Careers and Employability

University of Chester

A department within Student Futures

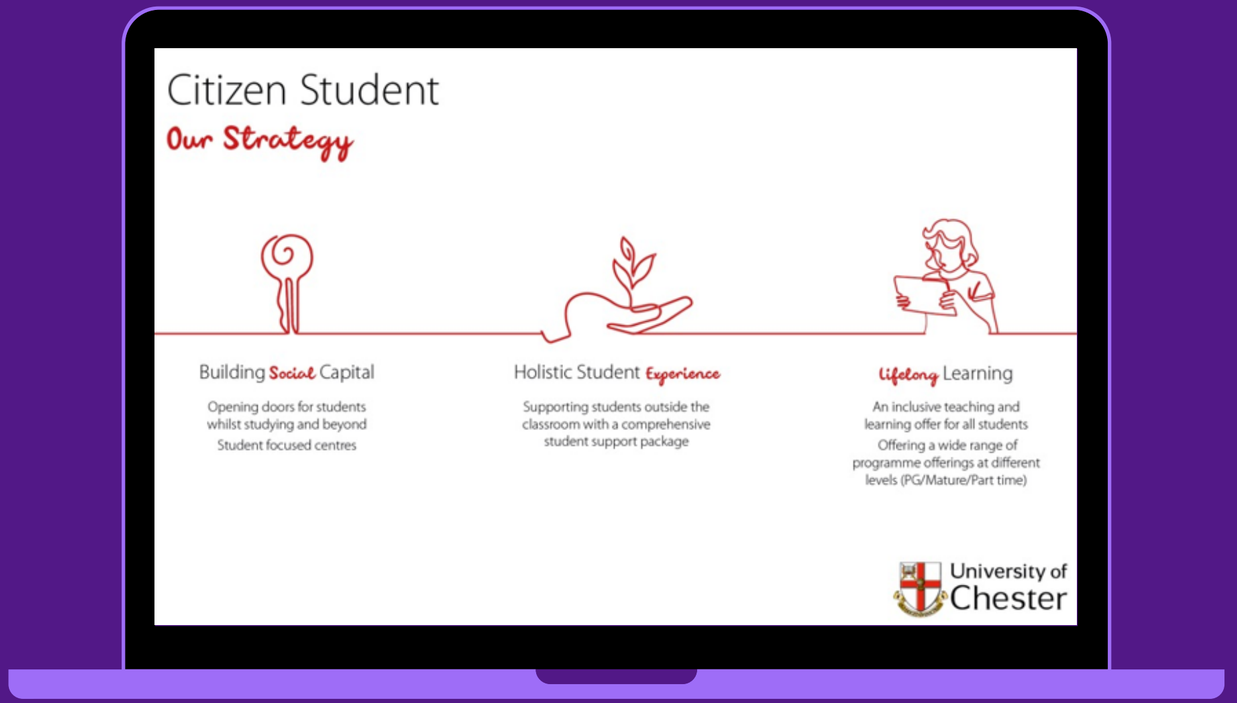
Workplace Experiences

A guide for Employers

88% of employers agree that students with prior work experience commence employment with the skills required for the workplace

WHAT ARE EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR?

Institute of Student Employers, 2020



OUR UNIVERSITY STRATEGY

Our Workplace Experiences are part of the University's Citizen Student Strategy to help students and graduates to build social capital for when they graduate, ensure that they receive a holistic student experience alongside their studies and provides them with access to lifelong learning at different levels of study and beyond.

Their success is our goal.

WHAT ARE WORKPLACE EXPERIENCES?

A SERIES OF PREMIUM OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP STUDENTS AND GRADUATES BECOME MORE EMPLOYABLE

Ranging from Employer Projects to Graduate Internships, our opportunities will shape student's and graduate's CVs and help them to stand out from the crowd.

HOW IT WORKS

There are 3 key opportunities within Workplace Experiences

PROJECT PLACEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Santander UNIVERSITIES

FUNDED BY SANTANDER UNIVERSITIES

Upon appointment to a project placement, students will be awarded a £1,000 scholarship to undertake a short-term, purposeful project placement with an employer who has committed to hosting a Project Placement Scholarship.

For the duration of the project, they will become one of the team, working alongside your colleagues on impactful and valuable projects. They will also become part of an exclusive LinkedIn group enabling them to network and share experiences with other students/graduates participating in Project Placement Scholarships.

WE PAY THE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT DIRECT FROM THE UNIVERSITY

Open to all students and graduates within the last 3 years

From March 2021

INSPIRING FUTURES PLACEMENTS

FUNDED BY UNIVERSITY OF CHESTER

Exclusively for eligible students from an under-represented background, these 5 or 10 week, paid placements are hosted by specially selected, supportive employers.

These opportunities provide students with great insight into the workplace and can often lead to continued employment post-placement.

WE PAY THE EMPLOYER £1,575 TO PAY THE STUDENT THROUGH YOUR PAYROLL SYSTEM

Open to students from under-represented groups

Open all year

GRADUATE INTERNSHIPS

FUNDED BY UNIVERSITY OF CHESTER

Exclusively for graduates participating in Graduate Head Start, these 10 week, paid internships are incredibly valuable and provide graduates with fantastic work experience. Graduates may be matched to a specific employer by one of the Careers and Employability Team.

These internships often lead to strong post-internship relationships between the graduate and the employer.

WE PAY THE EMPLOYER £3,770 TO PAY THE GRADUATE THROUGH YOUR PAYROLL SYSTEM

Open to graduates participating in Graduate Head Start

Between August and October

HOW WE SUPPORT YOU

We will handle all applications on your behalf using our dedicated CareerHub System.

Our dedicated Employer Engagement Team can support and signpost you to relevant resources throughout the entire process.

You will be provided with a named person in Careers and Employability to contact should you have any queries that arise during the workplace experience.

Equality and diversity is important to us

WHAT ARE BLIND APPLICATIONS?

Applications will be processed by us before we pass them to you, the employer. We will remove all identifying information to ensure applications are assessed purely on content and not on any personal information contained in the application itself. Employers won't have access to information such as age, gender, ethnicity, or any other protected characteristics to help remove any potential for unconscious bias taking place at the application stage.

Please note we cannot implement this process for Graduate Internships as opportunities are matched to specific graduates participating in Graduate Head Start.

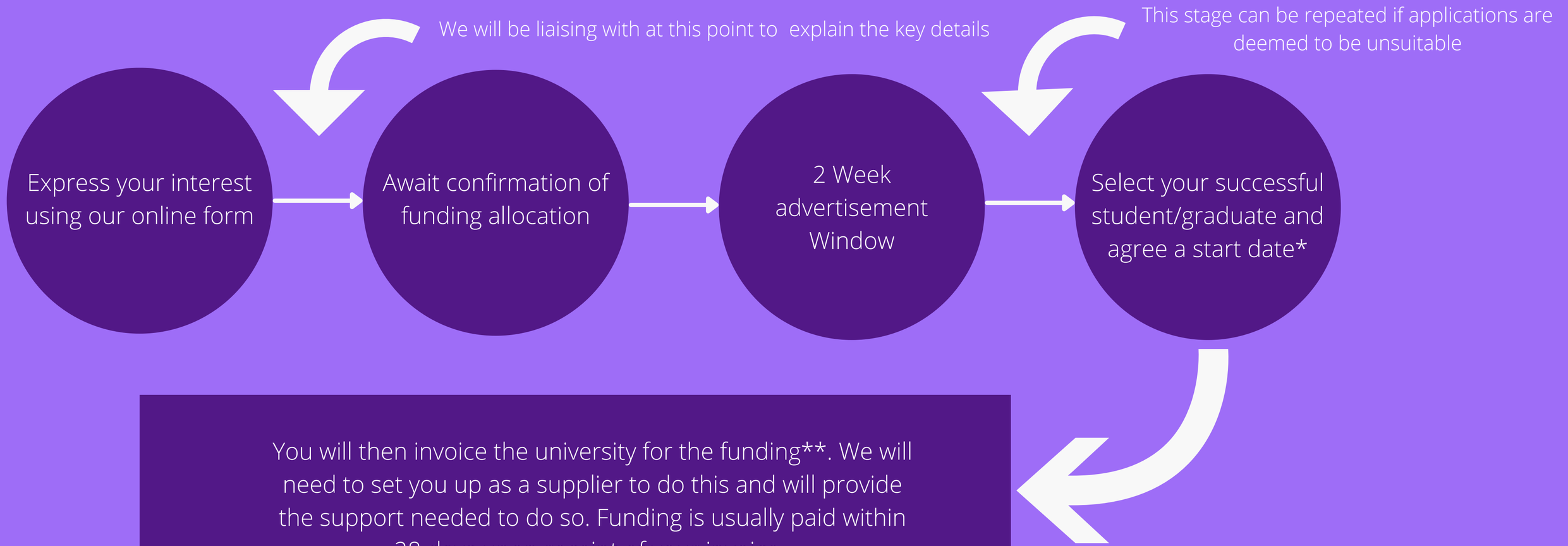
How will students and graduates be working?

All Workplace Experiences are subject to current public health guidance and will be undertaken remotely where possible. Some experiences, such as those in labs or an engineering environment, may require students and graduates to attend in person. The host organisations will risk assess all projects, internships and placements and will be expected to adhere to UK Government Guidance.

INTERESTED?

What happens next?

THE PROCESS



*Start dates for Graduate Internships are fixed and will be communicated nearer the time.

**For Graduate Internships and Inspiring Futures Placements

USEFUL RESOURCES

A number of employers we work with are small or micro businesses so we have included some useful links which may provide you with some additional, useful information.

EMPLOYING PEOPLE AND ADVICE FOR EMPLOYERS

https://www.gov.uk/browse/employing-people

https://www.acas.org.uk/

HEALTH AND SAFETY

https://www.hse.gov.uk/simple-health-safety/risk/index.htm

https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19

employers@chester.ac.uk

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