

The Centre for Doctoral Training in Low Temperature Technology

Reasons to become a project partner

What is the CDT in Low Temperature Technology?

The Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) is an initiative to train 50+ PhD graduates over the next nine years, with a focus on low temperature technology for quantum computing, medical devices, particle physics, and nuclear fusion. The budget of the Centre will be approximately £8M, from which the major share (if we are successful in our grant application) will come from EPSRC under their upcoming doctoral training [funding programme](#).

Why are we proposing this initiative?

Demand for scientists and engineers with expertise in low-temperature technology is growing strongly, fuelled by demand from established industry, start-ups, and academia. If our target fields are to realise their potential, they will need PhD-level experts to fill technical roles in this decade and be leaders in the next. The UK government creates new doctoral training centres roughly once every five years, and we aim to take advantage of this opportunity now.

How will the Centre work?

The Centre will be a collaboration between Lancaster, Royal Holloway, and Cardiff Universities, who already host three of the UK's leading low temperature groups. The first cohort will start in October 2024. The first year of our PhD programmes will consist of lectures, advanced hands-on projects, and work placements. In years two to four students will carry out research leading to a PhD thesis.

Why do we need project partners?

The core aim of the Centre is to address the needs of external partners in industry, national labs, and academia. We need your involvement in setting our objectives, designing our courses, and steering our mission. Beyond this, we are seeking partners who can contribute to the fulfilment of the Centre by hosting internships and sponsoring students. External sponsorship is the strongest possible evidence to EPSRC that we are filling a recognised need and will greatly increase our chances of being funded.

What are the benefits of being a partner?

We envisage the main benefits for partners as follows:

- You will be helping to make sure this Centre happens and supplies the workforce that our field needs.
- You will help steer the training we provide.
- You will place your activity prominently in front of some of the best PhD researchers in the UK.
- You will be supporting our efforts to enhance diversity in this field.
- By sponsoring a student, you will be able to co-create and co-supervise a three-year research project, with input from our academics and with access to our labs.

How do I find out more?

We need partners to respond before our initial submission deadline of 7 March. If you are interested, contact e.a.laird@lancaster.ac.uk, j.saunders@rhul.ac.uk, or giblinr@cardiff.ac.uk.

