

APPLICATION FORM - International Applicants FAQs

Why do I need to set up an account with Momenive?

Momenive is the platform M4C uses to undertake recruitment. It is secure and allows us to process data efficiently and confidentially. You need an account to use the platform.

I can't log in.

The first steps when this happens are to make sure there isn't an error in your username or your password, and perhaps to reset one or both. Sometimes, the choice of browser brings complications. If these steps are unsuccessful, please contact enquiries@midlands4cities.ac.uk.

EDI QUESTIONS

Not all these categories apply to me? What should I do?

There is no obligation for you to complete every category. If a question does not apply to you, please tick 'Prefer not to answer.'

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS - Am I eligible for any support in paying the differential between Home and International Fees?

As is the case with all UKRI PGR funding, M4C's main offer to international award holders is only home fees and stipend. However, our understanding is that all our eight institutions offer funding to cover the differential between home and international fees. To confirm this and to find out the process (each institution will be different), please contact your intended home institution.

STUART HALL FELLOWSHIP - Am I eligible?

The M4C/SHF Fellowships are open to British applicants only.

MODE OF STUDY - Am I eligible for a visa if I select PT study?

M4C accepts applications for PT study from international applicants. However, we strongly advise that you check visa requirements and limitations with the international office of your intended home institution. Visa regulations can change quickly, and they are best placed to give you accurate information.

PHD PROJECT

My project requires a good deal of local knowledge and explanation (international applicants)

The space provided for describing the project is limited, and cannot be extended. Your application will be read by people with expertise in the discipline and adjacent ones, so you should include information essential to locating the project for that audience. You may seek advice from prospective supervisors to help you.

My contextual reading is in other languages and not necessarily well-known in the UK. What should I do? (international applicants)

You should discuss this with your prospective supervisors. It would certainly be reasonable to indicate that there is a good deal of literature in other languages, and pick out either the most significant of these, or the best available in English.

M4C placements and international applicants

International students studying on a visa, are subject to visa rules which impact on placements. All students who require immigration sponsorship from their university [a visa] to study in the UK are limited to only undertake placements which are assessed and integral to the course/research. Placements which do not contribute directly to the PhD research as an integral part of the PhD study (i.e. those that are supplementary) cannot be supported under the UK immigration rules.

PERSON - Should I include an IELTS score?

No: The IELTS score will be collected by your home institution and will be part of your offer from there.

PREPAREDNESS

My qualifications don't fit the categories. What should I do?

Please contact the admissions office of your home institution to ask for equivalency recommendations. They will help you find the appropriate descriptions for your qualifications.

PLACE

I've never been to the UK, so what do you mean by 'place'? (international applicants)

'Place' refers primarily to your home institution: why is that institution a good place for you to undertake the project you have described? It might be that the research expertise in your area is particularly deep, or that there is the ideal opportunity for inter-disciplinary supervision, or that there is a research institute in your area. You might also look at the facilities and opportunities available there. You can discuss this question with your prospective supervisor.

Will I have to live in the UK?

Yes, in order to meet UK visa requirements and institutional expectations and to participate in your cohort's activities, you will have to live in the UK.

As an M4C DTP student you will be expected to live within reasonable travel time of your designated home university. This is to ensure that you are not isolated and get the full support, mentoring, training and access to the facilities you will need to complete your research successfully and to a high standard. The only exceptions to this are periods of absence that are an essential part of your study e.g. fieldwork, study visits or conference attendance.

These criteria mean that we are unable to support distance learning PhD's, furthermore, UKRI regulations are clear that international students funded by UKRI councils must be primarily resident in the UK for the duration of their study.

CHOOSING REFEREES

Do my references have to be written in English?

Yes

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT FORM ISF

What is the ISF?

Every application shortlisted by an institution receives an institutional support form (ISF). This form provides a record of the interview held for all short-listed applicants, details of supervisory arrangements, and some administrative details about the area of study.

What happens after I submit my application?

Open competition applications are sorted by M4C and returned to the institution to which you have applied. There applications are shortlisted by academic schools and departments, and shortlisted applications are returned to M4C with an institutional support form. The Institutional Support Form (or ISF) provides a record of your interview, the classification of your application according to subject area, and some information about your supervisors.

What will happen to my CDA application?

After submission, your CDA application will be returned to the host institution, where the academic supervisors, partner supervisors and the site directors will shortlist applications for interview, according to AHRC criteria. Interviews will take place: the interviewers will be partner and academic supervisors, a site director from your home institution, and a site director from the other city institution. This panel will make recommendations as to the applicant to be offered the award.