



University of
Strathclyde
Science

THE FACULTY OF **SCIENCE**

www.strath.ac.uk/science

SIPBS Summer Research Internships

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Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy &
Biomedical Sciences

What is an internship?

- A period of **professional work experience**
- May be **paid, unpaid** or **partially-paid** (stipend)
- Usually funded by a third-party (e.g. learned society or charity)
- Often **competitive**; may be **prestigious**

What do you get out of it?

- **Knowledge, skills and experience** in a real research environment
- Contribute to answering **real cutting-edge research** questions
- Establish **connections** and network in the field
- Prestige
- Find out if research is the career for you

In what areas do we offer projects?

- **Cellular Basis of Disease**
 - Cancer and inflammatory disease
 - Cardiovascular and metabolic disease
 - Neuroscience and mental health
- **Computational Biology/Bioinformatics**
- **Industrial Biotechnology**
- **Microbiology**
- **Pharmaceutical Sciences**
 - Drug discovery, formulation and delivery
 - Materials and manufacture
- **Pharmacoepidemiology & Health Care**

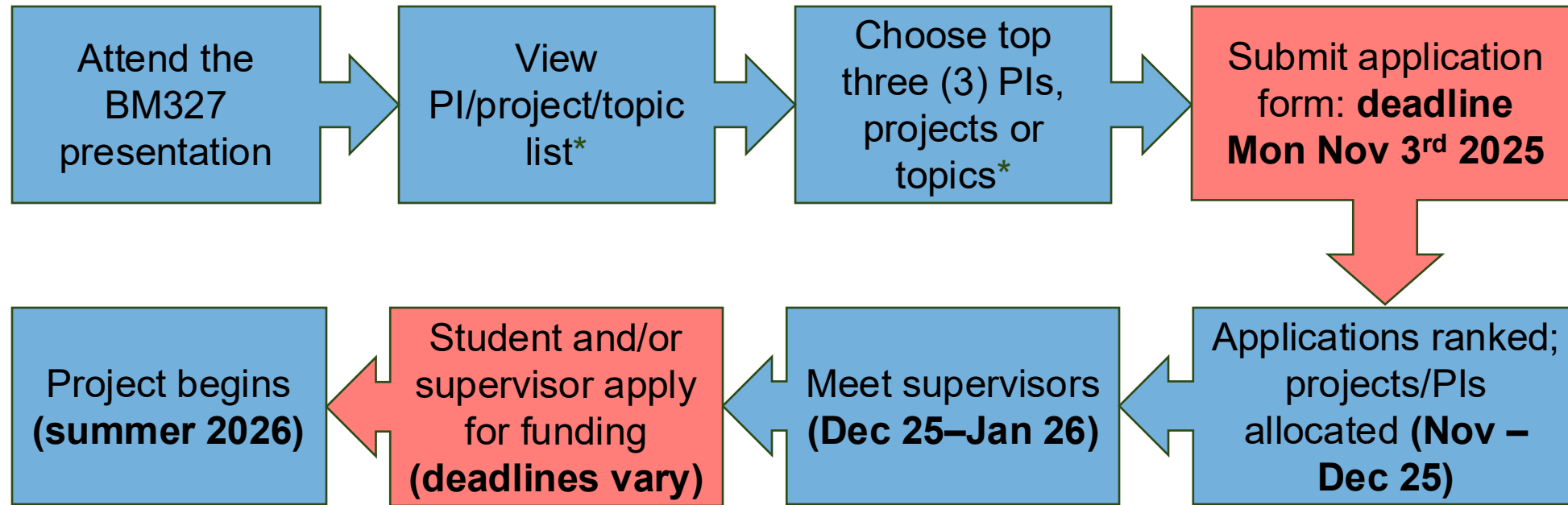
Ways to get a studentship

- **SIPBS matching scheme**
 - 2024-25: 5 studentships *via* this route
- **Independently contact a potential supervisor at SIPBS**
 - 2024-25: >12 studentships *via* this route
- **Independent application to company/NHS/other university**
 - 2024-25: Students don't report back to us, so no record

SIPBS Project Matching

What is the procedure?

***You can approach PIs/groups independently of the matching process**



- If you are shortlisted for a SIPBS internship, this **does not come with financial support**
- **Any financial support must be obtained either by the PI, or the student with the support of the PI**

What are the selection criteria?

- Applicants are **ranked** by 2nd year credit-weighted average (%CWA)
- Other criteria are applied for 3rd year direct entrants; 2-4 places reserved
- The highest-ranked students (usually 8-10 in total, but dependent on projects offered: LAST YEAR THERE WERE FIVE PLACES AVAILABLE) are **allocated** to projects/PIs on the basis of student preference
- Applicants may be **excluded** from consideration on the basis of January examination results (e.g. failing mark)

What next?

- **Select** from the PIs and projects at:
- <https://sipbs-compbiol.github.io/sipbs-internships/projects/2025-26.html>
- **Download the Internship Application Form**
- <https://classes.myplace.strath.ac.uk/mod/resource/view.php?id=1774870>
- BM327: Being A Biomolecular Scientist 3 on MyPlace (Development, Employability and Careers):
<https://classes.myplace.strath.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=21691#section-4>
- **Complete** the form with 150-word personal statement of why you would benefit from a studentship
- **Submit completed form by MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2025**
- **Email the completed form to:** philip.brown@strath.ac.uk

Application form

Summer Placement Application Form

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Surname | <input type="text"/> | First Name | <input type="text"/> |
| Reg. No. | <input type="text"/> | Nationality | <input type="text"/> |
| Email | <input type="text"/> | Degree Course | <input type="text"/> |

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Please indicate a preferred research topic and/or supervisor | <input type="text"/> |
| (please note that preference is for guidance only; we cannot guarantee to offer you a specific placement) | |

| |
|--|
| <p>Supporting statement (150-word limit)</p> <p>(This should briefly outline why you would be a good candidate for a summer placement, what you hope to gain from it and how this will support your career development. Please also provide any other information that is relevant to your application)</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> |
| <p>Any other relevant information?</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> |

FORM SHOULD BE EMAILED TO PHILIP BROWN at philip.brown@strath.ac.uk
DEADLINE IS MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2025

Routes other than SIPBS Project Matching

A SIPBS non-matching route

1. Approach a PI/group you might like to work with
2. Ask if they might be interested in taking you on as an intern
 - <https://www.strath.ac.uk/research/subjects/pharmacybiomedicalsciences/>
 - **This route accounted for 70% of summer placements in SIPBS, in 2024-25**

University support

- Careers Service
- “Source your own internship & placement: It's very important to be proactive in your job search. **Do not wait for vacancies to be advertised - it might never happen. Many organisations do not need to advertise their work experience opportunities, as they receive hundreds of speculative applications from students.**”
- (i.e. be one of those speculative applicants)
- <https://www.strath.ac.uk/professionalservices/careers/students/workexperience/internshipsplacements/>
- <https://www.strath.ac.uk/professionalservices/careers/students/makingapplications/makingspeculativeapplications/>

Online resources

- [Internship search at e4s](#)
- [Internship search at graduatejobs.com](#)
- [Internship search at prospects.ac.uk](#)
- [Internship search at ratemyplacement.co.uk](#)
- [Internship search at targetjobs.co.uk](#)
- [Internship search at brightnetwork.co.uk](#)
- [Internship search at milkround.com](#)
- [Internship search at gradcracker.com](#)

Where to get funding

Where can you get funding?

- **An incomplete list... (see MyPlace)**
- **You or your supervisor may need to be a member of the funding organization to be eligible.**
- Interns@Strathclyde: <https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/researchinternsstrathclyde/>
- Carnegie Trust: <https://www.carnegie-trust.org/award-schemes/vacation-scholarships/>
- Saltire Internships: <https://www.entrepreneurialscotland.com/2023-apply-now>
- Wellcome Trust: <https://wellcome.ac.uk/grant-funding/schemes/biomedical-vacation-scholarships>
- British Society for Cell Biology: <https://bscb.org/competitions-awardsgrants/studentships/>
- Biochemical Society: <https://www.biochemistry.org/grants-and-awards/grants-and-bursaries/summer-vacation-studentships/>
- Medical Research Scotland: <https://medicalresearchscotland.org.uk/undergraduate-vacation-scholarship/>
- Microbiology Society: <https://microbiologysociety.org/grants/travel-research/harry-smith-vacation-studentships.html>
- Society for Applied Microbiology: <https://sfam.org.uk/career/grants/summer-student-placement-scholarship.html>
- Physiological Society: <https://www.physoc.org/grants-and-prizes/grants/research-springboard-studentship/>
- Experimental Psychology Society: <https://eps.ac.uk/undergraduate-research-bursary/>
- **A long list at Royal Society of Biology:** <https://www.rsb.org.uk/get-involved/grants/undergraduate-studentships>

2024-25 SIPBS studentship funders

- **An incomplete list...**
- Carnegie Trust: <https://www.carnegie-trust.org/award-schemes/vacation-scholarships/>
- Microbiology Society: <https://microbiologysociety.org/grants/travel-research/harry-smith-vacation-studentships.html>
- British Pharmacology Society: <https://www.bps.ac.uk/membership-awards/prizes,-awards-and-grants/our-prizes/vacation-studentships>
- EPSRC: <https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/developing-people-and-skills/epsrc/studentships/flexibility-for-funders/internships-and-placements/>
- Faculty of Science
- Royal Society ISPF: <https://royalsociety.org/grants/international-collaboration-awards-ispf/>

How do you get paid?

- **Depends on the funder...**
- There may be output requirements, e.g. production of a project report or poster presentation: may need to be met for fund release.
- **READ THE SMALL PRINT IN THE APPLICATION FORM/DESCRIPTION!**
- **When?**
 - Before the project starts (British Pharmacological Society)
 - During the project
 - After the project (Medical Research Scotland)
- **How?**
 - Through university/department
 - Directly

What now?

- **Apply to the SIPBS matching scheme**
- Identify what kind of work/science appeals to you and **approach PIs at SIPBS** to see if they might take you on as a summer student
- **Apply to external funding schemes**
- **Contact the careers service** for professional advice
- **Work on your CV and a cover letter** for adapting to specific employers

Any questions?



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