



SPHeRE HRB
Structured Population and
Health-services Research Education

Apply to the SPHeRE Programme 2022-2023

The SPHeRE Programme is now accepting applications for the 2022/2023 academic year

The SPHeRE PhD Programme in Population Health and Health-services Research (PHHSR) aspires to cultivate world-class researchers through a four-year structured PhD Programme. The SPHeRE Programme can also be undertaken over a longer time period on a part-time, self-funded basis. The Programme is led by all the universities in Ireland. We welcome applicants with an interest in carrying out research on population health and/or health services in the Irish context and from a wide range of academic and clinical disciplines, including public health, health psychology, health economics, health policy, general practice, biostatistics, health geography and social science among others.

Applicants who are awarded a HRB SPHeRE Scholarship will be allocated to a project that best matches their profile under one of the following project areas:

- Health policy and systems research
- Health service and technology evaluation
- Population health research

Depending on the project that the applicant is allocated to, applicants may be registered at one of the following institutions:

- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI)
- Trinity College Dublin, The University of Dublin (TUD)
- University College Cork (UCC)
- The National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG)
- The National University of Ireland, Maynooth (MU)
- Dublin City University (DCU)
- University of Limerick (UL)
- University College Dublin (UCD)
- Technological University Dublin (TUD)

It will not be possible for Scholars to move a project to their preferred institution

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The full-time 4 year structured PhD Programme features:

- 6 taught modules completed in the first year of the Programme
- Opportunities for multidisciplinary research
- Supervision by internationally renowned Principal Investigators

In addition, SPHeRE HRB funded scholars benefit from:

- 8-week specialist rotation in Irish health related agencies in the first year
- Placement with a prestigious overseas agency to further PhD project development in the second or third years
- Professional skills training allowance
- Travel funds to national training days and international conferences
- Annual stipend, plus laptop computer, plus PhD fees

This Programme provides excellent training for scholars in core health services and population health research skills.

How to apply?

All applications are submitted online through www.sphereprogramme.ie/apply

Individual applicants are asked to complete an online application form and submit a one-page cover letter and a two-page Curriculum Vitae (including degree grades and contact details for two referees). In your cover letter, please discuss your education, training, and experience (research and/or practice) in population health and health services research (PHHSR) and provide evidence of leadership (in an academic and/or non-academic capacity). Additionally, you may consider indicating how your prior experience or possible PhD topic are policy relevant and potentially address SPHeRE's twelve Research Priorities (further information available on our website).

Please note that HRB SPHeRE funding is not available for part-time PhD students on the SPHeRE Programme. Self-funded scholars are liable for fees at their host institution and all equipment, data collection & dissemination costs.

Successful non-EU applicants for funded positions will be liable for fees above that for European applicants. Fees vary, but further information on fees can be found on the websites of the individual institutions.

Interviews for SPHeRE Scholarships will take place on Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th June 2022 via Zoom.

The deadline for applications for a HRB funded SPHeRE Scholarship is **12 noon, Friday 20th May 2022**. Incomplete applications or late applications will not be considered.

The operation of the SPHeRE Programme is subject to funding by the HRB.