

General Questions

Who is eligible for ICURE Discover?

ICURE Discover is open to all UK researchers and technicians from any discipline. This includes any research staff or technical research staff member who receives their salary or stipend from an eligible university, PSRE, research institute or organisation (including, but not limited to, Ph.D., technician, PDRA, fellowship, and group leader positions).

However, we are actively seeking applications from:

- Universities that have not previously participated in the 3-month ICURE programme.
- Universities that do not receive HEIF funding.
- Teams led by early career researchers and/or principal investigators who are from under-represented groups, including women, people of colour, those living with disabilities, and those from the LGBTQI+ communities.
- Teams from regional Universities.
- Approved public sector research enterprises (PSREs).

I'm a PhD student; can I apply to ICURE Discover?

Yes, you are eligible for ICURE Discover if you have a contract of employment with the university or PSRE. However, it is recommended that you apply towards the end of your PhD as it enables you to move forward into ICURE Explore if you are interested without restrictions.

I am a non-UK national; can I participate in ICURE Discover?

Yes, provided you have the necessary visas allowing you to travel and work in the UK.

Do I require a team for ICURE Discover?

You don't require a team to participate in ICURE Discover. However, it is recommended that you are aware of who your Technology Transfer Officer (TTO) is and inform your PSA (Principal Scientific Advisor) or Senior Researcher.

Can we apply for ICURE Discover if the Entrepreneurial Lead/ applicant is from another university?

This is allowed for ICURE Discover, but there would need to be an agreement between both universities' TTOs and research groups.

Does the idea have to be directly related to the research I am doing?

Yes, and the participation must be supported by your research group.

Can an application include more than one Entrepreneurial Lead for ICURE Discover?

For ICURE Discover, only one researcher can apply per research group.

What's the time commitment required for ICURE Discover if I am successful?

ICURE Discover is an 8-week part-time program and will be delivered online. The commitment each week varies depending on the delivery partner, and you will be given more information at the start of the programme.

IP- related Questions

Would intellectual property (IP) that is being developed between a university/PSRE and a company be eligible?

Yes, if the new IP is wholly owned by the University/PSRE and not in the business environment.

Am I eligible for ICURE Discover if I own the IP or if it is shared with a university /research organisation?

Yes, but only with the full support of the host University's TTO and research team. Otherwise, you will need to demonstrate that you have an appropriate team to support the commercialisation process.

Are there any implications for IP ownership and revenue distribution if the academic takes part?

The ICURE programme does not take any equity or revenue from any teams or companies. It is a fully paid-for programme funded by Innovate UK to help UK researchers explore the commercial potential and application of their research.

What happens if my Senior Researcher owns all the IP?

If the Senior Researcher is employed by the University, the IP is owned by the University. Hence, it is recommended that your TTO is aware that you are applying to ICURE programs.

In exceptional cases, some academics may own their own IP. Please reach out to us to discuss this further.