The aim of the **Saltire Emerging Researcher Scheme** is to promote mobility between Scotland and European research partners with the aim of strengthening existing, and seeding future, research relationships.

Funding of up to £2,500 is available for PhD/PGRs currently studying in a SICSA institutions to visit a partner institution for a focused research visit.

SICSA will work in partnership with EiT Digital to promote exchange opportunities with European institutions through their membership.

**Application Process**

Complete the Expression of Interest (EoI) form detailing:

- How the focus of the proposal and your research aligns with Resilient and Sustainable Digital Infrastructures Exchanges (Re-inDex) Theme.
- Details of access to training, facilities and network building opportunities
- Details of host (if you have identified one)
  - After submission the EoI will be considered and the outcome will be communicated to you within **5 working days**.

On approval of EoI (if applicable) a full Application Form should be completed detailing:

- Host institution including a nominated contact champion & contact details.
- Proposed Title, start and end dates of the exchange (these can be amended on condition the exchange is completed by end July 2022)
- Details of the Exchange (as stated in the proposal form)
- Budget requested and breakdown of costs (see funding information below)

**Eligibility**

- Applicants must be a PhD student currently studying Informatics & Computer Science within within a SICSA institute (outbound) or studying/researching at an EU/EEA/EFTA institution (inbound).
- Exchanges must take place between Scotland and an EU Member State, EEA or EFTA country.
- For outbound exchanges the host must be a University / Higher Education or Industry partner.
- For inbound exchanges the host must be must be a SICSA Member Institution.
- Only one successful application per applicant.
- The exchange may build on, or be extensions to,existing activity or may be new developments.
- Visits should be a minimum of 1 month, maximum of 2 months.
Funding Information

• A maximum of £2,500 will be awarded for economy class travel, accommodation and subsistence.
• Applications should be costed in line with the following guidelines:
  o Return air travel (economy class only)
  o Accommodation is limited to £75 per night (for extended trips rented accommodation should be sought).
  o Subsistence is limited to £25 per diem

All costs for the exchange should be arranged by your school/department using an internal project. Following the exchange an invoice for the full amount should be submitted to SICSA for reimbursement.

Conditions of Funding

• The exchange must be completed by 31 July 2022.
• A supporting statement from your supervisor must be attached to the application.
• A letter of support from the host institution must be attached to the application (template letter available).
• A contingency plan relating to the possibility of returning COVID restrictions must be included in your proposal.
• Any changes to the planned exchange must be approved by the SICSA Directorate.
• A short structured report/video must be submitted within one month of return from the exchange.
• If you are successful you will be enrolled in the Saltire Researcher Scheme Alumni and will be encouraged to attend a cohort event once all exchanges have taken place.
• Travel and accommodation arrangements must be arranged by the proposer/institution.

Application Submission

Applicants should apply using the downloadable forms (Expression of Interest and Saltire Application Form) [links] and submit to admin@sicsa.ac.uk

The funding call dates will be on a rolling basis - funding call deadlines are:

• 15th November 2021
• 15th December 2021
• 15th January 2022

Following submission, the proposal will be considered by members of the SICSA Directorate and the outcome will be notified to you within 4 weeks.

If you have any questions about the Saltire Emerging Researcher Scheme please contact Jamie Ferguson (Jamie.F.Ferguson@glasgow.ac.uk)