PIPS Advert DATE 2025

*Organisations Interested in hosting an EastBio-funded PhD student for a 3-month placement, are asked to fill in this form and send it to* [*placements@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk*](mailto:placements@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk)*. The EastBio team will advertise the internship opportunity directly to funded students who are between year 1 and 3 of their PhD study. Please make sure you visit our webpage* [*http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/information-organisations*](http://www.eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk/information-organisations)*, or contact the EastBio DTP Manager at* [*Maria.Filippakopoulou@ed.ac.uk*](mailto:Maria.Filippakopoulou@ed.ac.uk) *for further information.*

*EastBio students interested in exploring this PIPS opportunity further, please follow the instructions within the posting and, if contacting the organisation, copy in* [*placements@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk*](mailto:placements@eastscotbiodtp.ac.uk) *to keep the EastBio team informed of your application.*

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| Host Organisation Details | | | |
| Host Organisation Name | Sense about Science | | |
| Host Organisation Sector Type  Please select from list in [Appendix](#Appendix) | Charities & Voluntary work | | |
| Please write a brief, plain description of what your organisation does (max 200 words) | Sense about Science promotes the public interest in sound science and evidence. It is a unique campaigning charity that has turned the case for sound science and evidence into a popular cause. It has launched important initiatives to expand and protect open discussions of evidence, including Transparency of Evidence to secure openness for the public about the evidence behind decisions, AllTrials, an effective global campaign for the reporting of clinical trials; and, with Nature, it runs the international Maddox prize for standing up for science. It engages the public in ‘Asking for Evidence’ and leads initiatives to make subjects such as risk, uncertainty, data science and AI accessible. | | |
| Postal address | Sense about Science 41 Portland Place, London W1B 1QH | | |
| Website | https://senseaboutscience.org/ | | |
| Contact person name and role in the organisation  *Please confirm whether they will be different to the Student Mentor/Supervisor (details to be confirmed below).* | Dr Sameh ElBadry, Project Officer | | |
| Contact person email and phone number | Would either be Sameh or Munkhbayar Elkins, Senior Research and Policy Officer, [sameh@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:sameh@senseaboutscience.org), munkhbayar@senseaboutscience.org | | |
| Will your Organisation provide physical premises external to the University with professional staff who will support the development of an intern’s professional skills appropriate to PhD level?  *Please note that E*as*tBio DTP may approve remote or hybrid placements as long as the PIPS project is suitable for this*. | Yes | No | TBC |
| Any other relevant information, for instance how the project is suited to a remote or hybrid placement:  The intern would be expected to be based in London and to come into the office four days a week, with Wednesdays as a work from home day. | | |

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| **PIPS Internship Details and Desired Outcomes** | |
| PIPS Project Title | Science and Policy Intern |
| Description of the internship project you are offering, which will be shared directly with eligible PhD students (max 500 words). | The intern will work across a range of our projects and programmes depending on the timing of their placement and their specific interests. They will be expected to support project leads by attending meetings, conducting research, and brainstorming ideas.  Some examples of projects they may help out with include:   * Our Transparency of Evidence in Government campaign wherein we rate how transparent the evidence base is behind upcoming government policies. * Our flagship event, Evidence Week in Parliament, which brings researchers, the public and policymakers together to discuss how evidence is used in policy decisions through policy briefings, panel discussions and training workshops. * Our Voice of Young Science programme which delivers a regular schedule of workshops, newsletters, and resources, all with the aim of building the confidence and capacity for early career researchers to get their voices heard about science and research in the public space. * Our Public Engagement Partnerships which follow our public-led, expert-fed ethos meaning we engage early and directly with the public to address their questions and concerns. |
| Option for inviting interested students to apply directly by CV to generate a tailored internship project with your Organisation | Interested students should send their CV and a short cover letter to [internships@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:internships@senseaboutscience.org). |
| Geographic location of this internship?  AND/OR  Option for a remote or hybrid placement, and a rationale for a virtual internship (max 150 words) | The intern would be expected to be based in London and to come into the office four days a week, with Wednesdays as a work from home day. |
| What range of professionals will the PhD student work with during this internship? | The PhD student will work with a range of professionals including, but not limited to, other early career researchers, senior researchers, policy professionals (such as policy officers and policymakers), members of the public and public engagement officers, and heads of other non-profit and research organisations. |
| Based on the project’s objectives, what specific results do you want the PhD intern to achieve? | The core aim and objectives of the internship is for the intern to gain real world experience in policy and public engagement, science communications and issues of research quality through working on public facing projects to raise the standard of evidence in public life.  Specific results the intern could have in mind include being able to explain to someone else what policy engagement for researchers may look like, what an effective public campaign entails, and what makes a meaningful public engagement project wherein both the experts and public have equal input to the final outcome, just to name a few. |
| How do these outcomes fit with your wider business objectives? | These outcomes all fit with our wider business objective of championing the public interest in sound science and evidence. All of our projects, whether they have a public engagement focus, policy focus, or early career researcher focus, have this guiding aim in mind. |

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| **PIPS Internship Timing / Duration / Management** | | | | |
| Timing of the Internship  *If provisional dates at this stage, please mark on the form* | PIPS start date (05/01/26) - flexible, but no earlier than January 2026. | | PIPS end date (27/03/26)   * Duration is 12 weeks, so end date is dependent on start date. | |
| Format of the Internship, e.g.  3-month block or a number of shorter blocks | 3-month block. | | | |
| Internship anticipated time of work (e.g. full-time, 35 hours/week; part-time option, etc.) | Full-time, equivalent to 35 hours per week. | | | |
| Name of person who will act as the PhD student supervisor/mentor (line manager) during this internship (if different to the contact mentioned above) | Not different. See above. | | | |
| Supervisor position in the host organisation | Either Project Officer or Senior Research and Policy Officer. | | | |
| Supervisor Contact email and phone number | [Sameh@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:Sameh@senseaboutscience.org), [Munkhbayar@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:Munkhbayar@senseaboutscience.org) 07355 238071 | | | |
| Is the Organisation willing to make a contribution towards intern’s travel or accommodation costs?  *Please note that the student will be in receipt of their PhD stipend during the placement and they are also able to apply to EASTBIO for limited funds towards their travel and/or accommodation. If the student lives more than 50 miles from the Organisation’s location, we encourage a contribution from the PIPS host towards their travel or accommodation costs; this is optional. The only financial expectation from the PIPS host is to cover all costs associated with the PIPS project (consumables).* | Yes | No | | TBC |
| Any other information relevant to the intern’s financial support from your organisation? | Unfortunately, as a small charity, we do not have the means to provide financial support from the organisation to help cover travel and accommodation costs. | | | |

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| **Person Specification**  *Please give details of what is required for this internship – skills, experiences and personal qualities, whether essential or desirable.* | |
| What skills does the PhD student need to complete this internship project? | We expect all our interns to possess some essential skills, including:   * Ability to identify and use initiative to solve problems * Ability to organise and prioritise work * A flair for clear, engaging writing * Friendly manner * Candidates should be familiar with and share the Sense about Science ethos regarding the public interest in sound science and evidence |
| What soft attributes do they need to fit in/contribute? | See above. |

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| **Application Details** | | |
| If applicable, provide the date by which you will accept expressions of interest from students. | Rolling basis. No deadline. We accept interns on a first come, first serve basis (if they seem like a good fit!). | |
| I wish this internship to be advertised open ended to PhD students? | Yes | No |
| If ‘No’, please specify a **closing date** for receiving CVs from interested students? |  | |
| Name and contact details for PhD students to submit their CV applications to | [Internships@senseaboutscience.org](mailto:Internships@senseaboutscience.org) | |
| Would you expect further support from EASTBIO regarding this advertised opportunity? No. | | |
| Any other relevant information: | | |
| Please provide, below, any further comments about his opportunity not covered in the sections above. | | |

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| **Completed & Signed by:** | |
| PIPS Host Organisation Name & Date | Camilla Arvidsson, Senior Programmes Officer, 8 July 2025. |
| Date Advert submitted to EASTBIO |  |
| Date Advert circulated by EASTBIO |  |

*Thank you for your support of the UKRI BBSRC PIPS Scheme.*

**APPENDIX - PIPS Organisations - Sector List**

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| Academia | Fire, Police & Security |
| Advertising, Marketing & Public Relations | Food & Beverage |
| Aerospace & Defence | Government & Civil Service (including public service administration) |
| Agriculture, Livestock breeding & Fishing (including production, animal welfare) | Health & Social Care |
| Biotechnology, Medical & Pharmaceuticals | Hospitality, Leisure, Travel, Tourism and Sports |
| Business and Management (including business intelligence & market research) | IT & Telecommunications (Hardware & Software) |
| Chemicals | Law (including legal services) |
| Clothing, Footwear & Fashion | Logistics, Transport, Purchasing & Supply |
| Consultancy | Media, Communication, Journalism & Publishing |
| Charities & Voluntary work (non-profit / third sector) | Metals & Construction Materials |
| Creative arts, Design and Culture | Product Manufacturing |
| Education & Training (including teaching) | Real Estate & Renting |
| Energy & Utilities (including renewable energy and energy conservation) | Recruitment & Human Resources |
| Engineering (civil and mechanical) | Retail, Buying & Merchandising |
| Environment (including recycling, environmental services, conservationism and industries) | Science & Research |
| Financial services (including accounting, auditing & banking) | Other |