

PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGO 6TH DECEMBER 2018

NUCLEAR BURSARY OPEN

Are YOU looking to enter or further develop your career in nuclear?

The Nuclear Bursary provides financial support to individuals for education and training opportunities to help with starting or furthering their professional career in nuclear.

The Nuclear Bursary scheme, managed by NSAN and funded by the ECITB and NDA will help the sector to deliver one of the NSSG's¹ key theme of '**Exciting the Next Generation.**' (attracting and recruiting a diverse range of people into the sector and retaining them with the appropriate level of knowledge transfer in order to minimise the number of fragile skills)

The criteria for the latest round of bursaries focusses on supporting some of the key themes outlined in the Nuclear Sector Deal (June 2018). This report highlights the requirement to ensure that the nuclear industry benefits from a diverse workforce of nuclear skills, including a step-change in the involvement of women in nuclear to achieve 40 percent of the total workforce by 2030. The Sector Deal also aims to improve the productivity and competitiveness of the UK nuclear supply chain, reduce barriers to entry and encourage SMEs to enter the sector.

This Bursary Award round will support individuals on programmes of study or training relevant to meeting the demand for nuclear industry with a particular emphasis on:

- **Mobility** – supporting individuals into the sector from other industries, supporting the upskilling of an individual so that they will remain in the industry and supporting transferability across the sector.
- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion** – the sector would benefit from greater diversity and as such, applications are particularly welcome from female applicants, from challenging socio economic backgrounds, unemployed individuals and those from an ethnic minority, as they are under-represented within the nuclear industry.
- **SME Development** – applications are encouraged from individuals from micro² and small businesses³.

¹ Nuclear Skills Strategy Group

² Micro Business = less than 10 employees & turnover under £2 million

³ Small Business = less than 50 employees & turnover under £10 million

- **UK Skills Gap** – applications are encouraged from individuals to support identified skills gaps in the industry. Further information is on this is supplied in the application form.

The bursary can be used to support an individual on placements, internships, secondments and programmes of study relevant to the sector. Relevant courses of study include: Higher Level Short Courses, Honours Degrees, Masters Degrees, Post Graduate, CPD qualifications and workforce development.

Jo Tipa, Managing Director of NSAN commented:

“This latest round of the bursary scheme will support the sector in the attraction of a diverse mix of skilled people, to help meet the sector’s ambitious target. The bursary offers much needed support to individuals looking to move into the nuclear industry, or for individuals employed in small companies, for whom funding can become a barrier to entry.”

Dr Fiona Rayment, Executive Director Nuclear Innovation and Research Office (NIRO) (National Nuclear Laboratory) and Chair Nuclear Skills Strategy Group said:

“This important Bursary Scheme, supported by the NSSG, provides a further incentive to people who have committed to funding themselves to study for a career in nuclear, and who might face hurdles in accessing a career in the sector or who might need financial help with reskilling for jobs in their own organisation, particularly in smaller companies.

“The NSSG’s Nuclear Skills Strategic Plan is all about ensuring the nuclear sector, including smaller employers in the supply chain, can recruit a diverse mix of skilled people. This Nuclear Bursary has proven to be a really successful way of meeting this challenge, not least because of the very high calibre of applications which it receives.”

David Vineall, Human Resources Director, NDA commented;

“The NDA are committed to supporting diversity, improved capability and the requisite capacity of the nuclear workforce. Through the bursary we can support individuals to transfer into the sector, ensure that opportunities are open to under-represented groups and support our supply chain - in particular those smaller organisations. This compliments and enhances the strategic drive to address sector wide skills gaps. As a member of the NSSG the bursary supports our ambition for the sector and the requirements for skilled employees across the industry.”

Chris Claydon, Chief Executive of the ECITB, said:

“We are delighted to support the Nuclear Bursary, which offers young people a high quality route into a career in the nuclear sector. As the statutory skills body for the engineering construction industry, the ECITB has a crucial role to play in developing the workforce to address

niche skills shortages and meet the current and future demands of industry.

We are particularly keen to boost diversity in the sector and encourage applications from female candidates, people from BAME backgrounds and those who are coming from more deprived areas, who are considering a career in nuclear.”

If you would like someone in your company; someone about to be employed by your company or you as an individual to be considered for a Nuclear Bursary Award please contact NSAN for further details.

The deadline for applications: 16th January 2019

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Notes to editors

The National Skills Academy for Nuclear is a 'not for profit' membership organisation that exists to improve the performance of companies in the nuclear industry through collaboration and action on skills. NSAN is aiding in improving skills in the nuclear industry by setting the highest standards of excellence, leading the sourcing and provision of skills solutions and expanding our sector's capabilities. NSAN works collaboratively to deliver outstanding levels of service, enhancing the value we provide to members.

NSAN was approved by government on the 24th September 2007.

More information www.nsan.co.uk

**All queries in the first instance should be forwarded to Mary Kinsella,
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