



Innovate
UK



National Biofilms
Innovation Centre

NBIC ICURe Engage, June 2025

Key Dates & Expectations

Applications Open: From 10th April 2025

Please note that this programme is only open to NBIC Partner Universities – you may check [here](#) to see if your university meets this criterion, and if you wish to apply or require further information please visit: <https://www.f6s.com/setsquared-biofilms-icure-engage-egjun25/apply>

Applications Close: 23:59 on Monday 19th May 2025

Notification of results sent to ICURe Engage applicants – w/e Friday 23rd May 2025

Key Dates**

Online Bootcamp x2 days: Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th June 2025 (9.00am – 4.00pm)

Weekly Sessions x3: Thursday 12th June, 19th June & 26th June (final session for video presentations) (12.30pm – 2.00pm).

Participants will be expected to attend all sessions scheduled above and should hold these dates in their diary when applying.

To fully benefit from the programme, you should allocate approximately half a day of your own time in weeks 2-4 of the programme.

Application Process

Before applying, we advise you to look at the application template to understand what information is required.

Please complete the application form clearly and concisely.

Sections with * must be completed.

Before submitting your application, please ensure both your superior and, if possible, your Technology Transfer Office (TTO) is aware and supportive of your application and therefore programme attendance.

** Dates subject to change.

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What is Engage?

Biofilms ICURE Engage is a 4-week, part-time programme funded by NBIC and delivered by the SETsquared Partnership, tailored for researchers, students and technicians of NBIC partner universities working in the field of biofilms and microbes. This programme teaches how to identify potential beneficiaries and users of academic research, introduce participants to commercialisation tools, and foster entrepreneurship.

Innovate UK's ICURE (Innovation to Commercialisation of University Research) Programme is a nationwide programme which supports students and researchers to explore the commercial applications and potential impacts of their research.

What's Included?

- 2 Day online training bootcamp covering:
 - Entrepreneurial Thinking
 - The Language of Business
 - Emotional Resilience and Wellbeing
 - Introduction to Verbal Business Card and Value Proposition
 - Impact and marketing testing online
- 3 weekly sessions covering:
 - Value Proposition and your market
 - Testing your Value Proposition
 - Your video reflecting your learning.

All programme materials have been aligned with the [EntreComp model](#).

- Engage provides a route towards other ICURE Programmes.
(Please note Discover and Explore programme will require their own application, there is no automatic entry if Engage is completed).

Why Attend?

Past participants say that having dedicated time to spend understanding what commercialisation of research means has dramatically changed their perspective on their research, ideas, and innovations. The programme provides the space and opportunity to consider research impact, commercialisation, and entrepreneurship.

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Who is Eligible?

Please note that this programme is open to NBIC partner universities only. Check to see if your university is an NBIC partner [here](#).

The Biofilms ICURE Engage programme is open to researchers at all levels of seniority, technicians and students from all disciplines undertaking research master's degrees, PhDs, and Post-Docs, based at NBIC research partner universities and who are interested in entrepreneurship. This opportunity is available regardless of whether you already have an innovative idea, as the programme introduces you to ICURE and provides the space and opportunity to think about entrepreneurship differently.

Your course of study, your idea and/or your research MUST be directly related to the biofilms sector or address a key biofilms challenge.

Biofilms are made of numerous living micro-organisms, such as bacteria or fungi, evolving and growing as a collective. Microbial biofilms and communities are among the largest biomass activity centre on the planet, with an estimated 96% of microbes on Earth found in biofilms.

Biofilms are central to our most important global challenges – from infections, antimicrobial resistance and food safety to water security, marine biofouling and corrosion and exert significant economic, social, and environmental impacts estimated at \$5 trillion per annum.

Find out more about the global economic significance of biofilms [here](#).

We also welcome applications from individuals in:

- Universities who have not participated in the ICURE programme.
- Universities who do not receive HEIF funding.
- Approved public sector research enterprises (PSREs).

We are committed to supporting Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and welcome applications from anyone who is eligible.

How do I apply?

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Apply: <https://www.f6s.com/setsquared-biofilms-icure-engage-egjun25/apply>

For any questions and additional information contact both: icure@setsquared.co.uk and nbic@biofilms.ac.uk