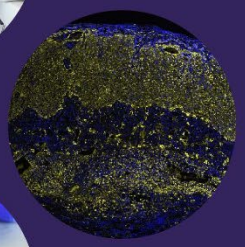
Loke Centre for Trophoblast Research funded PhD Studentship

Fully funded 4-year PhD studentship (home student fee rate) in reproductive biology

www.trophoblast.cam.ac.uk/phd-studentships

Application deadline: 18 November 2024



The LokeCentre for trophoblast research

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The Loke Centre for Trophoblast Research (CTR) provides a dynamic environment for PhD training in placental biology and reproductive science. Founded in 2007, it brings together over 30 Principal Investigators with a shared interest in the scientific study of the placenta, early development and maternal-fetal interactions during pregnancy.

Our PIs are recognized international experts in their fields based across Cambridge in the Departments of Physiology, Development, and Neuroscience, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Pathology, and Genetics and allied institutes including The Institute of Metabolic Science, Cambridge Stem Cell Institute, LMB, Babraham and Wellcome Sanger Institute. A studentship will be held within the relevant Department or Institute, where an internal Departmental Postgraduate Educational Committee is responsible for administering your degree.

Our PhD students have access to unique training opportunities to prepare them for successful careers in research. Students will present their research by giving seminars at our annual Away Days and international conferences, and attend a variety of seminars given by distinguished scientists with the Loke CTR and affiliated Department or Institute.

There are also opportunities to participate and present in interdisciplinary seminars hosted by Cambridge Reproduction Strategic Research Initiative of which the Loke CTR is a founding member. Students will gain training in our Placental Biology Course and receive support from them to attend international meetings. Loke CTR PhD students will also become members of the Postgraduate School of the Life Sciences, which organises and promotes many further training opportunities.

We are pleased to consider applications for fully funded, full-time study over four years or part-time over five years. Studentships are open for applications in October of the year prior to the start of your studies.

Application Procedure

Please investigate research projects on offer for the 2024/2025 application cycle and contact potential supervisors in advance of applying. Once you have identified a potential supervisor(s)

and project(s), please make a formal application following the instructions and requirements detailed on our website.

The application deadline is 18th November 2024. We will hold an initial round of Zoom interviews with potential PhD supervisors in late November (2024). Shortlisted candidates will be invited to a second round of interviews in early January (2025).

Finance

Loke CTR PhD Studentships will cover all University and College fees at the home student rate, along with a stipend of £22,000 per year.

Awarded studentships also include a justified research consumables/equipment of £15,000 and up to £750 funds for conference travel.

Key experience and competencies

Applicants for this course should have achieved a UK Good II.i Honours Degree. We are looking for strong candidates that will contribute to the science in the Loke CTR and have potential as researchers. During the admissions process, we will consider the academic record and the comments from referees as well as the research experience and achievements of the applicants.

We are mindful that the extent of research opportunity and publications can vary substantially depending on background and undergraduate training, for example some countries have longer undergraduate courses, different master requirements, offer short courses and practical research, etc, and all these are put into context when evaluating potential.

Please refer to the University of Cambridge Entry requirements for further detail.

Research projects available for 2024/25 entry

- Novel approaches to understand the mechanisms of insulin resistance in pregnancy, supervised by Prof. Miguel Constancia and Prof. Sue Ozanne
- A gestational metronome: role of the placenta in the control of developmental tempo, supervised by Dr Alberto Rosello-Diez and Prof. Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri
- Placenta-related pregnancy complications and future female heart disease risk, supervised Prof Dino A. Giussani and Prof. Andrew J. Murray
- Nonsense Mediated Decay in Placental Development, supervised Dr Claire Senner and Dr Erica Watson
- Immune gene variants and offspring health, supervised by Prof Francesco Colucci and Prof Dino A. Giussani

Questions

If you have any queries regarding the selection process, please refer to our website or email phd.lokectr@pdn.cam.ac.uk