

**Turing Internship
Network
TIN**
Spring 2022

Introduction to the Scheme

The Alan Turing Institute is a world-leading hub of scientific innovation using data science and AI. Taking advantage of our unique position as national institute of data science and AI, and of our well-established business relationships with external industry partners and collaborators, in 2020 we created the Turing internship Network, a nationwide engagement scheme that connects doctoral students interested in acquiring industry experience and business awareness with businesses and organisations that seek to address challenges using data science.

One of the goals of the Institute is to train the next generation of data scientists and the Turing Internship Network allows us to link businesses, governmental organizations, charities and NGOs to those researchers who wish to apply their research expertise and technical skills to tackle real-world challenges and gain new skills in a business setting. Through TIN students can also establish professional connections in an industry of their interest and explore future employment opportunities outside of academia.

This document introduces the new offering for the Spring 2022 round of recruitment and provides guidance for applicants and details of how to apply. We encourage candidates to share the document *Information for Supervisors* with their supervisors before they apply.

New Offering in Spring 2022

Now in its fourth round of recruitment, the Turing Internship Network has expanded its existing internship offering considerably and welcomes three new TIN partners and collaborators: HSBC, Fujitsu Research of Europe and the Department for Transport. For this new round, our partners and collaborators are offering 3-6 month internships in a wide range of research areas, such as data science and responsible AI, digital twins, graph machine learning, synthetic data generation, etc.

For the first time this Spring, we are also offering new exciting internship opportunities which include a [Data Study Group \(DSG\)](#) component. These are part of a brand-new scheme that

combines the Turing Internship Network and award-winning DSG. This new programme gives doctoral students the opportunity to undertake a 4-6 month internship at one of nine collaborating environment and sustainability charities and non-governmental organisations. As well as working on projects driven by their host organisation, students will also prepare a project-related Data Study Group challenge and represent the organisation during the DSG that will follow on.

New to the Turing Internship Network is also the opportunity for successful candidates to engage with the Institute during their internship. Traditionally, the Institute has provided the platform, resources and expertise to match candidates with TIN partners and collaborators, with them taking the leading role after the appointment of the intern. With this new round of recruitment, the Institute aims to offer students the opportunity to engage with our community and access some of the training activities offered to the Turing and wider research community throughout the year. These include our flagship courses in Research Software Engineering, and Reproducibility, Ethics and Open research, as well as opportunities to take online courses developed together with our research collaborators.

Aims and Objectives

The new offering for this round of recruitment of TIN will allow the Institute to further contribute to:

- growing the Data Science and AI fields in the UK more widely and support and promote links between businesses and academics, and enhance research and collaborations that have a positive impact on society;
- reaching its goal to *Train the leaders of the future*.

The aims and objectives of the Turing Internship Network are to:

- help doctoral students in applying their knowledge and technical/communication/collaboration skills in real life scenarios;
- support doctoral students in gaining new knowledge and skills in a field related to their research or in a field they are interested in learning more about;
- support doctoral students and their supervisors in networking and making new connections with industry partners.

Eligibility and Assessment Criteria

Students must meet all the following eligibility criteria to be considered for the scheme:

- Be a current **doctoral student** enrolled in a university based in the UK or Ireland;
- Be studying for a PhD that heavily uses methods or concepts from mathematics, statistics, data science, computer science, AI, ethics and/or technology;
- Have completed the first year of doctoral studies (not counting training/rotation year) at the start of the internship;
- Be able to **pause their studies** for the entire duration of the internship, unless the internship allows for part-time or flexible working
- Have the **right to work** and be based in the UK or Ireland depending on the role location **;
- The student's supervisor and university department must support their application.

*** If you are a Student Visa holder (international student), please discuss with your university the possibility of undertaking an internship and obtain a written approval before applying. Student Visa holders must be sure that they can work part time or full time (depending on the internship requirements) before they submit an application. Candidates who do not have a written approval from their university will not be shortlisted.*

Additional eligibility requirements may apply for specific internships, and they will be checked in the application form.

When assessing applicants to shortlist them for interviews with the TIN partners and collaborators, we will look at the following areas:

Motivation: The interest of the applicant in the role they are applying for.

Knowledge and previous experience: The experience the applicant brings to the role.

Skills: The skillset that will help the candidate perform well in the role.

Goals: What the applicant hopes to learn and achieve during the internship and the benefits for their research.

Application Process

Timeline

Application Stage	Key Dates
Applications open	25 May 2022
Applications close	28 June 2022
Applications review period	28 June – 30 July 2022
Call for interview (if shortlisted)	From 1 August 2022 onwards

How to apply

Applicants should discuss the scheme with their supervisor and university department to gain their approval to participate and pause their PhD if offered an internship.

Applicants apply directly to the Turing through our Flexigrant application system. The application form will ask for the role they wish to apply for and will give them the option to choose a second role they would like to be considered for if they are not shortlisted for their first choice. The Turing Internship Network Team also reserve the right to suggest other internship roles based on the submitted application.

The application form will also ask details about the PhD research project and your goals and interest in applying for an internship in line with the assessment criteria.

We encourage applicants to carefully read the internship role descriptions published on the website and the ones included in the internship roles packet available in our Flexigrant application system (please note that details about the roles available at GCHQ can only be found in the TIN internship roles packet that is accessible after creating an applicant account on Flexigrant).

Before starting an application, we also encourage applicants to research information about the organisation offering the role, learn about the culture and the work they do and think about how your knowledge and skills meet the requirements listed under the 'Ideal Intern' section. Applicants should also reflect on their previous experience (study, work, volunteer) and come up with examples that demonstrate how well they can cover the responsibilities listed in the role description.

To be considered, all applications must be completed and submitted **by the 28th of June, 2pm BST.**

Assessment Process

All applicants are assessed on their application form only. Applicants who are shortlisted by the Turing Internship Network team and the organisation will be invited to interviews.

Applications will first be checked for eligibility. All eligible applications will then be reviewed by the Turing Internship Network team and the project leads of each organisation. Successful applications will be invited to an interview which is likely to take place in August (please note that some organisations may require you to take an online assessment prior to interview). All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by early August.

If offered an internship, applicants will liaise directly with the organisation to sign a contract and pass any security check requirements. Please note that for some organisations the security checks may take up to 2-3 months to be completed before the internship can start.

Equality Diversity and Inclusion

The Alan Turing Institute has a mission to make great leaps in data science and artificial intelligence to change the world for the better and recognises that to make such great advancements and help solve the world's problems and challenges, we need to accurately reflect the world's diverse composition and build an inclusive community.

We are taking seriously questions of diversity, equity and inclusion as impact and importance to success and excellence in our field, community and mission. We are committed to actively working to embed and ensure our functions and research schemes are accessible, inclusive, and diverse. Applicants can be of any nationality and applicants from under-represented groups are encouraged to apply. We welcome applicants from all universities based in the UK or Ireland, and those who have taken a career break and are now enrolled in a PhD programme.

Reasonable Adjustments

We recognise that there may be individual circumstances that we need to be aware of and will make reasonable adjustments required to support individuals during the application and interview processes. You may already know what adjustments you require or may like to have a confidential discussion around your options.

To discuss an adjustment to the application process, please contact our team directly at internshipnetwork@turing.ac.uk or on +44 (0) 20 3862 3360. There is also a section on the application form where applicants may make us aware of individual circumstances.

If there is information relevant to your application that we may need to consider when facilitating the review of your application, please contact us to discuss. Where possible, this should be done early in the process or updated when circumstances change.

We will treat any information you disclose to us as sensitive and will handle it in line with the Data Protection Act 2018. You can find out more information about how we handle your personal data in our Privacy Notice. Information will only be used to arrange reasonable adjustments and will not be used to assess your application.

Contact Details for Enquiries

Questions can be emailed to internshipnetwork@turing.ac.uk or can be discussed by phoning +44 (0) 20 3862 3360. We appreciate your time and interest in this programme. Good luck with your application!