
Turing Internship Network

FAQs for Prospective Interns

Please read the questions and answers below to better understand how the Turing Internship Network runs from a Turing intern perspective.

- If you have remaining questions regarding the scheme eligibility and processes, please email InternshipNetwork@turing.ac.uk
- If you are interested in the Turing Internship Network opportunities, but you cannot submit an application for this recruitment round, please sign up to the mailing list available on the main webpage

What is the rationale behind the scheme?

Due to the students' increasing interest for students in acquiring industry experience and business awareness, and for the business sector to address challenges using data science, we are committed to ensure everyone benefits from the Institute's unique position in linking businesses with academics. We are therefore extending our training leadership goal to support opportunities that tackle real-world challenges.

What is the Institute's role?

The Institute will manage your application up to the interview stage – that includes answering queries, managing the application portal, checking eligibility, reviewing applications and proposing a shortlist of candidates to the Turing Internship Network business partner (TIN partner). Following your internship, the Institute will ask you for feedback, testimonials and invite you to select Turing Internship Network events.

What is the TIN partner's role?

By default, internships are provided and hosted by the Turing business partner who require data-driven academic expertise for their business challenges. In exceptional cases, industry-academic collaborations might be established, and these may involve Turing researchers. Such information will be provided in the role specifications.

The TIN partner will propose roles and will have involvement in the shortlisting stage, and will be fully responsible of the interviews and subsequent employment. We advise students to get in touch with the respective project leads to discuss project queries and the internship as an employment opportunity.

Who are these internships aimed at?

In order to be eligible for a Turing internship, applicants must:

- Be a current doctoral student enrolled in a UK-based university

- Be studying for a PhD that heavily uses methods or concepts from mathematics, statistics, data science, computer science, AI, ethics and/ or technology
- Be in the active research phase of your studies – that is, applicants should have already finished their first year of project work (that excludes any taught time, such as a MRes year)
- Be able to pause their studies for the entire duration of the internship, unless the internship allows for part-time or flexible working
- Have significant programming experience and be confident in using relevant packages and toolboxes matched to the internship requirements. Most internships require knowledge of Python, however that may not always apply
- Have the right to work in the UK or Ireland depending on the role location
- Be based in the UK or Ireland for the entire duration of the internship

Who is not eligible to apply for the TIN internships?

Unfortunately, the current scheme cannot accommodate:

- Undergraduate or Masters students
- Students who are not currently registered with a UK university
- Students who are in their first year of PhD work
- Students whose PhD projects or experience to date does not include a heavy component on quantitative and/ or analytical work
- Students who require a visa for their right to work, however students on Tier 4 study visa might be eligible for some internships and this will be specified in the role if applicable

What is the duration of an internship?

All advertised roles have an expected duration of 3-6 months if full time, and 6-12 months if part time.

Are the internships paid?

Yes, all internships are paid at a minimum rate of £30,000 per annum pro rata (stipulated by the programme). This is inclusive of London/Dublin allowance and relocation costs.

Where are the internships taking place?

Ideally and if the government guidance allows it, the successful interns will be required to go to the office of the employer. The location depends on the role, spanning from London to Manchester and to Dublin. However, it is likely that the internships will start remotely, and they may continue remotely depending on how the restrictions may change. Each role will state the employer's preference regarding location, and we will encourage the partners to best accommodate the working preferences for the successful interns.

If my PhD programme (e.g., DTP or CDT) requires that I do a work placement, can I do my PhD placement through the Turing Internship Network?

The Turing Internship Network was built with the aim of filling a gap in the internship market for all UK-based doctoral students, particularly those of you who would not otherwise have access to industry

placements through your doctoral programme. We encourage interested students to consider the opportunities you already have available to you, and select those which are closest aligned with your area of work.

The following eligibility requirements apply to anyone submitting an internship application through this scheme, so please consider these carefully:

- You can pause your PhD entirely and stop receiving any stipend (unless doing a part time internship)
- Your department and your supervisor(s) are happy for you not to do a work placement via the established industry partners within your programme
- You are willing to discuss yourself with the internship project lead and the employer about producing and sharing any internship outputs required for your PhD programme e.g., placement reports, incorporating the internship work in the final PhD thesis

What do I need to do prior to beginning my application?

You should discuss the possibility of carrying out an internship with your supervisor(s) and/or host university department. Undertaking an internship will involve pausing your studies for the entire duration of the internship, ideally at a convenient time for your studies.

What does the application process involve?

You will need to provide personal details, information about the PhD programme you are enrolled in, details about your employment and education to date, as well as answer some questions that demonstrate your suitability and motivation for undertaking a Turing internship of your choice. No CV or cover letter are required.

Following your application submission, the Institute will check your eligibility and will review your application, before shortlisting it to the hiring project leads who will make the final shortlisting decision. If you are successful following both review rounds, you will be invited for an interview led by the employer.

Do I require academic references for the application process?

We will ask you for an academic reference from your primary academic supervisor if you have been successful following the shortlisting process. For clarification, when submitting an application, you are not required to upload a reference however prior to being invited to an interview (if successful), you will need to send us a reference via email. We will provide you the template for the reference.

Can I send a speculative application if I do not fit the eligibility criteria?

Unfortunately, we cannot respond to or accommodate speculative expressions of interest for this internship scheme.

If I am successful with my application, will I hold any formal relationship with The Alan Turing Institute?

The Institute will not be directly involved with you and will hold no formal relationship, such as a contract

or a direct affiliation for carrying out the internship. However, we will provide support with your application, we will ask you for testimonials at the end of the internship and we will invite you to select Turing Internship Network events.

Where can I submit any remaining enquiries?

If you still have any questions, please email InternshipNetwork@turing.ac.uk