

Postdoctoral secondments – give your business a competitive edge



In partnership with C-DICE

The Centre for Postdoctoral Development in Infrastructure, Cities and Energy (C-DICE) brings together a world-class postdoctoral development programme.

The C-DICE partnership is based around the Energy Research Accelerator and UKCRIC partnership of universities. It leverages the collective capability of these 18 research-intensive UK universities, related research association and institutes, and leading industries involved in Infrastructure, Cities and Energy technologies.

C-DICE tackles two distinct but interrelated challenges central to the delivery of the UK's Industrial Strategy.

These are:

- How to build and sustain the advanced skills base required to create a pipeline of world-class talent for the Infrastructure, Cities and Energy sectors.
- How to accelerate progress towards a net-zero society by 2050, the achievement of which demands a massive interdisciplinary research effort.

C-DICE is a unique collaboration, an inclusive space to harness significant UKRI, university and industry investment in facilities and doctoral training, bringing together the intellectual capital of hundreds of postdoctoral researchers, and ready-made impact pathways, provided by an established network of globally connected partners for sustained scientific and technological leadership.

C-DICE is supported through a £4m four-year investment from the Research England Development Fund, plus £3.4m in-cash and in-kind commitments from partners.





C-DICE partners

University of Birmingham, Cranfield University, Loughborough University – C-DICE Core partners

Aston University, University of Leicester, University of Nottingham, University of Warwick, British Geological Survey, Keele University – ERA institutions

University of Bristol, University of Cambridge, University of Edinburgh, Heriot Watt University, University of Leeds, University of Manchester, Newcastle University, University of Sheffield, University of Southampton, UCL – UKCRIC institutions

How a postdoctoral secondment can benefit your business

C-DICE offers you the opportunity to draw upon a wide base of postdoctoral talent that can help your business develop new products and processes or solve some of the business-critical challenges that you face. With over 1000 postdoctoral researchers across our partnership, we can find the researcher who has the skills and expertise that you require.

We can also offer access to state-of-the-art, world-class research facilities across the Energy Research Accelerator and UKCRIC partnerships. Together, our 18 university partners can offer access to facilities and equipment worth over £400 million.

How the postdoctoral secondments programme works

We are offering a range of postdoctoral secondments for business, which can be tailored to your needs. These are available from one week up to a year.

C-DICE can part-fund the secondment up to 50%, or alternatively you may wish to fully fund it if the postdoctoral researcher is potentially involved in the generation of intellectual property which you may want to retain within your business for commercial purposes.

We are very happy to discuss your specific requirements with you and provide a bespoke financial quotation based on your specific requirements.

Secondment location	Who benefits from the research	Who funds	Who keeps the Intellectual Property
Company	The research is exclusively of benefit to the company.	Salary and overheads for use of university research facilities funded by the company.	The intellectual property is maintained by the company.
Company or university	Shared company and research agenda.	Company pays salary; university funds the overhead costs.	The intellectual property is shared by each.
Small and medium sized company or university	Shared SME and research agenda.	C-DICE and SME pay the salary, university waives overheads.	Shared IP
Charities, NGOs, Local Authorities, universities	Shared research agenda.	C-DICE pays salary, university waives overheads.	Shared IP
University	Advances university research agenda.	C-DICE pays salary, university waives overheads.	Shared IP



How else can you and your staff benefit from C-DICE?

As the table below shows you can be involved in C-DICE in a large number of ways Your contribution could be in the form of identifying the skills gaps and research challenges that C-DICE should address, or by hosting placements or secondments, funding fellowships, providing mentors and more. In addition, the postdoctoral talent at your company can also access the various C-DICE opportunities listed below.

C-DICE membership benefits to your business and your researchers

Activity	Post-Doctoral Researchers	Your business
C-DICE Membership	<p>Part of largest postdoctoral network in infrastructure, cities and energy.</p> <p>Access to a range of training and development opportunities designed around your needs.</p> <p>Access to C-DICE toolkit to map a pathway through your research.</p>	<p>Supporting the next generation of researchers.</p> <p>Influencing the development of future skills.</p> <p>Accessing expertise and knowledge exchange.</p> <p>Part of an innovative network of post-doctoral researchers.</p>
Training	<p>Access to a wide range of training and development opportunities.</p> <p>Access to training specific to UKCRIC and ERA facilities in infrastructure, cities and energy.</p>	<p>Opportunities for your employees to access training from leading universities.</p> <p>Ability to utilise state-of-the-art facilities in the UKCRIC and ERA networks.</p>
Secondments	<p>Opportunity to undertake secondments to other organisations to gain additional experience.</p> <p>Career development.</p> <p>Expand your network.</p>	<p>A secondee can work in your business on specific problems.</p> <p>Help support and develop the next generation of researchers.</p> <p>Gain access to skills.</p>
Development Fellowships (a funded position)	<p>Apply for a C-DICE fellowship.</p>	<p>Sponsor a C-DICE fellowship to address a research challenge for your industry.</p>
Sandpit series	<p>Join an activity based around an interdisciplinary team solving complex, industry-based problems.</p> <p>Promising solutions awarded seed-corn funding or fellowships</p>	<p>Work with C-DICE to define a challenge that will benefit your business.</p> <p>Act as an industry mentor during the sandpit.</p> <p>Support the challenge solution with follow-on funding.</p>

Contact us

For more information about how your business can benefit from partnering with C-DICE, please contact:

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C-DICE in numbers



OVER

600

ACADEMICS

OVER
£400M



**INVESTMENT IN
RESEARCH FACILITIES**

£4m

**FOUR YEAR
PROGRAMME**

1

2

3

4



18

**UNIVERSITY
PARTNERS**



OVER

1400

RESEARCHERS



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