

# Call for Institutional Applications: GambleAware PhD Grant Awards



GambleAware

August 2021

## Introduction

GambleAware invites grant applications from universities and other research institutions in Great Britain to fund three-year PhD studentships. Each institution may apply for a maximum of two PhD studentship grants to award on to PhD students. There are six grants available in 2021/2022; further grants will be available in 2022/23 and 2023/24.

Grants to fund PhD studentship places will be awarded to universities, departments, and/or faculties with a track record of supportive and impactful PhD studentships, and of producing research in GambleAware's identified priority areas for these awards, outlined below. These grant awards will support GambleAware's ambition to build knowledge of the lived experience of gambling harms and to help grow multi-disciplinary gambling research capacity in Great Britain.

The PhD grant awards will help universities to:

- Develop capacity and expertise in an emerging new area of gambling and gambling harms research.
- Contribute to understandings of harms associated with gambling within the academy, and society at large.
- Contribute to building a knowledge base which, in the longer term, may influence policy, practice, and the provision of treatment and support services for preventing and reducing gambling harms across Great Britain.

## Priority Areas for PhD Research Funding

PhD funding will be awarded to institutions (grantees) with proven track records of undertaking research to build knowledge and understanding in the priority areas set out below. PhD studentships subsequently awarded by grantees to PhD students must be for research in these priority areas. These intersecting areas focus on the lived experience of communities who experience higher burdens of gambling harms<sup>1</sup>, are relatively invisible, and who are generally under-represented in many specialist gambling treatment services.<sup>2</sup>

1. Research focussing on the **lived experience** of communities impacted by gambling harms.
2. Research on **women, minority communities, young people**, and their relationships with gambling and gambling harms.
3. Research on other communities with **protected characteristics**, including those living with **disabilities, minority sexualities and gender identities**, and those involved in the **military**, and their relationships with gambling and gambling harms.

## Assessment Criteria

GambleAware will assess applications for PhD studentship grant funding from GB institutions. Applications will need to demonstrate:

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<sup>1</sup> Conolly, A, Davies, B., Fuller, E., Heinze, N., Wardle, H., 2018, *Gambling behaviour in Great Britain in 2016 Evidence from England, Scotland and Wales* (London: NatCen Social Research)

<sup>2</sup> Dinos, S., Windle, K., Crowley, J., Khambhaita, P., 2020, *Treatment Needs And Gap Analysis In Great Britain Synthesis Of Findings From A Programme Of Studies* (London: NatCen Social Research)

- A track record of high impact research.
- A track record of at least ten impactful research publications in one or more research priority areas outlined above.
- Supportive graduate schemes that provide a quality environment, facilities, and opportunities for collaborative working and networking.
- Infrastructure to support graduate students, including training to support development of skills and expertise needed for the completion of PhD studentships.
- Identified PhD supervisors who are clearly experienced in the above research priority areas. Supervisors may be across departments.
- Support from the respective Head of Department and finance office in the applying institution.

We will not fund applications from the following:

- Institutions based outside Great Britain.
- PhDs undertaken in areas outside the identified priority areas.
- PhD students themselves; grants are being awarded by GambleAware to institutions only.

## Recruitment to and Management of PhD Studentships

Institutions will recruit students as per their own organisational policies and procedures and will ensure equitable selection of students. The studentships will be managed by each institution's administrative processes internally.

## Funding Available

There are six grants available to institutions to fund PhD studentships available in 2021/2022. Each institution may apply for a maximum of two PhD grants. The PhD studentships are intended to be full-time.

Each grant for a PhD studentship includes:

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|---|-----------------------|
| • Standard maintenance:                       | £15,285               |
| • Fees:                                       | £ 4,407               |
| • Research training, support, conferences etc | £ 750                 |
| • Fieldwork:                                  | £ 450                 |
| • <b>Total per year:</b>                      | <b>£20,892</b>        |
| • <b>Total over 3 years:</b>                  | <b><u>£62,676</u></b> |

Funding to publish GambleAware PhD grantee research in **open access publications** can be applied for separately via an application from grantee institutions on behalf of PhD students. Details can be found in GambleAware's guidelines for [Options and Considerations for Research Dissemination and Publication](#).

## Overview of Process

- Each institutional applicant may apply for a maximum of two PhD studentship grants.

- After PhDs are awarded by GambleAware, grantees will award the studentships on to PhD students within 12 calendar months.
- Grantee institutions will award the PhD studentships to students applying for funding for PhDs focussing on themes relevant to GambleAware's research priority areas.
- Grantees will report on the research undertaken to GambleAware as set out below.
- GambleAware will not be involved in the selection of PhD candidates.
- Students recruited by institutions must be approved by GambleAware to provide assurance that PhDs awarded by institutions focus on GambleAware's priority areas for PhD research, as set out above.

## Reporting Requirements

- A first-, second-, and third-year annual report will be submitted to GambleAware, as per GambleAware's reporting template.
- A copy of the final thesis after the viva is passed and corrections accepted will be submitted to GambleAware (internal use only).
- Institutions will demonstrate award of PhDs to GambleAware, i.e. when PhD viva has been passed, and student has graduated with award of a PhD.
- A minimum of one accepted peer-reviewed publication resulting from the studentship will be reported to GambleAware.

## How to Apply

Applications must be submitted to GambleAware by an appropriate representative of the applicant institution. Specifically, applications must include:

- Name of applicant institution
- Contact details of institution (address and phone number)
- Email address of key contact at applicant institution
- Job title of contact at applicant institution
- How many PhD studentship grants are being applied for (maximum of 2)
- Support from the respective Head of Department and finance office
- A written statement of **no more than 1,000 words**, in support of the application, including:
  1. Demonstration of the institution's proven track record of undertaking research building knowledge and understanding in the **Priority Areas for PhD Research Funding** outlined in this document.
  2. Demonstration that the applicant meets all the **Assessment Criteria** as outlined in this document.

Please provide your statement in a word document, taking note of the word count, and send your application to [research@gambleaware.org](mailto:research@gambleaware.org) by **5pm** on **20<sup>th</sup> September 2021**.

## Guideline Timings

The guideline timings for application process are as follows:

Activity	Date
Call for applications issued	w/c 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 2021
Information event to hear about GambleAware's research strategy and priorities	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2021
Closing date for clarification questions (all FAQs will be published)	13 <sup>th</sup> September 2021
Closing date for applications	20 <sup>th</sup> September 2021, 5pm
Final decision and award	w/c 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2021