

Guidance: Student Business Engagement Fund

A University of Sussex ESRC IAA / SeNSS funding scheme

Objectives & available funding

The University of Sussex *Student Business Engagement Fund* is designed for doctoral researchers (PhD students) who are ESRC-funded and are seeking to develop new relationships, or continue established links, with industry (i.e. profit-making entities). The engagement should be based on your social science research and aim to explore collaborations that could lead to further engagement. This is a quick turnaround fund, enabling quick-action initial engagement for activities such as:

- *Identifying business contacts through stakeholder mapping*
- *Establishing an interdisciplinary approach that has social science as an integral element*
- *Meeting people from relevant industries to discuss innovative ideas for collaboration*
- *Attending events to understand business needs & develop approaches to collaboration*

Funding is available for up to £750. All activities will need to be completed, and funding spent, normally within 3 months, and no later than 28 February 2019.

(Please note: an additional fund for more developed engagement activities & larger budgets will be available shortly – please do get in touch for more information.)

This fund is not intended to underwrite academic conference organisation or other initiatives with a primarily academic audience.

Review Procedure

This funding scheme is intended to be light touch, allowing for a swift response. Requests for funds **may be submitted at any time** using the Student Business Engagement Fund application form. Applications will be reviewed quickly with the aim of responding within 1 week.

Review Criteria

- Explanation of the business links, or possibilities of linking with industry
- Clear activities
- Potential outcomes (short or medium term changes) and impacts (long-term changes) explained

Reporting requirements

Successful applicants will be expected to submit a very brief report on progress, outcomes to date, and intentions for possible future impact activities.

Further information

To discuss the possibility of applying, we recommend contacting one of the following:

- Shelley Jenkins, Senior Doctoral School Coordinator, s.l.jenkins@sussex.ac.uk, x7376
- Megan McMichael, ESRC IAA Project Manager, m.mcmichael@sussex.ac.uk, x8178