Information for Supervisors

This document has been produced to provide brief guidance to supervisors and Heads of Department who have students interested in applying for an internship offered via the Turing Internship Network (TIN).

Summary of the Scheme

Taking advantage of the Institute’s unique position as national institute of data science and AI and of its 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.

Key information:

- 12 internship opportunities are offered by our TIN partners and collaborators and the areas of research span from ML for automatic detection of memes, reinforcement learning for security and privacy, responsible AI, etc.
- All internship role descriptions are available on the TIN webpage apart from those offered by GCHQ which can be accessed via our application portal.
- Internships will start later this year with some beginning as early as September 2023 and will last between 3 and 6 months if undertaken full time.
- All internship opportunities offer a minimum salary of £30,000 p.a. pro rata.
- Applicants will be required to pause their PhD while they are undertaking the internship, unless the internship allows for part time working.
Application Process and Candidate Selection

Candidates apply directly to the Turing through our application portal. Candidates are asked to discuss the participation in the Turing Internship Network with their supervisor and department and gain approval to participate prior to apply.

Applicants on a Student Visa (international students) must be aware of how many hours/week they are legally allowed to work before they apply.

For more details on the assessment criteria, please review the TIN Call Document that can be found linked to our TIN webpage.

The deadline for applications is 7th June 2023, 11am BST.

Student Supervision and Benefits

Although students are required to pause their PhDs (unless they apply for a part time internship) for the duration of their internship, we encourage them to keep their supervisors updated and engaged with their experience.

We strongly believe that benefits of undertaking an internship via TIN can positively impact both the intern and their supervisor. We encourage applicants to consider applying for those roles in which the project would complement some of their research they are currently doing. This way, the knowledge and skills acquired during the placement could be brought back and applied directly to their PhD.

Applying their expertise and technical skills to inform decision-making in a business setting can also be eye-opening for students and help them to see their PhD research from a different angle and generate new ideas.

Students will learn to work in an office and interface with different stakeholders. They will learn to report to supervisors and managers, to fit into the culture of the host organisation and to make career connections that could result in future collaborations for both them and the supervisor.

As Turing Internship Network interns, students will also have the opportunity to engage with our community and access some of the training activities offered to the Turing and wider research community for the duration of their internship.

Contact Details

For questions on the Turing Internship Network, please contact internshipnetwork@turing.ac.uk.