

ICURE Engage EGFEB26 OPEN

Thursday 19th February 2026 to Thursday 12th March 2026

KEY DATES AND EXPECTATIONS**

• Tuesday 27 th January 2026	Applications open
• Monday 9 th February 2026	Applications close
• End of Close Thursday 12 th February 2026	Notification of results sent to applicants

Programme Outline

- **2 Day Bootcamp: Thursday 19th February 2026 and Friday 20th February, 09:00 – 16:00**
- **Session 1: Thursday 26th February 2026**
- **Session 2: Thursday 5th March 2026**
- **Session 3: Thursday 12th March 2026**

All sessions scheduled for 12.30-14.30.

- The research student/technician will be expected to attend all sessions scheduled above and should hold these dates in their diary when applying.
- Technology Transfer Representatives are also welcome to attend bootcamp and sessions, but it is not obligatory.

** Timetable subject to change.

What is Engage?

This sector specific Innovate UK ICURE Engage is a 4-week, part-time programme tailored for research students and technicians. This programme aims to identify potential beneficiaries of research, introduce participants to tools for commercialisation, and foster consideration of entrepreneurship as a pathway for achieving societal impact and a viable career choice.

What does it include?

- 2-day training bootcamp from Impact experts.
- Introduction to ICURE, ideation, design thinking and Value Proposition Canvas.
- Weekly hour-long conversations with peer group support and mentors for 3 Weeks.
- Around 5 hours of self-study and research over the 3 weeks.
- Consideration of how a venture delivering Impact may be funded.
- Production of a short video report reflecting on knowledge gained and research area Impact potential.

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 introduces ICURE and provides the space and opportunity to think differently about impact, commercialisation, and entrepreneurship. Our pioneers get access to leading university resources, and fantastic networks of mentors and investors who join them early on their journey. We're de-risking very exciting technologies which have enormous potential to change the world for the better.

Who is eligible?

The ICURE Engage programme is open to all research students (including those pursuing research master's degrees, 1st or 2nd year PhD students, and Post-Docs) as well as technicians from all disciplines who are interested in entrepreneurship. This opportunity is available regardless of whether they already have an idea, as the programme introduces them to ICURE and provides the space and opportunity to think about entrepreneurship differently.

We particularly welcome applications from individuals in:

- Universities who have not previously participated in the ICURE programme.
- Universities who do not receive HEIF funding.
- Under-represented groups including women, people of color, those living with disabilities, and those from the LGBTQI+ communities.
- Approved public sector research establishments (PSREs) conducting research within the specified domains.

How do I apply?

- The online application form will ask a series of questions about you and your research project.
- There is a limited number of spaces on each Cohort, but we try to provide support to as many applications as possible.
- The application form may be accessed from the links on this website.

If you have any further questions, please direct them to icure@setsquared.co.uk or use the contact form via this website.