
Turing Internship Network

FAQs for business partners

Please read the questions and answers below to better understand how the Turing Internship Network runs from a Turing Internship Network (TIN) partner perspective.

- If you have remaining questions regarding the scheme operations and processes, please email InternshipNetwork@turing.ac.uk
- If you have questions or would like to find out more about partnering with the Turing, or adding the Turing Internship Network as a stream of work under your current partnership with the Turing, please email Partnerships@turing.ac.uk

What is the rationale behind the scheme?

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

What is the benefit of advertising internships via the TIN instead through our organisation?

The Turing has access to the most excellent doctoral students in data science and AI and has a convening power unmet anywhere else in the UK. In addition, we save you time and resources as the Turing takes on marketing, communications, recruitment, and shortlisting on your behalf.

If you join the scheme as a TIN partner during the piloting phase, with your permission, we will acknowledge your organisation as an official launch partner in all communications relevant to the scheme. We hope this partnership will be mutually beneficial to our organisations, and more widely in setting high internship placement standards in data science and AI within the UK business ecosystem.

What services does the Turing provide through this scheme?

The Turing convenes businesses and doctoral students in setting up internship placements and offers the following services to the TIN partners:

- Operational and academic support in shaping attractive roles
- Promotion and marketing of the role(s) to the wider Turing community including its partner universities
- Ongoing communication with the interested applicants
- Recruitment portal setup and management
- Eligibility checking and application review for the prospective interns
- Shortlisting support for the interview stage
- Ongoing scheme evaluation and incorporating feedback to accommodate any reasonable requirements and dependencies tailored to each TIN partner

What should we consider prior to expressing interest in becoming a TIN partner?

There are few things we are asking partners to consider:

- Can you scope out projects that are academically challenging and are achievable for the internship duration (3-6 months for full time, 6-12 months for part time work)?
- Do you have the data and equipment resources, as well as the supervision in place for the prospective interns?
- Can you accommodate the requirements of the successful interns, including part-time, flexible and remote work options?
- Can you hire interns on student visas (e.g., Tier 4 visa which allows students to work up to 20 hours a week)?
- How does the research your organisation focuses on align with the [Turing research agenda](#)?

Can my organisation become a TIN partner?

We welcome all UK-based organisations to join the Turing Internship Network as TIN partners. In selecting organisations to become a TIN partner, we will assess each expression of interest against our TIN Partner Quality Framework which include the following:

- Be a registered organisation of any size including charities, public sector, NGOs, SMEs and corporations
- Own the data or have the rights to use the data required for each internship project
- Prove commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) through ensuring best recruitment and employment practices. For reference, we encourage TIN partners to read [the Turing's EDI commitment](#)
- Where possible, encourage and enable open research approaches such as the ones promoted by [the Turing's Tools, Practices and Systems programme](#)

What are our responsibilities as a TIN partner?

Your organisation will need to appoint a point of contact who will liaise with the Internship Network team and must ensure smooth communication and adhering to the specified timelines. The TIN partner must also secure funding, mentorship/ supervision and equipment provision for each of the hired interns. At the end of the internship(s), there will be a feedback and evaluation process between your organisation and the Turing to improve the scheme for future runs.

Is there a TIN fee for becoming a TIN partner?

There is a base rate fee to join the scheme which is adjusted to your organisation size, and an internship fee which applies to each internship you are advertising. In addition, the TIN partner will need to secure appropriate funds to pay the intern's salary (£30000 per annum pro rata minimum), overheads, and other applicable on-costs.

What do we look for in a TIN internship?

The Internship Quality Mark Criteria below provides guidance on drafting and shaping out internship specifications to reach the highest standards, however we appreciate not all the criteria may apply to each internship role:

- Appealing and academically challenging data science and AI projects
- Clearly defined expected outcomes, and achievable for the internship duration
- Internship to last 3-6 months if full time, and 6-12 months if part time
- Competitive pay for the entire duration of the internship set at minimum £30000 per annum pro-rated
- Provision of adequate resources (computational, data, equipment) and suitable supervision and/ or line management
- Where possible, ensure adhering to the Turing Institute principles rooted in open leadership, transparent and reproducible practices, and acknowledging each contributor in all research outputs
- Where possible, please highlight the clear benefit to the TIN partner, the intern and the wider society as exemplified in the Data Science for Social Good programme

Who are the prospective interns?

The eligibility criteria for the TIN applicants requires them to:

- 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 their 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/ Ireland and be based in the UK/ Ireland for the entire duration of the internship

How can I get in touch to discuss the opportunity of our organisation becoming a TIN partner?

Please email us at InternshipNetwork@turing.ac.uk and a member of the team will get back to you as soon as possible.