

# Supervisor-led Studentships Q&A

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*From Skills Development Scotland: Dr Patrick Watt & Dr Emma Hollywood*



Sgoil Cheumnaichean Saidheans  
Sòisealta na h-Alba



# Supervisor-led Competitions

There are three separate competitions

## Steers Competition

4 awards in each of the following steers

- Advanced Quantitative Methods
- Dataset
- Interdisciplinary

## 'Open' Collaborative Competition

14 awards

## Skills Development Scotland Collaborative Competition

4 awards



### Dates for your diary

- **6th October:** Stage 1 application (expression of interest) deadline for Steers
- **27th October:** Deadline for Collaborative Competition and SDS Collaborative Competition Applications
- **7th December:** Stage 2 application (full) deadline for Steers

Please note institutions may set their own internal deadlines

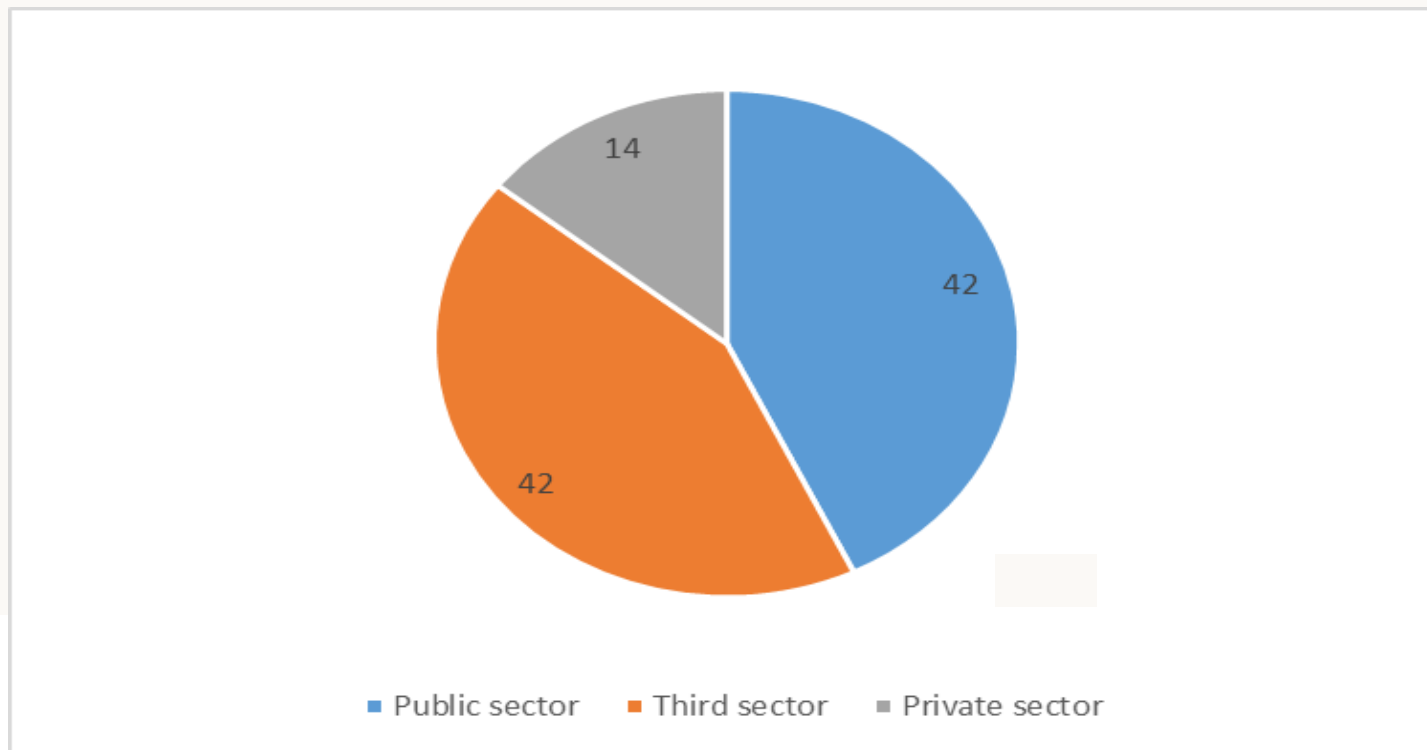


# Collaborative Studentships

## Partner Organisations

Since 2017, the SGSSS has awarded 98 collaborative studentships with a range of public, private and third sector organisations.

### SGSSS Collaborative Studentship Awards



# Collaborative Studentships

## Financial Model



Partner organisations are expected to contribute to the studentship financially. As we know not all organisations will be able to contribute the same amount, there is a sliding scale:

Type of Partner Organisation	Partner Contribution	SGSSS Contribution	HEI Contribution
Private sector (micro)	10%	65%	25%
Private sector (small)	25%	50%	25%
Private sector (med)	33%	50%	17%
Private sector (large)	50%	50%	0%
Public sector	33%	50%	17%
Charity sector	10%	65%	25%

The logo for Skills Development Scotland, featuring the text "Skills Development Scotland" in white on a teal background with a decorative border.

Skills  
Development  
Scotland

# Skills Development Scotland

Dr Patrick Watt, Dr Emma Hollywood & Dr Emma Parry



# SDS Collaborative PhD Programme



## How it works

- SDS works closely with the university, academic supervisors and the student to support successful completion of the PhD.
- Each student has an SDS sponsor who links the student into SDS and the wider skills community.
- **The PhD should have a strong focus on policy and practice outcomes and impact.**

## Benefits of the SDS programme

- Engages the academic community in Scotland to support policy-relevant skills research.
- Produces new research aligned to the evolving skills agenda in Scotland.
- Develops a new group of researchers with an in-depth understanding of the unique Scottish skills landscape.
- Find out more in our [PhD Brochure 2022](#).

## 2022/23 SDS PhD topics



- Understanding career decision making using data from Growing Up in Scotland (GUS)

- Role of skills in addressing economic inactivity in Scotland

- Productivity, skills, and digital transformation

- Role of skills in supporting entrepreneurship among young people

# Supervisor-led Studentships

Key notes for 2022/23



- **Risk assessment** continues to be captured in application forms across competitions.
- There is a strong emphasis on **ethics** in application forms (and in marking frameworks).
- As with last year, all studentships must be offered as **1+3 or +3** awards.
- As with last year, all studentships must be offered as **full-time or part-time** opportunities.
- In 2020 the ESRC announced changes to **student residential eligibility criteria** which enables up to 30% of studentships to be held by international students (Economics can recruit up to 50%). We will circulate recruitment advice to successful supervisors upon receipt of their awards.



# Supervisor-led Studentships

Key notes for 2022/23



- Changes to the **Marking Framework** for the assessment of student applications (this shifts the focus more explicitly to a Whole Person Approach) trialed in 2021/22 have now been embedded in both student and supervisor led competitions.
- In 2021 we changed our application and review system – Now using **SGSSS Apply**, not GradHub.

# Questions



# Next Steps

- To find out more about the collaborative studentships competition and see examples of current projects, check out the case studies and introductory video at:  
[www.sgsss.ac.uk/studentships/collaborative-competition/](http://www.sgsss.ac.uk/studentships/collaborative-competition/)
- For more detailed guidance on how to apply to the various steers (AQM, Datasets or ID) within the Steers Competition, please see the videos recorded by Professor Lydia Plowman and Dr Alan Marshall, available on our website here:  
[www.sgsss.ac.uk/studentships/steers-competition/](http://www.sgsss.ac.uk/studentships/steers-competition/)
- If you have any additional queries, please email us on [team@sgsss.ac.uk](mailto:team@sgsss.ac.uk)

