

**Q** How do you get help with a project at work while also **inspiring the next generation of young people** in your local area?

**A** By working in partnership with the Nuffield Foundation to **develop young peoples' skills** and confidence in scientific and quantitative methods.



We are looking for employers to offer a 4–6 week project for our students in their summer holidays. Projects must have broadly scientific or technical content, but they don't have to be based in a laboratory. They might be office-based or include a lot of fieldwork, or they might focus on engineering, data analysis or computer science.

We provide over 1,200 of these **Nuffield Research Placements** each year. We work with a wide range of employers, including universities and research institutes, local government and public sector agencies, tech and pharmaceutical companies, think tanks and market research agencies.

Some of these organisations employ thousands of people, and some have a single-figure headcount. What they all have in common is a research and development project in need of some attention and a commitment to sharing their passion for their business with young people from their local area.

A photograph of three students, two girls and one boy, standing in front of a chemistry display. The display includes a poster titled 'Investigating Charge-Transfer States in Organic Donor-Acceptor Molecules' and another titled 'Introduction'. The students are smiling and looking towards the camera. The entire image has a blue tint.

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**Q: Where can I find out more?**

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**A:** Nuffield Research Placements are administered by a network of regional coordinators across the UK. The first step is to have a conversation with your local Nuffield coordinator, who will tell you all you need to know about hosting a student.

Contact details for our regional coordinators are available on our website, [www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/nrp) or email [nrp@nuffieldfoundation.org](mailto:nrp@nuffieldfoundation.org) for more information. Our coordinators are there to help you every step of the way.

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## Q: What are the benefits?

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**A:** Support young people and diversify your workforce (50% of Nuffield students are female and 50% of students are from areas of high deprivation).

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Provide your staff with opportunities to apply and develop their coaching, mentoring and management skills.

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Get a head start on a project that could inform new areas of work and contribute to your business development.

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Fulfil your public engagement, widening participation and corporate social responsibility goals.

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Forge strong links with schools and colleges in your local area, and with talented students who could be your future employees.

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“The Nuffield students are mature, talented and reliable. Provided that the placement is planned appropriately, Nuffield students achieve very useful results that feed into our research team’s main projects and add great value to our research output.”

**JANE WHITTAKER, Research Scientist  
at Unilever Research & Development  
Port Sunlight Laboratory**

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“Supervising Nuffield students was a great way for our PhD students to enhance skills such as mentoring, communication, project management, time management, problem solving, and the capacity to explain science/engineering topics at a suitable level. For many of them, it is their first time taking full responsibility for a distinct project, which needs to have a beginning, middle, and end for the Nuffield student, and to be completed within the timeframe of the placement.”

**DR ROB LINDSAY, Associate Director  
of M4DE Centre for Doctoral Training  
at the University of Manchester**

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“It’s great that we can show students that scientific research doesn’t just take place in universities and ‘secret’ laboratories. It is also nice to give students the chance to get some hands-on experience of science outside of the classroom. Hopefully, they see that a career in research is something which they can aspire to and that it is both an exciting and rewarding occupation.”

**DR KERRY PERKINS,  
Aquarist, Brighton Sea Life Centre**

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“Our first Nuffield placement allowed us to publish a peer-reviewed paper on the student’s research, which is a great boost to our business’s reputation within both academia and industry. The work done by our second Nuffield student enabled us to file a draft patent and win further funding from the UK Government to support the development of the project.”

**DR ANDY WEST, Principle Chemist,  
Pera Technology**

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## Other ways to work with us

We are also looking for employers to provide work placements for Q-step social science undergraduates to apply their data skills in the workplace. These placements bring additional expertise to your organisation and enable you to contribute to the development of highly skilled graduates who could become future employees.

Q-Step degrees are offered at 18 universities across the UK in a wide range of social science subjects, all of which have a focus on quantitative skills and methods. Placement models vary from one day a week towards the end of the second year of study to full-time over 4–8 weeks during the summer.

**FIND OUT MORE AT:**

**[www.nuffieldfoundation.org/q-step](http://www.nuffieldfoundation.org/q-step)**

## ABOUT THE NUFFIELD FOUNDATION

The Nuffield Foundation funds research, analysis, and student programmes that advance educational opportunity and social well-being across the UK. We want to improve people's lives, and their ability to participate in society, by understanding the social and economic factors that affect their chances in life.

The research we fund aims to improve the design and operation of social policy, particularly in Education, Welfare, and Justice. Our student programmes – Nuffield Research Placements and Q-Step – provide opportunities for individual students, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, to develop their skills and confidence in quantitative and scientific methods.

The Nuffield Foundation was established in 1943 by William Morris, Lord Nuffield, the founder of Morris Motors.

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