

Ways of working with Cranfield



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Cranfield University has a world-renowned reputation for its practical and applied approach to research and postgraduate teaching. We address the needs of industry and exploits emerging research ideas of relevance to real life. Cranfield is recognised as an institution that combines the very best people with state-of-the-art facilities.

There are a number of ways in which your business can benefit from exploiting Cranfield's unique knowledge and expertise, and our flexible consultative approach. You will be working with people who are passionate about knowledge transfer and improving the performance of your organisation.

Strategic partnerships

A number of partnership opportunities exist, including:

- **Licensing and joint IP development** - Organisations can work jointly with Cranfield University on intellectual property developments and their commercial exploitation.
- **Bilateral Partnerships** - Research-intensive organisations can choose a two-way partnership with Cranfield focusing on specific technology areas.
- **Open Innovation Centres** - These centres are designed to create, exploit and transfer new knowledge and technology. They provide the opportunity for bi and multilateral collaboration on a defined research agenda and the involvement of SMEs.
- **Innovation Gateways** - These provide a two-way link between an organisation, SMEs and academia and are managed by Cranfield University on the organisation's behalf.

Research and Consultancy

Consultancy

Cranfield academics offer a broad range of skills and knowledge across a range of sectors. Projects can range from use of laboratory facilities to long-term change projects. Rates and arrangements are organised on a project by project basis.

Part-funded schemes

Businesses are able to engage in high-quality research programmes on a partly-funded scheme.

- **Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP):** KTPs involve high quality graduates (known as KTP Associates) working within companies on projects central to the needs of the company, jointly supervised by company personnel and a senior academic. KTP is a national scheme funded by UK Government.

Projects range in duration from short-term (10-40 weeks) to longer-term (one to three years) and are based around improving the competitiveness of the business, such as improving product designs, quality or manufacturing processes, reducing costs, increasing sales and developing new markets.

- **CASE:** Industrial CASE provides funding for PhD studentships where businesses take the lead in arranging projects with an academic partner of their choice. Students receive Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) funding for 3.5 years, with businesses providing additional funding, a minimum of a third of the EPSRC funding, currently approximately £22,000 over the course of the project.

Sponsored student research

Sponsored student research enables businesses to tailor postgraduate research projects to their needs. Opportunities include:

- **MSc projects:** The MSc (Master of Science) is typically a one year taught postgraduate degree, involving taught modules, group projects and an individual thesis project. The projects can be sponsored by businesses and tailored to deliver output relevant to business needs. Group projects involve a group of students researching a larger project and are usually assigned between October and May. The individual project is a full-time three to four month thesis project, often with the graduate based in the company location. Timing varies, but students tend to commence work on the project in June. Costs and project scope are discussed on a project by project basis.
- **MSc by Research projects:** We also offer research MSc programmes, where a longer project or set of projects is undertaken full-time over 1 year. Costs and project scope are discussed on a project by project basis.
- **PhD project:** The PhD involves individual research in an area that has an element of new, unique learning. Companies can approach Cranfield with a problem or issue that needs solving. A high-quality graduate is tasked with investigating the problem, in order to earn their qualification. Projects typically last three years. The minimum cost to the company is £17,000 per year which includes academic supervision and appropriate use of Cranfield University facilities.
- **EngD project:** The four year Engineering Doctorate (EngD) degree is a professional doctorate combining industry-based research, management courses and professional development activities. The university contributes a significant part of the funding for individual research projects where a significant contribution to knowledge will be achieved. The postgraduate students with engineering and physical science degrees also follow aspects of the prestigious Cranfield MBA programme. The minimum cost to the company is £9,000 per year which includes academic supervision and use of Cranfield facilities. Alternatively, company employees can register as company based students and the stipend is paid to the company to offset salary and equipment costs.

Collaborative research and development

Cranfield has vast amounts of experience working alongside businesses to develop collaborative projects and partnerships. Projects usually benefit from additional sources of funding, to maximise the value of the research undertaken.

Examples of additional funding sources include:

- **Research Councils:** Support collaborative research through a variety of mechanisms, including schemes specifically aimed at encouraging academic collaboration with industry. Partners generally contribute either cash or 'in-kind' services to the full economic cost of the research.

Details available at

www.rcuk.ac.uk/innovation/ktportal/grants

- **Technology Strategy Board (TSB):** The TSB run various competitions through their Innovation Platforms, typically aiding the development of product/processes to near market solutions.

Details available at

www.innovateuk.org

- **Energy Technology Institute (ETI):** The ETI through their technology programmes sponsor large scale demonstration projects to help bring to market technologies that will help the UK meet its energy and climate change goals.

Details available at

www.energytechnologies.co.uk

- **Regional Development Agencies (RDA):** Cranfield has built strong relationships with its RDAs and are fully briefed on all available funding opportunities from the Proof of Concept Fund to Grants for research and development.

Details available at

www.englishrdas.com

- **European Funding:** Cranfield academics are involved in wide variety of collaborative research and development programmes within Europe. We can provide expert advice on working within the European Union Framework Programme or making best use of the available Regional Development funds.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

As a wholly postgraduate University, Cranfield offers a focused learning environment whether you come here to study a Doctorate programme, a Master's programme or one of our specialist short courses.

Postgraduate degree programmes:

With a top five ranking for student employment on graduation, an excellent rating for teaching and exceptional facilities, Cranfield makes an ideal destination for advancing careers. All courses are available full and part-time and are designed in collaboration with experts in the relevant sector to meet the training needs of industry and the public sector.

Details available at

www.cranfield.ac.uk/prospectus

Short courses:

As a leading provider of professional development short courses, our programmes offer an invaluable way of keeping up-to-date with the latest technological developments and management strategies. Courses are delivered by subject specialists here at Cranfield and external practitioners. Attendance may count towards your individual CPD with professional bodies. Bespoke training and development programmes can also be provided in-company.

Details available at

www.cranfield.ac.uk/short

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