

# QUARTILES DLA 2026 Student Application Form

Applications will be assessed using the details provided in the application form and the supporting documents. Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview.

If you require reasonable adjustments during any stage of the application or interview process, please [contact us](#) as soon as possible, and we will do our utmost to support your requirements.

## Completing the Application Form

To complete this form, **select the indicated areas and enter your text**. The text boxes will expand automatically as you type.

Please ensure you complete **all sections marked with an asterisk (\*)**. Failure to do so may result in your application not being reviewed.

### Important Submission Notes:

**\*No research proposal is required** as part of this application.

**\*Do not include any superfluous documents.** Please only submit the documents listed in the checklist.

**\*Examples of unnecessary documents to avoid include:** high school certificates, conference papers or attendance certificates, and full dissertations.

**\*Incomplete applications will not be considered. If any documents are missing, please provide an explanation and specify when they will be submitted.**

Please ensure the following documents are submitted along with a completed copy of this application form via email to [quartiles-admissions@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:quartiles-admissions@abdn.ac.uk)

**Academic Transcripts and Certificates:** Copies of your BSc and MSc (where applicable) degree transcripts and final certificates. Official English translations are required if the originals are not in English. \*

**Cover Letter(s):** A tailored cover letter for each QUARTILES project you wish to be considered for (maximum of two projects in total), addressed to the respective lead supervisor. \*

**A copy of your current [academic CV](#)\***

**Proof of settled status in the UK (where relevant):** Proof of your current immigration status, where relevant, to confirm fee eligibility. \*

**Two academic references:** We cannot request references directly from your referees. If you wish to include supporting reference letters with your application, please ensure they are provided directly to us. Regardless, please include the names and full contact details of two academic referees on your CV, as project supervisors may contact them directly.

**Proof of English language proficiency:** Where applicable, a copy of a valid English language test certificate. *(You may submit your application without a certificate, but a valid result will be required before any offer can be confirmed. Please check the specific [\[UoA Requirements\]](#) and [\[QUB Requirements\]](#))*

## Your Details

Surname or Family Name\*

First Name\*

Email Address\*

What are your preferred pronouns\* (for example: she/her, they/them etc.)

Current Domicile (Country)\*

Are you a UK National? \*

## QUARTILES DLA (UKRI) Funding Eligibility\*

The QUARTILES DLA is open to both UK and International candidates. Please ensure you refer to the **full eligibility criteria** [[HERE](#)] before submitting your application.

Please use the following options to accurately declare your current circumstances. The information provided will be used solely to assess your **fee status** and determine your **funding eligibility**.

Should the information provided be found to be inaccurate, resulting in a change to your fee status at the point of admission, we reserve the right to **withdraw any offer made**.

**Home Candidate (UK National):** I am a UK national AND will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for 3 years as of 1st October 2026

**Home Candidate (EU/EEA/Swiss):** I am an EU, EEA, or Swiss National who holds Settled Status or Pre-Settled Status in the UK and I will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for the three years immediately before 1st October 2026. **(Please provide immigration share code and date of birth).**

**Other Settled Status:** I am a Non-EU National who holds Indefinite Leave to Remain (Settled Status) in the UK (not under the EU Settlement Scheme) and I will have been ordinarily resident in the UK for the three years immediately before 1st October 2026. **(Please provide immigration share code and date of birth).**

**International Candidate:** None of the above apply to my current immigration and residency status (I am applying as an International Student).

Further information about fee status assessment in Scotland can be found [here](#) and for Northern Ireland [here](#)



## Project Selection

You may apply for a maximum of **two** QUARTILES projects. Please list your choices in **order of preference**, ensuring you include the **project title** and the **lead supervisor** for each.

You must also provide a **separate, relevant cover letter** for **each** project as part of your submission.

### Project 1\*

Lead Supervisor:

Project Title:

### Project 2

Lead Supervisor:

Project Title:

## Your Study Preferences (Full-Time / Part-Time)\*

International students requiring a UK study visa must be registered for full-time study.

Part-time study is available to home/UK students only, with a minimum commitment of 50% full-time equivalent (FTE). Part-time options depend on the project and require supervisor approval

How would you like to study this programme? \*

## Qualifications\*

Please provide details of your academic qualifications, focusing only on your **undergraduate degree** (or equivalent) and any **postgraduate qualifications**. These should be listed in **chronological order** of completion (e.g., Bachelor's followed by Master's).

Relevant additional qualifications should be listed on your accompanying **CV**.

### Qualification 1 \*

Qualification Level\*:

Qualification Type and Subject (e.g., MSc Biology, BSc Geography) \*:

Date of award or expected award date (MM/YYYY) \*:

Overall class achieved. (e.g., upper second-class honours, distinction). If currently studying, please enter 'Predicted' and then your predicted grade\*:

### Qualification 2

Qualification Level:

Qualification Type and Subject (e.g., MSc Biology, BSc Geography) \*:

Date of award or expected award date (MM/YYYY):

Overall class achieved. (e.g., upper second-class honours, distinction). If currently studying, please enter 'Predicted' and then your predicted grade:



## Relevant Work Experience

Please provide details of any work experience you feel is relevant to your QUARTILES application in the section below.

## Preparedness to undertake and complete a PhD and to thrive as a result of PhD funding\*

In addition to academic ability, a successful PhD requires that you are motivated, dedicated and can demonstrate resilience and resourcefulness to navigate the PhD journey and any challenges that may appear along the way.

A PhD offers a unique opportunity to share your work with different audiences and to work collaboratively with different stakeholders and increase the impact of your research. Each of these requires a range of skills that may include communication, teamwork and collaboration (this can apply internally and externally), time management, planning, organisation and adaptability.

Drawing on your own personal experiences (for example, your path into and through university, research, experiences, personal achievements) and challenges that you have faced (for example, socio-economic background, being first-in-a-generation to attend university, or caring responsibilities) please provide a brief response to the following:

**-Why you are ready to undertake a PhD now? \***

**-What impact will a QUARTILES PhD have on your future aspirations? \***



## Equality Statement (Optional)

We understand that everyone's circumstances are different and cannot be easily defined. **This statement is optional** - please use this space to include any other information you would like us to consider alongside your application. This includes any circumstances, past or present, that you feel might have influenced the opportunities you had/have had to develop skills related to this application. Such circumstances may be directly or indirectly related to education. This will allow the panel to assess, from your point of view, your skills relative to the opportunities you have had.

For example, you may not have been able to take up internship opportunities due to caring responsibilities at home; the diagnosis (or lack of diagnosis) of a health condition or disability may have affected your education, results or access to opportunities. These are just examples; we recognise personal circumstances will vary widely.

This statement is confidential and will only be read by individuals who are integral to the interview and selection process.