University of York
Centre for Health Economics

PhD Opportunity

We are looking for exceptional students to apply for a funded PhD opportunity at the Centre for Health Economics (CHE). This studentship is part of a work programme for the NIHR Applied Research Collaborations (NIHR ARCs). This studentship would be within the Health Economics, Evaluation and Equality (HEEE) theme of the Yorkshire and Humber ARC, based within the York team. The PhD will focus on one of the themes outlined below.

The Yorkshire & Humber NIHR ARC is a collaboration between NHS, social care, third sector and industry organisations and leading universities in Yorkshire and the Humber. It aims to transform services and improve peoples’ health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities through four strategically important core themes:

- Early life and Prevention
- Older people with Frailty
- Mental and Physical Multimorbidity
- Urgent and Emergency Care

The HEEE theme aims to work collaboratively with the four core themes and in partnership with local NHS, public health and social care collaborators. This research will focus on improving efficiency and equity in the use of public resources and will develop methods for conducting cross-sector evaluations, system level modelling and econometric analyses. The HEEE theme at York are offering a PhD opportunity on one of the following three topics. These topics are central to integrating methodology developed in HEEE to the core themes.

1. **Older Peoples Theme.** Develop a system level approach to model the economic impact of implementing interventions to prevent/improve frailty and delayed transfers of care (DTOC) for older people with complex and heterogeneous needs, explicitly recognising the supply side impact.

2. **Early Life and Prevention Theme.** Implement value of information methods to prioritise further data collection in existing studies focusing on evaluations for interventions in childhood obesity and healthy schools, in order to strengthen the evidence and develop methods for cross sectoral evaluation and distributional effectiveness and cost-effectiveness analysis.

3. **Mental and Physical Multimorbidity Theme.** Using econometric models, analyse the relationship between environmental factors, such as blue and green spaces and air quality, on mental health, utilising routine and linked data (CPRD, HES and the Mental Health Services Dataset (MHSDS)) in people with serious mental illness.
Applicants are invited to provide a short proposal (no more than 2 sides fo A4) on one of the topic areas.

Supervisory team: This will depend on the topic area, but will include the core theme leads: Andrew Clegg, Simon Gilbody, Kate Pickett, Rosie McEachan and HEEE members: Laura Bojke, Gerry Richardson, Rowena Jacobs, Chris Bojke.

**Supervision and research environment**

The successful candidate will be supervised in CHE and will be registered through the Department of Health Sciences or the Department of Economics and Related Studies at the University of York. This is an opportunity to work in close contact with researchers in one of the most successful health economics research groups in the UK. CHE has a leading international reputation, and is one of the world’s largest health economics research centres. Its mission is to undertake “high quality research that is capable of influencing health policy decisions”. The Centre attracts some of the best and brightest people in the field in the form of PhD students and visitors from overseas, creating a vibrant research environment. The University of York is widely recognized as one of the leading research universities in the UK and is also at the top of the teaching quality rankings.

CHE has an Athena SWAN Bronze award which recognises our commitment to good practice in supporting the careers of women. We strive to provide a supportive culture and family friendly work environment and to offer equal opportunities to all staff and students. We seek to ensure the policies and procedures in the department are fair and support good work practices for everyone.

![Athena SWAN Bronze Award](image)

**The award**

The award will cover academic fees at the UK/EU rate plus a maintenance stipend for 3 years (£15,009 in 2019/20). Non-EU/UK students will be expected to meet the cost of the difference between the UK/EU rate and the International (non-EU) rate.

Students are welcome to register full-time or part-time. The studentship can commence in either October 2019 or January 2020.

**Eligibility criteria**

To register in the Department of Economics, the ideal candidate will have (or be about to complete) a master’s degree in economics or a specialization within economics, with a substantial component in econometrics or a related quantitative subject. The English language requirement is IELTS: 6.5, with no less than 6.0 in each component.

To register in the Department of Health Sciences, please note the English Language requirement is a total IELTS score of at least 7 (or equivalent) with a minimum score of 6.5 in each component of the test.
Process for application

Applications should be made using the University of York on-line application process which can be accessed using the following link. [http://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/](http://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/). Select PhD in Economics on the application form, in order to be registered in the Department of Economics and Related Studies. Alternatively, select PhD in Health Sciences to be registered in the Department of Health Sciences. Insert reference **CHE ARC PHD2019** in “How studies will be funded” field. Please also provide a curriculum vitae and two academic references. In addition, you should upload an outline of your intended approach to the area of research, noting the potential methods or approaches that could be used. If you have already published academic papers, one of these may also be uploaded.

Applications should be received no later than **Friday 9th August before 16.00h (UTC)**.

Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed. Interviews take place on **Wednesday 4th September 2019**.

At interview, candidates will be expected to give a short presentation on their proposed project including relevant literature, potential data sources and applicable methods. It should also focus on their plans for the studentship for which they have applied and the skills they would bring to their doctoral research.

Students residing overseas will be offered an opportunity to be interviewed using the video-conferencing eg ZOOM or SKYPE.

Direct any informal queries to Laura Bojke ([laura.bojke@york.ac.uk](mailto:laura.bojke@york.ac.uk)) or Gerry Richardson ([gerry.richardson@york.ac.uk](mailto:gerry.richardson@york.ac.uk)).