Funding Opportunity for ESRC Doctoral Training Partnerships: PhD Studentships Using Linked Administrative Data – Applicant Webinar

20 September 2022
Housekeeping

• Please note that this meeting is being recorded and will be shared

• Camera is optional

• Please mute yourself

• Please submit your questions:
  • using the chat box, or
  • “raise your hand” and we will ask you to voice your question

• You can also email us at hub@adruk.org
  • Include ‘ADR UK PhD Studentships’ in the subject line
  • We aim to respond within three to five working days
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 11:00 – 11:05 | • Welcome & Housekeeping  
• Review of Agenda and Webinar Objectives  
• Introductions | Saba Mir (ADR UK)                        |
| 11:05 – 11:15 | • Background and Funding Opportunity Overview  
• ADR UK and our Training & Capacity Building Strategy  
• ADR UK PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data  
• Aims & Objectives  
• Funds & Eligibility | Emily Oliver (ADR UK)                      |
| 11:15 – 11:20 | • Applicant Questions |                                           |
| 11:20 – 11:30 | • Application and Assessment Processes  
• Application Forms [A & B] and the Role of the DTP Director vs Supervisors  
• Funding Decision Criteria  
• Next steps | Saba Mir (ADR UK)                        |
| 11:30 – 11:35 | • Applicant Questions |                                           |
| 11:35 – 11:45 | • ADR England Datasets  
• ADR UK Flagship Datasets  
• Data owner perspectives: Longitudinal Education Outcomes [LEO] programme | Balint Stewart (ADR UK)  
David Burnett (DfE) |
| 11:45-11:55 | • Accessing Data  
• Using ADR UK’s Trusted Research Environments  
• Becoming an Accredited Researcher | Catriona Taylor (ADR UK)                  |
| 11:55– 12:00 | • Applicant Questions |                                           |
Introductions

ADR UK:
• Emily Oliver, Head of Research and Capacity Building
• Saba Mir, Senior Manager, Strategic Research & Capacity Building
• Balint Stewart, Research and Impact Manager
• Catriona Taylor, Senior Programme Coordinator

Department for Education
• David Burnett, LEO Programme Manager
Background &
Funding Opportunity
Overview
What is ADR UK?

ADR UK (Administrative Data Research UK) is a partnership transforming the way researchers access the UK’s wealth of public sector data, to enable better informed policy decisions that improve lives.
Strategic goal:

More UK economic and social scientists with the skills to use rich, linked administrative data for public good.
Delivery: through the ADR UK 'front door'

ADR UK
Front door for
Linked Administrative Data

20 funded PhDs

Signposting

Generic tools

Dataset-specific tools

Communities
Networks

Brochures
Catalogues

Synthetic data
Experts
Courses
Webinars
Videos
PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data: Aims & Objectives

• New ADR UK funding for ESRC DTPs to host PhD studentships promoting wider use of administrative data for research, leading to better informed policy decisions and more effective public services.

• ESRC’s review of the PhD in the social sciences highlighted the continued need to develop capacity in data skills and advanced quantitative methods (AQM) training. These studentships will support DTPs to develop their capacity for using linked administrative data ahead of recommissioning.

• Studentships must make use of administrative data. ADR UK’s flagship datasets will be prioritised.

• Applications will be considered from both within and beyond the social sciences.

• Applicants should consider the ADR UK mission, Training & Capacity Building Strategy, and our flagship datasets (see brochure) when applying.
PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data: Funds & Eligibility

- £1.9 million available for up to 20 PhD studentships, anywhere in the UK, starting October 2023.
- Funding will be based on notional cost and length of studentship, and will include an enhanced stipend of £1,000 per student per year, in addition to a 3-month placement.
- DTPs can apply for up to four supervisor-led PhD studentships each.
- Funded students will be the responsibility of the DTP.
- Not eligible:
  - Institutions not part of an existing ESRC DTP
  - Direct applications from students
  - Studentships that are not based on linked administrative data
Questions & Answers

Please submit your questions:

- using the chat box, or

- “raise your hand” and we will ask you to voice your question
Application & Assessment Process
PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data: DTP Director

DTP Directors will be responsible for coordinating the application process.

- Complete Form A on behalf of the DTP partnership. One Form A per DTP.
  
  Information to be provided includes:
  
  - DTP’s current strengths in quantitative research, analysis, and training
  - existing experiences using administrative data
  - rationale for hosting studentships using linked administrative data
  - student recruitment process
  - plans for contributing to the growing community of administrative data researchers

- Decide which supervisor-led opportunities to put forth for consideration

- Collate and submit a completed application package on behalf of the partnership, including Form A (1) and Form B (up to four).
PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data: Supervisors

- Consult with your DTP Director before applying to ensure the DTP does not exceed the maximum total of four applications across the partnership.

- Individual supervisors can apply for multiple studentships. Each application must address different research topics and questions.

- Complete **Form B. One Form B per studentship.** Submitted to DTP Director.

  Information to be provided includes:
  - prior experiences supervising PhD students
  - supervisory capabilities using linked administrative data
  - areas for training for the supervisor, the prospective student, or both
  - desired datasets and how they will complement research topics and questions.

- Datasets can include a variety of data 'states': consider your own strengths and weaknesses.
PhD Studentships in Linked Administrative Data: Assessment Process

• Specially convened Panel includes a former DTP director, experts in administrative data, and representatives from the ADR UK partnership

• Considerations will be made based on the application package as a whole – taking into account information provided by the DTP and supervisor(s)

• Assessment Criteria include:
  • Fit to the call
  • The quality of the research environment and training provision
  • Supervisory arrangements
  • Recruitment process
  • Approach to community building
Next Steps

- 21 October 2022 (4:00 PM UK time) – Application deadline. DTPs to submit a completed package to ADR UK via e-mail to hub@adruk.org.
- October-November 2022 – Independent Panel review stage
- Late November 2022 – Panel meeting day to make collective funding decisions
- End of 2022 calendar year – Funding decisions expected to be communicated to DTPs.
- October 2023 – Studentships commence (unless agreed otherwise).

Successful Studentships– Supervisors & Students

- Check-in meeting within the first six months of studentship
- Quarterly check-ins on progress and any questions/areas where ADR UK can provide support
- Information regarding all successful applications will be published on the ADR UK website
Questions & Answers

Please submit your questions:

- using the chat box, or

- “raise your hand” and we will ask you to voice your question
✓ Awareness
✓ Visibility
✓ Access
✓ Skills
Data owner perspective:
Longitudinal Education Outcomes programme

Examples of research questions the data could be used to address

- Does attendance at a school with a “Good” Ofsted rating have an impact on a person’s labour market outcomes?
- Are pupil referral units (for pupils who have been excluded from school) effective in improving outcomes for young people?
- Does being in the care system lead to poorer labour market outcomes after controlling for other demographic and education factors?
- Which education factors have a positive impact on labour market outcomes of school leavers with poor attainment?
- Does coming from a lower socioeconomic background lead to poorer labour market outcomes after controlling for other demographic and education factors?
- What is the link between location, labour mobility and education and labour market outcomes? At similar education levels, do those who are more mobile have better outcomes?
Accessing Data from ADR UK TREs under the DEA

1. **START** Research applicant

2. Submission of research project application form

3. Trusted Research Environment: Scope, Feasibility and Methodology Checks (Information Governance approval)

4. Supplementary information required

5. UKSA accreditation

6. Project space created in TRE

7. Data sharing agreements or further control forms signed

8. Feedback/resubmission if necessary

9. Data Owners review & approve

10. Project accreditation

11. END Project starts
Becoming an Accredited Researcher

All TREs adhere to the ‘5 safes’ concept: Safe people; Safe projects; Safe settings; Safe outputs; and Safe data

**Safe People:** Before accessing data in a TRE, researchers must demonstrate they have the skills, knowledge and experience to use the data safely and effectively, and so to meet UKSA project accreditation requirements applicants must become accredited researchers.

- ONS offers **Accredited Researcher Training**, which can be applied for through the RAS system, and is currently virtual
- SCADR also offers virtual training which is ONS-accredited, the Safe Researcher Training course (**ONS-SRT**)  
  - Courses take around 1 day to complete, applicants are tested on completion, and accreditation lasts for 3 years
How to access the data …

• Depending on the data being requested, there is a number of ways a researcher can physically access the data in the TRE.
  o **Note**: these access methods are always under review by the Data Owners – some were provided temporarily during lockdown, and some have now become the norm. The ONS Metadata Catalogue always gives the most current method of access.

• These include:
  o TRE Safe Room
  o Accredited secure rooms or labs in organisations
  o Assured Organisational Connectivity (Organisation AND department level)
  o SafePod Network
  o Remote access/homeworking through VPN dongles or AOC

• Non-standard access (e.g., remote access or home working) may have to be agreed with the data owner and/or TRE
Questions & Answers

Please submit your questions:

- using the chat box, or
- “raise your hand” and we will ask you to voice your question

You can also email us at hub@adruk.org
- Include ‘ADR UK PhD Studentships’ in the subject line
- We aim to respond within three to five working days
Thank you!

Find us at adruk.org or on Twitter @ADR_UK