

Conference travel grants of selected studentships

Compiled by Ryoko Ito (ri239@cam.ac.uk) on 11 November 2013.

ESRC:

- Research Training Support Grant: £750 per student per year (in 2013/2014)
- Overseas fieldwork support: £450 per student per year (in 2013), but this will close in January 2014. (ESRC mention that this funding pool and allocation will be managed by Doctoral Training Centres from 2014. What this implies to students' accessibility is unspecified.)

(Source: <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/funding-and-guidance/postgraduates/prospective-students/studentship-worth/index.aspx>)

Gates Cambridge Scholarship:

- Conference attendance: up to £500 a year **if the student is presenting. (None otherwise.)**
- Fieldwork: students may apply to keep up to normal maintenance allowance while on fieldwork as part of PhD.
- Some fourth year funding for PhD Scholars may be provided - but the termly maintenance allowance reduces per term for up to a year**

Sponsor Note: ** [...] if there are unforeseen circumstances which mean you need further funding during all or part of your fourth year, the Trust will consider an application on a discretionary basis. But you should not rely on receiving any fourth year funding when you start your PhD.

(Source: <http://www.gatescambridge.org/apply/value.asp>)

Cambridge Trusts:

“During the tenure of a PhD award, the Trust can consider no more than one application for funding towards a conference.

[...] Applications, which must include a breakdown of the requested amount, require supporting references from your College Tutor and Supervisor, together with an indication of the resources available from your College and/or Department.

You must give full details of all other applications which you have made or are intending to make for the same purpose, including the amount for which you have applied and the date when a decision on that application is expected. Unless this is shown, the application cannot be considered.”

(Source: <http://www.cambridgetrust.org/scholars/guidelines-for-scholars/>)

Survey results: current and past financing of conference travels

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Summary of survey results:

- 6 current and previous PhD students gave detailed responses
- Current and previous job-market candidates self-finance(d) their job-market related travels totalling over £1,500.
- Survey participants reply on travel grants by the Faculty of Economics, their colleges, and their PhD financial sponsor (ESRC, Gates, or Cambridge Trusts).
- Colleges, ESRC, Gates, or Cambridge Trusts do not normally offer travel grants for 4th-year students (or, equivalently, beyond the duration of the studentship) unless special circumstances apply.

Responses by current and former PhD students. Fields are left empty if unspecified by the student.

Conference Name	Location	Timing	Approx. Total Cost	How financed	Job-market related (Yes / No)
Student: Current Job-market candidate (2013/2014)					
SIEP conference	Pavia, Italy	2013	£300	Self-financed	Yes
Job-market meeting	Santander, Spain		£600	Self-financed	Yes
Job-market meeting	Philadelphia, United States		£1,200	Self-financed	Yes
Seminar	Exeter			Organizer	Yes
Student: Previous job-market candidate (2012/2013)					
Various job-market meetings	Various	2012	£1,500	Self-financed	Yes
Student: a 3rd-year PhD					
Coalition Theory Workshop	Warwick, UK	2013		Stevenson fund	No
ASSET 2013 Conference	Bilbao, Spain	2013		Stevenson fund and self-finance the rest	Yes

Conference Name	Location	Timing	Total Cost	How financed	Job-market related (Yes / No)
<p>Student: a 3rd-year PhD</p> <p>Comments on the issue from the student:</p> <p>“Even though I get an additional £750 per year from the ESRC, I've felt credit constrained and I'm constantly at the limit of that travel budget.</p> <p>Concerning whether it was job market related: I think it's really important that [we] make contacts and that people see [us] present during every stage of [our] PhD. So from my point of view this is all job market related.</p> <p>It would be great if the travel costs were covered for students who want to present at a conference (as long as it is not unreasonably expensive i.e. maybe not on Hawaii).</p> <p>As a comparison, in Denmark a PhD student in Econ can apply for unlimited travel grants as long as the student presents.”</p>					
INET Summer School on Socioeconomic inequality	U of Chicago, United States	2012	£800	Stevenson/ESRC	Ultimately yes
Jerusalem Summer School on Decision Making	Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel	2013	£600	Stevenson/ESRC	Ultimately yes
Beelab Florence Workshop on Behavioral and Experimental Economics	University of Florence, Italy	2013	£310	Stevenson/ESRC	Ultimately yes
ESA annual meetings Santa Cruz	University of California, Santa Cruz, United States	2013	£350	ESRC	Ultimately yes
RES conferences			£380	Organizers	Ultimately yes
Public Econ UK conference	Warwick (RI's guess), UK	2012	£50	Organizers	Ultimately yes
EEA meetings				Paper accepted for presentation, but unable to attend partly due to liquidity constraint	Ultimately yes

Conference Name	Location	Timing	Approx. Total Cost	How financed	Job-market related (Yes / No)
Student: a 3rd-year PhD					
Conference	Amsterdam, The Netherlands	2012	Approx. £500?	Faculty fund	Ultimately yes
Conference	Berlin, Germany	2013	Approx. £600?	Faculty fund	Ultimately yes
Summer school	Oxford, UK	2012		Organizer	Ultimately yes
Conference	Oxford, UK	2012	Approx. £200?	Self-finance and a faculty fund	Ultimately yes
Visiting studentship to Duke University (the student may hope to go for job-market networking)	North Carolina, United States	2014	Lots of £	Self-finance	Yes
Student: a 1st-year PhD					
(List of conferences the student wants to attend this year)					
EUDN PhD Workshop on Development Economics	Geneva, Switzerland	2013/2014		Combination of faculty, college, and PhD financial sponsor	No
Ronald Coase Institute, Workshop on Institutional Analysis	Xiamen, China	2013/2014		Combination of faculty, college, and PhD financial sponsor	No
Finance and Economics Conference	Munich, Germany	2013/2014		Combination of faculty, college, and PhD financial sponsor	No
International conference on Education, Psychology and Social Sciences	Taipei, Taiwan	2013/2014		Combination of faculty, college, and PhD financial sponsor	No
3rd International Conference on Economics and Social Sciences	Durban, South Africa	2013/2014		Combination of faculty, college, and PhD financial sponsor	No