHTM MSc Health Policy, Planning & Financing
- LSHTM MSc Immunology of Infectious Diseases
- LSHTM MSc Medical Microbiology
- LSHTM MSc Medical Parasitology & Entomology
- LSHTM MSc Medical Statistics
- LSHTM MSc Nutrition for Global Health
- LSHTM MSc One Health: Ecosystems, Humans and Animals
- LSHTM MSc Public Health
- LSHTM MSc Public Health for Eye Care
- LSHTM MSc Public Health for Global Practice
- LSHTM MSc Reproductive & Sexual Health Research
- LSHTM MSc Tropical Medicine & International Health
- LSHTM MSc Veterinary Epidemiology
- Any other Master's course offered at City St George's or LSHTM
 - a. If Other, which programme (specify institution too)

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 4-5)

Proposed Mode of Study

All projects offered are offered at full-time mode. Some projects are not suitable for part-time study, due to the nature of research. Please see the web page for your proposed project, which will highlight whether it is available for part-time study or not.

Full-time (FT) = 40 hours per week (equivalent to a full time, 5-day-a-week job) Part-time (PT) = exactly 50% of FTE (approx. 20 hours, or 2.5 days, per week). No other variations are available.

Proposed Studentship Route

MRC LID offers two routes: 1+4 and +4.

(a) +4 - PhD Programme

The 4-year PhD programme is for students with relevant Master's or equivalent training. Students will apply for specific research projects at the outset and will be expected to take some taught modules (usually during Year 1 or 2), to widen and deepen their knowledge and understanding of their field.

(b) 1+4 years – MSc and PhD Programme

1+4 awards may be made to applicants showing potential, who require a Master's qualification. Students will apply for a research project, but will undertake a Master's programme before beginning their research degree. Students on this scheme are required to pass their Master's programme in order to progress to the PhD programme. The Master's programme will be based at either of the partner institutions (LSHTM or CSG). Usually, the Master's programme offered will be of direct relevance to the research project and MRC LID themes.

The 1+4 route is only available to those who need it for their selected research degree programme. All applicants whose prior studies and trajectory would allow them to start their PhD without further study should apply for the +4 route.

Applicants who select the 1+4 route should select the potential Masters programmes they would consider applying for (if their MRC LID application is successful). Please discuss suitable options with your prospective supervisory team before making your selection.

There is no limit to the number of options you can select. Be wise – choose those where you will need the skills learned/developed for your proposed project and don't yet have them.

The 'Other' option on the list is to allow for any LSHTM and CSG Master's programmes that we may have missed in our list. Programmes at other institutions are unlikely to be considered for funding.

Both (a) and (b): all routes

All students, regardless of route, will also have opportunities to gain new skills to allow them to undertake multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary research, and are required to undertake a required 3-month placement or internship which is not directly related to their PhD research (ideally in Year 2 or 3), as part of this programme.

Studentship routes are shown at FTE (time for full-time studies). Part-time study may be available, depending on the nature of the project chosen. If part-time study the route name remains the same, but the time taken would be at the part-time rate. For example, the 1+4 route taken part-time would be the equivalent to 2 years to complete a Master's + 8 years to complete a PhD.

PROJECT

6. First choice project

- (Atkins & Hue) Understanding the impact of vaccination on the spread of antibiotic resistance using phylogenetics
- (Barrick & Isaacs & Howe) Prediction of dementia from populationwide neuroimaging data using novel brain age techniques
- (Bull & Kipkorir & Saldana) Defining chronic intracellular mechanisms of persistence driving mycobacterial disease
- (Campino & Clark) Understanding the evolution of antimalarial drug and insecticide resistance: Insights from genomic and epigenomic approaches
- (Carroll & Pittman) Advancing genotype-phenotype correlations with Multiplex Assays of Variant Effect
- (Carroll & Paixao Cruz) The impact of Caesarean section on childhood health
- (Chong & Friedland) Trained immunity, tissue destruction and novel approaches to treatment in Tuberculosis
- (Clark & Campino) Advancing neglected Plasmodium genomics through cutting-edge sequencing and Al-driven approaches to strengthen malaria control strategies
- (Critchley & Donin & Doyle) Nutrition and cardiovascular risk reduction for youth in Zimbabwe
- (Foss & Ismail) Developing a health-specific framework to validate system dynamics and agent-based models used in public health modelling
- (Free & Khalil & Lewin) Risk prediction models for adverse pregnancy outcomes amongst at risk pregnant women

- (Furnham & Wall) Understanding drug resistance in key
 Mycobacterium tuberculosis drug targets using multiplex saturation
 mutagenesis and AI protein large language models
- (Groppelli & Ma) Development of a novel and affordable vaccine for worldwide elimination of hepatitis A virus
- (Hargreaves & Longley & Seedat) Evaluating the burden and risk factors of infectious diseases among newly arrived migrants in the UK, and exploring healthcare models to enhance infectious disease prevention
- (Harris-Fry & Powell-Jackson) Cumulative effects of gender inequality on chronic disease and mortality risk across the life course
- (Harrison & Molloy & Jarvis) The epidemiology and dynamics of antifungal resistant Candida acquisition and transmission within ICU settings in high burden Southern African countries
- (Hilpert & Osborn & Nothurfft) Activity and toxicity of Al-driven antimicrobial peptides against WHO priority pathogens
- (Hodgson & Kucharski) Modelling the kinetics of immunity to influenza and SARS-CoV-2 in different populations
- (Kim & Reyes-Aldasoro & Barrick) Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to identify novel biomarkers for ageing
- (Knight & Moore & Waterlow) Antimicrobial resistance: what happens with age and by sex?
- (Kucharski & Lowe) Combining epidemiological, immunological and climatic data to understand and predict vector-borne epidemics
- (Le Doare & Groppelli & Sanchez Clemente) Mpox in Uganda: establishing existing immunity and characterising the immunological response to vaccination in pregnant women
- (Lindsay & Knight) Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) gene transfer in Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA): mechanisms and dynamics using clinical isolates
- (Matthewman & Langan) Long-term safety of glucocorticoids across treatments modalities
- (McCreesh & Clark & White) Effect of heterogeneity in vaccine hesitancy on the impact of tuberculosis vaccines in South Africa
- (McQuaid & Saunders & Houben) Epidemiological modelling of the impact and mitigation of climate change on tuberculosis
- (Moore & Waterlow & Clark) The prevalence of antibiotic resistance and antibiotic use in patients with bacterial infections over fifteen years (2010-2025) and interactions with demographic indicators and climate change globally
- (Moreira Pescarini & Sanchez Clemente & Pearce) Differential impacts of climate on health among migrant and ethnic minoritised groups in the UK and Brazil
- (Morris & Bowen & Bhaskaran) Assessing the safety of antibiotics for urinary tract infections in pregnancy using routinely collected data
- (Murphy & Perel & Sadique) Cost effectiveness and value of implementation of a hypertension management programme in sub-Saharan Africa
- (Osborn & Chong) Developing a novel model of mycobacterial infection to study human granulomatous disease
- (Paixao Cruz & Moreira Pescarini & Cerqueira Silva) Maternal Tuberculosis and offspring health: a nationwide study in Brazil

- (Pembrey & Rutter & Cooper) Sex differences in asthma in children and adolescents
- (Reljic & Wasserman & Jarvis & Lai) Characterising infection immunity and pharmacokinetics in HIV-associated pneumocystis pneumonia
- (Sadiq & Reljic) The role of non-genital Chlamydia trachomatis infection in autoimmunity
- (Sofat & Chikh & Westaby) Unravelling novel signalling pathways for inflammation in osteoarthritis development and pain
- (Staines & Krishna) Developing novel diagnostics for the management of Dengue fever in a new era of pandemic preparedness
- (Sumner & Clark) Assessing tuberculosis vaccine efficacy using subclinical disease outcomes
- (Sviderskaya & Korchev & Laing) A new approach to understanding the role of tumour microenvironment in anticancer drug resistance
- (Tazare & McDonald & Williamson) High-dimensional approaches for addressing confounding in vaccine research using routinely collected electronic health data
- (Teh & Reljic) Developing Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines in stable Nicotiana tabacum: Advancing plant-based solutions for accessible immunisation
- (Wilbur & Polack & Greenland) Bridging the menstrual health gap: Developing and validating tools to assess menstrual health in individuals with learning
- 7. Project research proposal
- 8. Project proposal upload (optional)
- 9. What have you selected this project?
- 10. How will this PhD prepare you for your intended future career?
- 11. Is there anything else you would like us to know that may help us better evaluate your application?
- 12. Are you interested in any other projects (2nd & 3rd choice)?
 - a. Yes
- Second choice project from MRC LID Projects List (same list of options as for First choice project)
- Third choice project from MRC LID Projects List (same list of options as for First choice project)
- b. No

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 6-12)

Initially, and before selecting a project or answering these questions, we'd encourage you to watch the recordings provided (Applicant Workshop and project-specific). Once you have selected your project (and watched the project record, and read the materials provided) you should contact the supervisory team.

First choice project

Further information about each project is available on the MRC LID Projects page.

Applicants to this scheme must select a project from the available list on the MRC LID pages only.

Project Research Proposal upload

In order to be considered for MRC LID Studentship funding applicants must upload a project proposal for their first-choice project. This must develop the project outline provided for the advertised project, and it must be in your own words. Anyone who uploads the advertised project, or copies and pastes it directly into their upload document, will have their application automatically rejected.

Applicants can get further information about the research proposal format and content from

- MRC LID Applicant Guidance & FAQs (link available on the <u>How to Apply</u> page).
- Applicant Workshop recordings (link available on the How to Apply page).
- Proposed Project Supervisory Team.

We suggest that (a) you read through the relevant sections of the Applicant Guidance & FAQs, which will provide you with comprehensive information about this requirement, and (b) look at some past examples of research proposals shared by our students, before you start you research project proposal draft.

You should draft your research proposal in Word (or similar). This will allow you to share the draft with your proposed supervisory team, and to make as many amendments as you need to (following discussions etc) more easily. You should make sure that the version you submit is the final version, though – without comments or tracking.

You should bear in mind that the entire proposal – including any supplementary information and references - should not exceed the equivalent of $3 - 3\frac{1}{2}$ pages of A4. (Aim for approximately 1,500 words in total, which is equivalent to 3 pages of A4 with Arial Font 11. Please make sure that your name is clearly labelled on the upload document (preferably on each page) and the research project title.)

CONTEXTUAL QUESTIONS

MRC LID is committed to recruiting a diverse student cohort. We value the academic and non-academic experiences people bring to our community, and appreciate that a standard scholarship application may not address the personal and professional progression routes of our applicants. Please use the questions below to tell us more about yourself: your skills, professional and lived experience, personal attributes, motivation, and any other relevant information which makes you suitable for PhD study. We are particularly interested in any information that is not collected elsewhere on this application, or details that will enhance and highlight other information provided.

Why have you selected this project?

Approximately 100 words maximum limit, so you will need to be clear and concise. This is a contextual question, which is scored. The assessors want to know why this project is the right project for you? What makes it a good match? Another way to look at this might be to consider the relevant experiences (academic, foundational, lived, professional) that have prepared you for this project?

How will this PhD prepare you for your intended future career?

Approximately 100 words maximum limit, so you will need to be clear and concise. This is a contextual question, which is scored. The assessors want to understand better your potential and the trajectory of your learning and career (and how this project might fit into that). Reviewers are not necessarily experts in this area, and will not be making any judgement calls about pre-selection career choices. Instead, here they want you to clearly identify and explain any connections between your selected PhD project and your future career plans.

Is there anything else you would like us to know that may help us better evaluate your application?

Approximately 100 words maximum limit, so you will need to be clear and concise. This is a contextual question. Applicants can choose to skip this question. However, if you think there is information that the assessors should know, and you are comfortable sharing it, then please feel free to use this space.

Second and/or third choice project options

In the event that a number of excellent candidates are short-listed for the same project the MRC LID Board may consider other project options. Please indicate up to 2 other projects you would be interested in on the application form. Please consider your choices carefully as these cannot be changed once projects have been awarded. Please be aware that applicants will only be short-listed on the basis of their first-choice project.

If you indicate that you would be interested in selecting second and third choice options you will see the project list again (as it was under 'First choice project').

CV: QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

13. Pre-University Education

UNDERGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS (BACHELOR'S OR EQUIVALENT)

Undergraduate Studies 1

- 14. Stage
- 15. From (initial registration date)
- 16. To (completion date)
- 17. Qualification (e.g. BA or BSc)
- 18. Subject (official degree programme name)
- 19. University/Institution Name
- 20. University/Institution Location (Town/City, Country)
- 21. Mode of Study
- 22. Programme Type
- 23. Final result degree classification (e.g. 2.1) or final overall grade (e.g. CPGA)
- 24. Additional information for assessors
- 25. Undergraduate Qualification Transcript (or interim transcript) upload
- 26. Undergraduate Qualification Certificate upload
- 27. Undergraduate Qualification Transcript and Certificate Translations upload
- 28. Do you have a second undergraduate programme to add?
 - a. Yes
- Undergraduate Studies 2 (Questions 14-27 repeated for second qualification)
- b. No

POSTGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS (MASTER'S OR EQUIVALENT, OR HIGHER)

- 29. Have you ever started a research degree (PhD/Doctorate) that you have not completed?
 - a. Yes
- If yes, please provide information about each occurrence.
- b. No

- 30. Are you currently registered for, and/or have you completed, any postgraduate studies?
 - a. Yes Progress to Questions 31-45
 - b. No Progress to Question 46

Postgraduate Studies 1

- 31. Stage
- 32. From (initial registration date)
- 33. To (completion date)
- 34. Qualification (e.g. MA/MSc/MRes/PhD)
- 35. Subject (official degree programme name)
- 36. University/Institution Name
- 37. University/Institution Location (Town/City, Country)
- 38. Mode of Study
- 39. Programme Type
- 40. Final result degree classification (e.g. Pass) or final overall grade (e.g. CPGA)
- 41. Additional information for assessors
- 42. Postgraduate Qualification Transcript (or interim modules and results) upload
- 43. Postgraduate Qualification Certificate upload
- 44. Postgraduate Qualification Transcript and Certificate Translations upload
- 45. Do you have a second postgraduate programme to add?
 - a. Yes
- Postgraduate Studies 2 (Questions 31-44 repeated for second qualification)
- b. No Progress to Question 46

OTHER RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

46. Do you have any other skills and experience in place of or alongside your qualifications which should be taken into account (excluding roles that will be covered under the Employment section of the application)?

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 13-46)

UKRI, which funds MRC LID, is moving towards narrative CVs for grants. This may be something you wish to investigate further as you progress through your research career. However, MRC LID is using a more standard Curriculum Vitae format to support all applicants at this early research stage to share their history, trajectory and potential with the assessment panels.

MRC LID has offered studentships to a wide range of applicants, with very different study opportunities and experiences. To accommodate the variety of options this section of the application form is quite large. Please do not be overwhelmed by it. It is the only way we can provide a standardised Curriculum Vitae format which can accommodate a variety of experiences (from prospective applicants at the very start of their journey through to those with more qualifications and/or different work experiences).

Pre-University Education

This section should briefly note qualifications at the level used to enter Higher Education at undergraduate level (for example, A levels or International Baccalaureate). Please do not enter any other details of qualifications and subjects studied before university.

The format to use is:

Award Year; Qualification, Subject & Grade/Score, School/College, Town/City, Country

Undergraduate Qualifications (Bachelor's or equivalent)

MRC LID Funding is for postgraduate research (PGR) study at LSHTM or CSG.

PGR study at either of these partner institutions requires applicants to hold, or expect to hold, an undergraduate qualification, or equivalent by 1 September 2025. Therefore, to meet institutional minimum eligibility criteria, this is the only qualification that <u>must</u> be completed by all applicants. Please note that for some projects and institutions other formal qualifications will also be required. See your selected project's web page for more details. The information you submit on your application in this section should only be for qualifications leading to an undergraduate degree, not another qualification level e.g. diploma.

Stage: Ongoing = if you are still registered for the programme of study, with more study and assessments to come, and the course end date is in the future.

End Date: Any current study programme should be completed before the start of the MRC LID Studentships in September 2025. (There is a pop-up warning about this if your course end date is planned for after 1 September 2025, but it should still allow you to proceed as some courses only finish in late September each year.)

Subject (official degree programme name): Should show the name as it would be on an official transcript or certificate (for example, History of Fine Art).

University/Institution Name: Should show the full, official name of the institution (for example, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

University/Institution Location: Should show the town/city and country where you were based and registered.

Final result: If you are currently registered for ongoing studies, please leave this section empty until it is confirmed by your university on the transcript. Please do not use anticipated final classification or grade.

Additional information for assessors: This is an opportunity for you to highlight any factors that you feel have had an impact on your academic and/or professional career to date. Details provided will be made available for our academic team to view and take into consideration when assessing your application.

Please use this section for any additional information, including but not limited to

- Context for your final result (for example the total maximum CGPA from your institution or a NARIC equivalence).
- Briefly highlight key modules/skills/grade(s), if appropriate.
- And contextual information or mitigating circumstances that should be considered in relation to this record.
- You may also choose to use this space to describe any of the barriers you have faced during your education and how you have overcome them.

There is room to enter details for up to two undergraduate qualifications on the application form. Please use the same guidance notes as above for completing a second record (if appropriate).

Undergraduate Qualification Uploads

Applicants must upload at least one undergraduate transcript or interim transcript. (Two if two undergraduate qualifications have been noted.)

Where an undergraduate programme has been completed MRC LID expects that both the transcript and certificate will be uploaded (and a translation where the original documents are not in English or the translation is not integrated).

Please do not upload documents that have not been requested (for example, certificates for attendance on courses; diplomas; references etc). These will be removed from your application before it is sent off for assessment. Any unrequested uploads will not help your application, but they will cause unnecessary administrative work. Please only upload what has been requested here.

Postgraduate Qualifications (Master's or equivalent, or higher)

If you have started a research degree that you have not completed (and it isn't ongoing), please provide the MRC LID review panels with more details. The information to provide for each occurrence is:

- University/Institution (with location as Town/City, Country)
- Proposed qualification you were working towards
- Research project title
- Dates of study
- Reason(s) for withdrawal/non-completion.

See Undergraduate Qualification section above for further details on how to fill in each section.

There is room to enter details for up to two postgraduate qualifications on the application form.

CV: EMPLOYMENT

Post 1

- 47. Post/Job Title
- 48. Contract Type
- 49. From (Start date)
- 50. To (End date)
- 51. Mode (FT/PT)
- 52. Mode (Location)
- 53. Employer Name
- 54. Employer Address
- 55. Brief details of work and responsibilities
- 56. Another employment record to add?
 - a. Yes
- Post 2 (Questions 47-56 repeated for second employment record)
- Available to be repeated for a further 5 or 6 occurrences.
- b. No Progress to Question 57
- 57. Please note here details of any other employment, voluntary posts, or research experience that you think the assessors should be aware of.

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 47-57)

This page can be skipped over if you have not had any formal employment before, unless you wish to provide details of voluntary posts or research experience in the question at the bottom of this page.

There are up to 7 records available for applicants to use to note down their employment.

When an applicant has more than 7 employment records they should use this section to show the most recent and most relevant. Ideally, we'd be looking for your Qualifications and Employment records to cover the past 4 years in detail, including periods out of study and work noted.

Please help those assessing your application by ordering your employment history logically as you enter in on the form (ideally working chronologically from today/now going backwards).

To (End date): This should be left blank for ongoing roles (unless the contract is fixed term and you have a future end-date set already).

Employer Address: Please note the physical address, including town/city and country. The local address should be used where the employer has regional and/or multinational offices. Please do not use a postal-only address (e.g. PBag or PO Box).

Details of any other employment, voluntary posts, or research experience that you think the assessors should be aware of.

The next section of the application form deals with publications. However, it may be useful, in this section, to provide an overview of any research - mentioning the role you played and describing your research findings (as this is likely to be more useful to those who are reviewing your application than a list of publications).

CV: PUBLICATIONS

58. Publications

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Question 58)

Applicants should skip over this section if they have no publications, preprints or presentations to report. MRC LID expects that many applicants will skip this because publications are strongly dependent on education/career stage and level of opportunity.

Where you do share publications, please give the full author list, title of the work and journal/preprint server in which it was published. If available, please also give an electronic link to the publication. Please do not include papers in preparation, but you can list papers which have been submitted for publication, if available.

CV: REFEREES

Referee 1

59. First or Given Name

60. Last or Family Name

61. Position/Job Title

- 62. Employer/Institution
- 63. Work contact email address
- 64. Contact telephone number
- 65. Employer physical address

Referee 2 (Questions 59-65 repeated)

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 59-65)

Please provide the names and contact details of two referees. Referees selected should be able to comment authoritatively on your academic performance and suitability for doctoral study. These should normally be from tutors on your undergraduate or postgraduate taught course who have direct knowledge of your work. Where appropriate, should be a current course director or tutor. It is strongly recommended that neither of the references be written by the applicant's prospective supervisor. It is accepted that some students may have undertaken relevant professional work where the referees would be better able to comment on their suitability for undertaking research instead.

You are not required to submit reference letters for this application. Instead, MRC LID will contact referees directly. Please note: Referees will be contacted only if/where an applicant is short-listed for interview, and accepts the invitation to attend. At that stage, MRC LID would expect you to have liaised with your referees so that they are aware that we may contact them for a reference for you (in preparation for interview). Please ensure that the email address you use for referees is their professional one (ideally linked to their organisation/institution).

Contact Telephone Number: If outside the UK this should include BOTH country and area codes.

Employer Physical Address: Please include Building/Number, Street Name, Town/City, Postcode/ZIP, Country

PART 2: FEE STATUS ASSESSMENT + EDI & WIDENING PARTICIPATION MONITORING + FEEDBACK

The questions and answers in this section of the application form will be kept separate from the rest of your application form, stored securely with limited access, and will not be available to those on review and/or shortlisting panels.

The information shared will only be used to monitor and improve our policies and to assess and deliver appropriate support. The data will be kept for the duration of the studentship scheme.

Applicant responses are valuable to the DTP as they signal if/where there is any form of structural, systemic or policy-driven exclusion and discrimination. Less missing data leads to a more complete overall picture (which will guide discussions and changes). However, we appreciate that some applicants may not feel able to share safely and confidently. Please check the 'Prefer not to say' or 'Information refused' option if you do not wish to disclose specific information in each section. Any sections left uncompleted will be considered as 'Information refused'.

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes

The answers in this section of the application form will be kept separate from the rest of the application form.

Individual applicant data will not be available to the assessment and review panels.

Data will be collected and stored securely by Registry teams at LSHTM and/or CSG in line with the UK <u>Equality Act 2010</u> and <u>Data Protection Act 2018</u> (GDPR legislation).

Access to individual, named records is limited to a small number of administrative staff (usually those in the Registry Scholarships team/s, who administer the paperwork during each recruitment round). The funding administration team will anonymise and aggregate the data provided. Where total data falls below the minimum threshold of 10, data will be further aggregated before being shared (to avoid identifying data). This anonymised and aggregated data is provided to the MRC LID Board, DTP partner institutions (LSHTM and CSG), and UKRI to provide an overview of cohort trends and to support year-on-year comparisons. It is used only to monitor our recruitment opportunities, determine how we can alter our policies and procedures to be more equitable, and to assess and deliver better support to applicants and students.

The MRC LID Privacy statement is available on the MRC LID Terms & Conditions page.

APPLICANT DETAILS

- 66. All Given Names (official)
- 67. All Last or Family Names (official)
- 68. Date of Birth
- 69. Age at time of application
- 70. Current Contact Address
- 71. Permanent Contact Address (if living away from home e.g. for studies)

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 66-71)

This information will form the basis for your official studentship applicant record.

Addresses: Please provide Building/Number, Street Name, Town/City, Postcode/ZIP Code, Country

If your address changes over the time of your MRC LID application (or award) you should update it by emailing mrclid@lshtm.ac.uk to advise of the changes.

NATIONALITY & RESIDENCY

- 72. Country of birth
- 73. Country of Nationality 1
- 74. Do you hold dual nationality?
 - a. Yes
- Country of Nationality 2
- b. No
- 75. Country of Residence
- 76. Is this your country of permanent residence?

- a. Yes
- b. No
 Please confirm your country of permanent residence

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 72-76)

Country of birth: Country of birth is the country in which a person was born. This is different to nationality which is the country or countries where a person can have a legal status, although they may not reside in that country. There are times when someone is not born in a country (for example, at sea). In this situation the country where the birth is registered is usually used. Country of birth does not change, except as a result of an international boundary change. For example, Czechoslovakia, where people could be born in Czechoslovakia, the Czech Republic or Slovakia, but their nationality will be one of the last two as the first no longer exists.

Nationality: Nationality of a country is a legal status that usually gives a person a particular set of rights relating to that country. It can be possible for someone to have two or more nationalities, often referred to as dual or multiple nationality. Nationality can change over time if new citizenship is gained, meaning it is a changeable measure. Nationality reflects an individual's choice to become a citizen as well as their ability and eligibility to do so. (Citizenship is a status that identifies a person's formal membership of a state, entitling them to hold a country's passport.)

Residence: This is where you normally reside, apart from temporary or occasional absences. Please read up about <u>'ordinary residence' as set out on the UKCISA</u> pages, as this is what should be considered when you are completing this section of the form.

Permanent residence: This is where you have the right to live, work and study without time limit or visa.

This section will also be used to determine whether you are eligible for an institutional fee bursary in addition to an MRC LID Studentship (only available to applicants who are nationals of and resident in low- to middle-income countries, as defined by the World Bank).

FEE STATUS ASSESSMENT

This information will be used only by the MRC LID Manager and LSHTM and City St George's (CSG) administrative colleagues trained to make fee assessments as set out by the UK government.

77. Have you lived in the UK (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland) since birth?

- a. Yes Progress to Question 78
- b. No
- Have you ever lived in the UK?
 - No Progress to Question 78
 - Yes
 - a. Where did you live before moving to the UK?
 - b. When did you move to the UK to live?
 - c. Do you have right of residence (leave to remain) in the UK for any other reason than a current study visa?
 - i. No Progress to Question 78
 - ii. Yes
 - Please confirm which of these applies

- Indefinite Leave to Enter or Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) meeting UK residency requirements ('two-year rule')
- EU Pre-settled Status
- EU Settled Status
- Spousal/Family Residency Status
- Refugee Status
- Other (Please provide more information).
- Please provide documentary evidence of this status upload

78. Passport photo page upload

- 79. In summary, and to support UKRI classification for fee status assessment:
 - a. I am a UK national who meets UK residency requirements.
 - b. I am a UK national who does not meet UK residency requirements (absences were not temporary/ordinary residence was not maintained).
 - c. I am an EU national who has UK settled status.
 - d. I am an EU national who has pre-settled status and meets UK residency requirements.
 - e. I am a non-UK national, who has indefinite leave to remain or enter.
 - f. I am an Irish national.
 - g. I am classed as an International student by UKRI (because none of the above options apply).
- 80. Therefore, based on <u>UKCISA Fee Status Assessment information</u> and my particular situation. I have assessed my fee status to be
 - a. Home (UK) fee status
 - b. International (overseas) fee status

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 77-80)

This information will be used to make fee assessments. This is important because MRC LID is limited to making up to TWO awards per year to international applicants.

We will be using the information you provide here, and from the sections above, to assess your information within criteria set by the UK government and UKRI

- UKCISA Fee Status Assessment for UK
- UKRI DTP Studentship Awards assessment

Fee assessment can be very clear (for example, for those who have lived in the UK since birth or those who have never lived in the UK). But it can also be extremely complex (for example, for UK nationals who have not lived in the UK for some time), and each applicant has a far clearer picture of their history than we can gather from a studentship application. Where our assessment differs from yours we may need to contact you for more information and documentation to understand better.

Indefinite Leave to Remain or Enter: People who have indefinite leave to remain (ILR) are subject to a 'two-year' rule meaning that they lose the right to live permanently in the UK if they have been out of the country for two years or more. Indefinite leave to enter is different,

meaning that there is no time limit on entering and living in the UK (although time outside of the UK may affect a fee assessment).

Irish Nationals: Eligibility is derived from the UK Ireland Common Travel Area Agreement.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION MONITORING

Please see our Applicant Guidance document to understand why we are asking these questions and what the DTP Manager will do with the information shared.

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes

Historically, MRC LID has not had a particularly good record of recruiting students from under-represented and non-traditional backgrounds. In 2019 MRC LID created a new EDI strategy and started using a number of initiatives to rectify this. (More information is available on our <u>EDI page</u>.)

The data collected in this section will be used to review the interventions, and determine future policies and initiatives.

We hope you will find the questions asked are respectful and give you the opportunity to reflect who you are, but if we have inadvertently failed or you think we could do better please let us know (email: mrclid@lshtm.ac.uk).

- 81. Sex
 - a. Male
 - b. Female
 - c. Information refused
- 82. Which of the following best describe your identity?
 - a. Man
 - b. Non-binary
 - c. Woman
 - d. Prefer to self-describe (please describe)
 - e. Prefer not to say
- 83. Do you identify as trans?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
- 84. Sexual orientation
 - a. Bi/bisexual
 - b. Gay man
 - c. Gay woman/lesbian
 - d. Heterosexual
 - e. I identify in another way (please describe)
 - f. Prefer not to say
- 85. Racial ethnicity and cultural heritage
 - a. Asian Bangladeshi or Bangladeshi British
 - b. Asian Chinese or Chinese British
 - c. Asian Indian or Indian British
 - d. Asian Pakistani or Pakistani British
 - e. Any other Asian background
 - f. Black African or African British
 - g. Black Caribbean or Caribbean British

- h. Any other Black background
- i. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White or White British and Asian or Asian British
- j. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White or White British and Black African or Black African British
- k. Mixed or multiple ethnic groups White or White British and Black Caribbean or Black Caribbean British
- I. Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background
- m. White English, Scottish, Welsh, Northern Irish or British
- n. White Gypsy or Irish Traveller
- o. White Irish
- p. White Roma
- q. Any other White background
- r. Arab
- s. Hispanic
- t. Latina/Latino/Latinx
- u. Any other ethnic background
- v. Not known
- w. Prefer not to say
- 86. Religion or strongly held belief, if any
 - a. No religion
 - b. Buddhist
 - c. Christian
 - d. Hindu
 - e. Jewish
 - f. Muslim
 - g. Sikh
 - h. Spiritual
 - i. Any other religion or belief
 - j. Prefer not to sav
- 87. Do you consider yourself to be a disabled person, or to have a long-term health related condition that impacts on your ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities?
 - a. Yes
 - i. If you answered 'Yes' above please tick any of the following that apply
 - Learning difference such as dyslexia, dyspraxia or AD(H)D
 - Social/communication conditions such as a speech and language impairment or an autistic spectrum condition
 - Long-term illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
 - Mental health condition, challenge or disorder, such as depression, schizophrenia or anxiety
 - Physical impairment (a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, lifting or carrying)
 - Deaf or have a hearing impairment
 - Blind or have a visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
 - Development condition that you have had since childhood which affects motor, cognitive, social and emotional skills, and speech and language
 - No known impairment, health condition or learning difference
 - An impairment, health condition or learning difference not listed above
 - Prefer not to say
 - b. No

- 88. Are you or have you been a refugee, asylum seeker, or granted humanitarian protection?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
- 89. Do you or have you had caring responsibilities?
 - a. Yes
 - i. You have stated that you have caring responsibilities. Please tick all that apply.
 - Primary carer of a child or children (under 18)
 - Joint primary carer of a child or children (under 18)
 - Primary carer of a disabled child or children
 - Joint primary carer of a disabled child or children
 - Primary carer or assistant for a disabled adult (18 years or over)
 - Joint primary carer or assistant for a disabled adult (18 years or over)
 - Primary carer or assistant for an older person or people (65 and over)
 - Joint primary carer or assistant for an older person or people (65 and over)
 - Secondary carer (another person carries out the main caring role)
 - I have caring responsibilities but prefer not to specify what these
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
- 90. Was any of your schooling (ages 5-18) undertaken in the UK?
 - a. No Progress to Question 91
 - b. Yes
 - i. Which type of school did you attend for the most time between the ages of 11 and 16?
 - A state-run or state-funded school
 - Independent or fee-paying school
 - Independent or fee-paying school, where I received a means tested bursary covering 90% or more of the total cost of attending throughout my time there
 - Attended school outside the UK
 - I don't know
 - Prefer not to say
 - ii. Have you ever been in receipt of free school meals?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable (finished school before 1980 or went to school

overseas)

- I don't know
- Prefer not to say
- iii. What was your home postcode at age 14?
- iv. What was the occupation of your main household earner when you were about aged 14?
 - Modern professional & traditional professional occupations such as: teacher, nurse, physiotherapist, social worker, musician, police officer (sergeant or above), software designer, accountant, solicitor, medical practitioner, scientist, civil / mechanical engineer.

- Senior, middle or junior managers or administrators such as: finance manager, chief executive, large business owner, office manager, retail manager, bank manager, restaurant manager, warehouse manager.
- Clerical and intermediate occupations such as: secretary, personal assistant, call centre agent, clerical worker, nursery nurse
- Technical and craft occupations such as: motor mechanic, plumber, printer, electrician, gardener, train driver.
- Routine, semi-routine manual and service occupations such as: postal worker, machine operative, security guard, caretaker, farm worker, catering assistant, sales assistant, HGV driver, cleaner, porter, packer, labourer, waiter/waitress, bar staff.
- Long-term unemployed (claimed Jobseeker's Allowance or earlier unemployment benefit for more than a year).
- Small business owners who employed less than 25 people such as: corner shop owners, small plumbing companies, retail shop owner, single restaurant or cafe owner, taxi owner, garage owner.
- Other such as: retired, this question does not apply to me, I don't know.
- Prefer not to say
- v. What was your home postcode at first point of entry to Higher Education?
- vi. Are you care experienced)?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to say
- vii. Are you or were you estranged from your parents (normally not in contact with them for at least 12 months as a result of a permanent breakdown in your relationship)?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to say
- viii. Are you or have you ever experienced homelessness?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Prefer not to say
- 91. Did any of your parents (natural parents, adoptive parents, step-parents or guardians who have brought you up) have any higher education qualifications, such as a degree, diploma or certificate of higher education before you were aged 18?
 - a. Yes, one or more of my parents or legal guardians attended university
 - b. No, none of my parents or legal guardians attended university
 - c. Do not know/not sure
 - d. Prefer not to say
- 92. Have you ever received funding or used a student loan for undergraduate degree studies (e.g. BA, BSc or equivalent)?
 - a. Yes
 - i. Please provide brief details of your undergraduate funding: name of funding; type (bursary/loan/scholarship etc); duration
 - b. No
 - c. Prefer not to say
- 93. Have you ever received funding or used a student loan for postgraduate degree studies (Master's or PhD or equivalent)?

- a. Yes
 - i. Please provide brief details of your postgraduate funding: name of funding; type (bursary/loan/scholarship etc); duration
- b. No
- c. Not applicable (no postgraduate study)
- d. Prefer not to say
- 94. Are you currently studying or have you previously studied at one/both of the MRC LID partnership institutions?
 - a. Yes LSHTM
 - b. Yes CSG
 - c. Yes Both
 - d. No
- 95. Are you currently or have you previously been employed at one/both of the MRC LID partnership institutions?
 - a. Yes LSHTM
 - b. Yes CSG
 - c. Yes Both
 - d. No
- 96. Are you currently studying or have you previously studied at a Russell Group university?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 97. Are you currently or have you previously been employed by a Russell Group university?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 81-97)

MRC LID has based the first seven questions and available responses on standardised HESA categories. This data has been collected since the start of the DTP, so can be used to compare with DTP historic data and also potentially institution-wide Admissions data. This can be helpful when reviewing the effectiveness of our systems, policies and interventions.

Disability: Both partner institutions for the DTP aim to create an environment which enables all students to participate fully in university life. Further information about disability support at each institution can be found here via the links below.

- CSG: https://www.sgul.ac.uk/study/life-at-st-georges/student-support and https://www.sgul.ac.uk/for-students/student-support/disability-service
- LSHTM: https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/new-students/student-services

Students who may need adjustments or special arrangements or facilities for their studies should contact the Disability Support teams at their proposed primary institution well in advance of the start of their studies.

Carer: This covers anyone who has caring responsibilities. For example, anyone who is (or was) either a parent or guardian and/or who cares (or cared), unpaid, for a friend or family member (who due to illness, disability, or a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without the support of their carer/s).

Care experienced: The term 'care experienced' refers to anyone who has been, or is currently, in care. This care may have been provided in many different settings, including living with foster carers; living in a residential children's home; being looked after at home under a supervision order; living with friends or relatives in kinship care.

Estranged: The term 'estranged' refers to anyone who no longer has a relationship with their parents i.e. not seeing or communicating with them. There are many reasons why someone becomes estranged, which could include (but are not limited to): being a victim of physical or emotional abuse by family members; having experienced or been threatened with 'honour'-based violence or forced marriage; and/or being disowned or rejected because of life choices which parents disagree with.

We are aware that socioeconomic factors play a large role in whether people choose to undertake in postgraduate education. It does not fit under Equality Act 'protected characteristics'. And historically this information has not been collected at postgraduate study level. It is difficult to gauge the extent to which socioeconomic background affects route to higher education and subsequent success, and what interventions and support should be put in place for students, if we do not have any data. Collecting data asked of those who went to school in the UK is the first step to measuring and providing context for future changes (and hopefully more scholarships offered). We do not ask the same questions from applicants based outside the UK because experiences are not necessarily comparable for data monitoring purposes.

For more information about measuring dimensions of socio-economic background in the UK, please see

- The <u>UK Government's definitions of these levels</u> through the Office for National Statistics
- UK national data on <u>Free School Meals</u>
- UK Social Mobility Commission guidance, reports and toolkits

It's important to note that each question isn't a single substitute for measuring socioeconomic background and disadvantage. Responses will not be assessed in isolation (or as a substitute for any given classification).

Research has shown that some equal opportunities markers (refugee; care experienced; carer; estranged; homeless; socio-economic background) are very clearly linked to increased barriers to higher education. Responses to these questions in this section will help MRC LID to monitor whether initiatives are helping to remove barriers or not (and therefore what we need to consider other actions to support applicants better).

It is more usual for children who have seen university study modelled by their parents and/or legal guardians to follow in their footsteps. We don't want to exclude applicants who have not had this experience.

Applicants with current and/or prior connections to our institutions, or other Russell Group institutions, may have connections and hold knowledge currency (vocabulary, contacts etc) that other applicants do not. We have started to track and measure this, to see the impact this has and consider what we can do to ensure a fairer scheme for all applicants.

DTP-SPECIFIC EVALUATION & FEEDBACK

98. How did you find out about MRC LID Studentships?

- a. FindAPhD
- b. In2Research
- c. Think PostGrad
- d. Staff at your current university
- e. Prospective supervisory team (including via social media, e.g., X feed)
- f. Prior/current student at LSHTM or CSG

- g. Other
 - i. Other was selected. Please provide more detail.
- 99. Did you watch the MRC LID Applicant Workshop recordings?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 100. Did you watch the recording for your selected first choice research project?
 - a. Yes
- i. Did you watch the recording before contacting the supervisory team?
- ii. Did the recording help with preparations for your application by (a) helping you select the right project for you, and (b) providing you with key information required at this stage?
- iii. Any comments on the project recording? (To be fed back to teams in an aggregated, anonymised format.)
- b. No
- i. You've indicated that you did not watch the recording provided for the project. Please could you briefly outline why you were unable to, or chose not to, use this resource.
- 101. Was the MRC LID applicant information on the web pages useful to you?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
- 102. What elements were useful?
- 103. What wasn't as useful or good, or could be done better?
- 104. What else should we add to our web pages to support applicants?

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Questions 98-104)

These questions help us to work out the effectiveness of our advertising and of the applicant support measures we've put in place.

We would like any constructive feedback available here. Also, it will help us to make this process better for the next round if we know where there are issues or blips - that we may not have anticipated - from an applicant's perspective.

PART 3: APPLICANT DECLARATION

DECLARATION

- This application is for an MRC award for doctoral research training. If I am awarded an MRC studentship for full-time study I undertake to commit myself on a full-time basis to this training under the direction of my supervisors. If I am awarded an MRC studentship for part-time study I undertake to devote the full amount of time deemed by the primary institution as necessary and appropriate for part-time study under the direction of my supervisors.
- I declare that the information, contents and statements provided on this form and in the supporting documents are true and accurate and contain no misrepresentations (direct or indirect). I further declare that I have not used any form of Artificial Intelligence tool(s) in the preparation and completion of my application and the contents of my application form are all my own work. (Applicants should be aware that any kind of misrepresentation by candidates would amount to withdrawal of the scholarship award and may result in initiation of disciplinary proceedings after the commencement of the programme of study.)
- I agree that MRC LID may process the information contained in this form and retain it for statistical and administrative reasons.
- I undertake to inform MRC LID immediately of any change in the information I have given in this application form.

- I understand that if I have not yet made a formal application for a programme of study that I may be required to do so if this MRC funding application is successful.
- I agree to abide by the conditions set out by UKRI for studentship awardees (link/s in MRC LID Applicant FAQs and guidance).
- I agree to abide by the conditions set out by MRC LID for studentship awardees (link/s in MRC LID Applicant FAQs and guidance).
- I have advised my referees that I have named them in this application, and asked them to supply a reference (when requested by MRC LID) if I am short-listed for interview.
- For applicants with overseas fee status and UK non-residents only: If I am shortlisted for interview, I will provide a brief statement explaining how I plan to fund my fees top-up of up to approx. GBP 25,000.00 GBP 30,000.00 per year, and confirm funding awarded to cover these costs.
- I have taken this opportunity to check my application has all of the information I want to submit, and I have uploaded the documents required (as set out in the MRC LID Applicant information e.g. FAQs and Guidance).
- I confirm that these declarations will also apply to any amendments, updates and additions made to this application (using the REDCap code provided at the next stage) following initial submission.
- I understand that there will be no opportunity to amend or add to my application after the application deadline.

105. 106.	I confirm/agree with the statements made in the Declaration	
	Re-type email address	

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Declaration and Questions 105-106)

To submit an application, the applicant must agree to the declaration. Ticking the box is equivalent to a signature.

Please make sure that you type your email address correctly and check it carefully before you submit your application. This will help MRC LID verify this record against the entry on page 1 of your application form.

You should be aware that any incomplete applications may be rejected. To avoid this, please make sure your application is complete at this stage. Here is a checklist of uploads to help.

- ✓ Research project proposal for one of the projects advertised on the 2025-26 MRC LID Projects List.
- ✓ For each ongoing undergraduate or postgraduate qualifications: Interim Transcript or
 equivalent documents (showing confirmation of registration, modules selected for
 each term/year and grades received so far) + Translation in to English (where the
 interim transcript is not shown in English).
- ✓ For **each** undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) qualification completed and included in this application = Complete Transcript (showing full duration of study, modules taken and grades received) + Award Certificate + Translation into English (if the transcript and certificate aren't shown in English), with confirmation of who translated it and with what authority. (Also, check that each upload shows every page of the document, including any mark scheme or explanation.) Check that any photographs show the edges of each page of the document.
- ✓ If applicable, proof of leave to remain or other residency status in the UK.
- ✓ Passport photo page.

MRC LID Hints, Tips & Notes (Post-submission: General)

You must formally submit an application before the deadline for it to be considered. The DTP is unable to view or consider any applications that have been drafted but not submitted.

Submit

Once an applicant has clicked 'Submit' a pop-up will allow you to

- Copy the code for returning to your application.
- Add an email address for the confirmation of submission email to be sent to.
- Download a PDF of your application.

We recommend you do all three. This is the last opportunity you will have for these options. MRC LID cannot provide you with any of these after you have closed this page. The PDF will not be included in your confirmation email (due to the personal and confidential data it contains).

The code provided should be saved. It can be used to return to an application (for any amendments and additions) until the deadline. You can use the application link on the 'How to Apply' page, followed by the 'Returning' button at the top-right hand side of the Application Page 1.

Post-submission administration

All applications will be collated after the deadline and processed in a single batch. As an initial step administrators will check that all documents that should be submitted have been, and that they are readable. Applications that are assessed to be complete will progress through a number of review panels for scoring and shortlisting. Following a panel meeting to finalise the interview list, the MRC LID Manager will contact every applicant – using the email address provided on the application form – with a decision.

Overview of Application Process Timeline

DTP

MRC LID advertises.

APPLICANT

Applicant follows these steps (in order):

- 1. Reads through information provided to check that this studentship scheme is suitable
 - a. About MRC LID
 - b. Value of studentship award
 - c. Studentship routes available
- 2. Checks eligibility criteria is met.
- 3. Attends Open Day event/s at CSG and/or LSHTM, as applicable.
- 4. Watches MR LID Applicant Workshop recordings.
- 5. Short-lists up to 3 projects in line with interests, career goals and trajectory. And selects one as the first-choice project.
- 6. Watches the project-specific recordings to double-check project choice/s (or amend).
- 7. Reads the documents highlighted (DOIs and other) for the selected project/s.
- 8. Reads through MRC LID 2025-26 Studentship documents
 - a. Applicant Guidance & FAQs and
 - b. Application Questions & Guidance.
- 9. Contacts the supervisory team named on their first-choice project as soon as possible to discuss further, including a draft proposal review.
- 10. Prepare all documents for submission.

11. Submits online application via REDCap system before the application deadline.

DTP

- 1. Checks every application for eligibility and to ensure that all required documents have been submitted. (Those who do not meet the initial requirements will be rejected.)
- 2. Sends applications to First Review Panel for consideration, and collates scores and notes afterwards.
- 3. Sends applications out for separate Second Review, and collates scores and notes afterwards.
- 4. Board considers every application with reference to scoring and feedback from two separate, independent review stages. Additional reviews conducted if required.
- 5. Board finalises shortlist for interview.
- 6. Contacts each applicant by email with outcome (unsuccessful or invitation for interview).