YES DTN Application Form (2027)

How to Apply

YES•DTN
YORKSHIRE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES • DOCTORAL TRAINING NETWORK

The application procedure

Please ensure that you read the detailed guidance on our website BEFORE applying: https://yes-dtn.ac.uk/how-to-apply-2/

Stage 1 - Applicants must complete the University of Leeds online application first (see here for the application form), before they complete the YES•DTN application form. You MUST select **NERC YES DTN Yorkshire Environmental Sciences** as your planned course of study . We cannot process your application if you apply to the wrong programme.

Once you have received your student ID number, SID, (a 9 digit number) move onto stage 2. Please note: it can take 48 hours for your SID to be issued.

Stage 2 - complete the YES•DTN application by working your way through the questions on this form.

*Please note that applicants who have not completed both application forms **cannot** be considered.*

POINTS TO NOTE when completing the application:

In order to be considered for the studentship you must submit all the required supporting documents for your application for study. The required documents include:

1. Copies of your degree certificates and transcripts (including official translations where these are not in English).
2. Provisional transcripts if you are currently studying.

If you did not upload these with your Online Application to the University of Leeds (stage 1) please either upload these via the application portal or e-mail them as attachments to the admissions team at pgrapplications@leeds.ac.uk with "YES DTN supporting documents" in the email subject line.

Any applications that are not accompanied by the documents requested or where we have not received both the University of Leeds Online Application and the YES•DTN application, by the deadline, may not be considered.

Application forms received after the deadline will not be considered.

Only one application form per candidate will be accepted. If multiple applications are submitted, only the most recent form submitted will be considered.

You can save this form at any time and log in later to complete the application.

Please see the YES•DTN website if you require support in completing this application. No advice can be provided regarding content.

Personal information supplied on your application is held in according with the Student Privacy Notice, which explains how the University of Leeds will collect and use your personal data.

University of Leeds Application

You must have read the guidance on how to apply and completed stage 1 of the application process and submitted a University of Leeds online application (OLA) before proceeding.

1. I confirm that I have read the detailed guidance instructions on the YES•DTN website: https://yes-dtn.ac.uk/how-to-apply-2/
   *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

2. I have completed and submitted the University of Leeds online application form and have my 9 digit student ID number
   *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

3. I have selected **NERC YES DTN Yorkshire Environmental Sciences** as my planned course of study on the OLA, and accept that my application may not be considered otherwise
   *

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Personal Details

4. First Name
*

0/32,000 characters

5. Last Name
*

0/32,000 characters

6. E-mail address
*

This will be used to keep you informed about the status of your application. We recommend you use an email address which you will have access to until October 2027.

example@example.com

7. Please add your nine digit student identification number *

Student ID Number (SID - this is generated when you submit your University of Leeds Online Application - please take extra care when entering this number as it will be used to manage your application).

0/9 characters

8. The supervisor of the project you have applied to may wish to contact you via email to ask you further questions about your qualifications or experience. Please let us know if you are happy for us to provide your email address to the project supervisor.
*

◯ Yes - you can share my email address with the project supervisor

- ◯ No - please do not share my email with the project supervisor

9. **Fee status**

   Will you be classified as a Home or International student regarding university fees?
   If you are unsure, please use the UKCISA fee checker:
   https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/student-advice/find-your-fee-status/
   *

- ◯ Home
- ◯ International

10. **Additional costs of studying in the UK**

    Successful international applicants will receive a studentship which includes a stipend and covers your tuition fees.
    However, we are unable to cover any additional costs incurred by you to study in the UK. This includes the cost of applying for the student Visa that allows you to study in the UK, the International Health Surcharge (IHS), or the cost of relocating to the UK.
    Before applying you should ensure that you can find the additional funding needed to cover these extra costs. Further information on the likely additional costs are here: https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/moving-uk/cost-studying.
    *

- ◯ I confirm that I can cover the additional costs needed to study in the UK
- ◯ I will not be able to find the funds needed to cover the additional costs needed to study in the UK

Please select the project you wish to apply for

You will need to know the project code of the project you wish to apply for. This should be clearly displayed on the project page of the YES•DTN website or on the FindaPhD advert.
The project code format is YES-27-*-**
We do not accept applications from people wishing to submit their own proposal.
We will be unable to manually change your project selection, so please ensure that you select the correct project code.
Occasionally we have two applicants for the same project who are both considered as excellent candidates. When this happens we may offer you a studentship for an alternative project in the same school (see point 12), so you may select an optional, 2nd choice project.
Please note: Only the supervisor of your first choice project will see your application.

11. University at which the project will be based:
*

- ◯ University of York
- ◯ University of Leeds

12. School or department at the University of Leeds
*

- ◯ Earth, Environment & Sustainability (SEES)
- ◯ Biology (SoB)
- ◯ Geography (SoG)
- ◯ Chemistry (SoC)

13. 1st choice: York PhD Projects
*

Please ensure you select the correct project code

- ◯ YES-27-Y-01
- ◯ YES-27-Y-02
- ◯ YES-27-Y-03
- ◯ YES-27-Y-04
- ◯ YES-27-Y-05
- ◯ YES-27-Y-06
- ◯ YES-27-Y-07
- ◯ YES-27-Y-08
- ◯ YES-27-Y-09
- ◯ YES-27-Y-10

- ◯ YES-27-Y-11

14. 2nd choice: York PhD Projects

The supervisor for this project will NOT see your application. Please ensure that your application is tailored to your first choice project ONLY

- ◯ YES-27-Y-01
- ◯ YES-27-Y-02
- ◯ YES-27-Y-03
- ◯ YES-27-Y-04
- ◯ YES-27-Y-05
- ◯ YES-27-Y-06
- ◯ YES-27-Y-07
- ◯ YES-27-Y-08
- ◯ YES-27-Y-09
- ◯ YES-27-Y-10
- ◯ YES-27-Y-11

15. 1st Choice: SEES PhD Project

*

Please ensure you select the correct project code

- ◯ YES-27-A-01
- ◯ YES-27-A-02
- ◯ YES-27-A-03
- ◯ YES-27-A-04
- ◯ YES-27-A-05
- ◯ YES-27-A-06
- ◯ YES-27-A-07
- ◯ YES-27-A-08
- ◯ YES-27-A-09
- ◯ YES-27-A-10
- ◯ YES-27-A-11
- ◯ YES-27-A-12
- ◯ YES-27-A-13
- ◯ YES-27-A-14
- ◯ YES-27-A-15

- ◯ YES-27-A-16
- ◯ YES-27-A-17
- ◯ YES-27-A-18
- ◯ YES-27-A-19
- ◯ YES-27-A-20
- ◯ YES-27-A-21
- ◯ YES-27-A-22
- ◯ YES-27-A-23
- ◯ YES-27-A-24
- ◯ YES-27-A-25
- ◯ YES-27-A-26
- ◯ YES-27-A-27
- ◯ YES-27-A-30
- ◯ YES-27-A-28
- ◯ YES-27-A-29
- ◯ YES-27-D-01
- ◯ YES-27-D-02
- ◯ YES-27-D-03
- ◯ YES-27-D-04
- ◯ YES-27-D-05
- ◯ YES-27-D-06
- ◯ YES-27-D-07
- ◯ YES-27-D-08
- ◯ YES-27-D-09
- ◯ YES-27-D-10
- ◯ YES-27-D-11
- ◯ YES-27-D-13
- ◯ YES-27-D-14
- ◯ YES-27-D-15
- ◯ YES-27-D-16
- ◯ YES-27-D-17
- ◯ YES-27-D-18
- ◯ YES-27-D-19
- ◯ YES-27-D-20
- ◯ YES-27-D-21

- ◯ YES-27-D-22
- ◯ YES-27-D-23
- ◯ YES-27-D-24
- ◯ YES-27-D-25
- ◯ YES-27-D-26
- ◯ YES-27-D-27
- ◯ YES-27-E-01
- ◯ YES-27-E-02
- ◯ YES-27-E-03
- ◯ YES-27-E-04
- ◯ YES-27-E-05

16. 2nd Choice: SEES PhD Project

The supervisor for this project will NOT see your application. Please ensure that your application is tailored to your first choice project ONLY

- ◯ YES-27-A-01
- ◯ YES-27-A-02
- ◯ YES-27-A-03
- ◯ YES-27-A-04
- ◯ YES-27-A-05
- ◯ YES-27-A-06
- ◯ YES-27-A-07
- ◯ YES-27-A-08
- ◯ YES-27-A-09
- ◯ YES-27-A-10
- ◯ YES-27-A-11
- ◯ YES-27-A-12
- ◯ YES-27-A-13
- ◯ YES-27-A-14
- ◯ YES-27-A-15
- ◯ YES-27-A-16
- ◯ YES-27-A-17
- ◯ YES-27-A-18
- ◯ YES-27-A-19
- ◯ YES-27-A-20

- ◯ YES-27-A-21
- ◯ YES-27-A-22
- ◯ YES-27-A-23
- ◯ YES-27-A-24
- ◯ YES-27-A-25
- ◯ YES-27-A-26
- ◯ YES-27-A-27
- ◯ YES-27-A-30
- ◯ YES-27-A-28
- ◯ YES-27-A-29
- ◯ YES-27-D-01
- ◯ YES-27-D-02
- ◯ YES-27-D-03
- ◯ YES-27-D-04
- ◯ YES-27-D-05
- ◯ YES-27-D-06
- ◯ YES-27-D-07
- ◯ YES-27-D-08
- ◯ YES-27-D-09
- ◯ YES-27-D-10
- ◯ YES-27-D-11
- ◯ YES-27-D-13
- ◯ YES-27-D-14
- ◯ YES-27-D-15
- ◯ YES-27-D-16
- ◯ YES-27-D-17
- ◯ YES-27-D-18
- ◯ YES-27-D-19
- ◯ YES-27-D-20
- ◯ YES-27-D-21
- ◯ YES-27-D-22
- ◯ YES-27-D-23
- ◯ YES-27-D-24
- ◯ YES-27-D-25
- ◯ YES-27-D-26

- ◯ YES-27-D-27
- ◯ YES-27-E-01
- ◯ YES-27-E-02
- ◯ YES-27-E-03
- ◯ YES-27-E-04
- ◯ YES-27-E-05

17. 1st Choice: SoB PhD Project

*

Please ensure you select the correct project code

- ◯ YES-27-B-01
- ◯ YES-27-B-02
- ◯ YES-27-B-03
- ◯ YES-27-B-04
- ◯ YES-27-B-05
- ◯ YES-27-B-06
- ◯ YES-27-B-07

18. 2nd Choice: SoB PhD Project

The supervisor for this project will NOT see your application. Please ensure that your application is tailored to your first choice project ONLY

- ◯ YES-27-B-01
- ◯ YES-27-B-02
- ◯ YES-27-B-03
- ◯ YES-27-B-04
- ◯ YES-27-B-05
- ◯ YES-27-B-06
- ◯ YES-27-B-07

19. 1st Choice: SoG PhD Project

*

Please ensure you select the correct project code

- ◯ YES-27-G-01
- ◯ YES-27-G-02
- ◯ YES-27-G-03

- ◯ YES-27-G-04
- ◯ YES-27-G-05
- ◯ YES-27-G-06
- ◯ YES-27-G-07
- ◯ YES-27-G-08
- ◯ YES-27-G-09
- ◯ YES-27-G-10
- ◯ YES-27-G-11
- ◯ YES-27-G-12
- ◯ YES-27-G-13
- ◯ YES-27-G-14
- ◯ YES-27-G-15
- ◯ YES-27-G-16

20. 2nd Choice: SoG PhD Project

The supervisor for this project will NOT see your application. Please ensure that your application is tailored to your first choice project ONLY

- ◯ YES-27-G-XX

21. 1st Choice: SoC PhD Project

*

Please ensure you select the correct project code

- ◯ YES-27-C-XX

22. 2nd Choice: SoC PhD Project

The supervisor for this project will NOT see your application. Please ensure that your application is tailored to your first choice project ONLY

- ◯ YES-27-G-01
- ◯ YES-27-G-02
- ◯ YES-27-G-03
- ◯ YES-27-G-04
- ◯ YES-27-G-05
- ◯ YES-27-G-06
- ◯ YES-27-G-07
- ◯ YES-27-G-08
- ◯ YES-27-G-09

- YES-27-G-10
- YES-27-G-11
- YES-27-G-12
- YES-27-G-13
- YES-27-G-14
- YES-27-G-15
- YES-27-G-16

Structured CV

The following sections will allow you to provide details of your education, and work and/or research experience.

The questions are designed to replace your CV, and your responses will be shared with the supervisor of your first choice project.

When project supervisors review your application, they will be looking for evidence that you have the pre-existing knowledge/skills/experience needed for the project.

Please try to ensure that you highlight any modules studied, and existing skills or experience directly relevant to the first choice project you have applied for.

Details of first degree (BA, BSc etc...)

23. First degree award
(BSc, BA, Combined Masters etc..)
*

- ◯ BSc or BA
- ◯ MSc or MA
- ◯ BEng
- ◯ MEng
- ◯ Combined Bachelors and Masters
- ◯ Other (please specify)

24. Name of programme studied
*

0/32,000 characters

25. Institution studied at
*

0/32,000 characters

26. Has this been awarded or is it ongoing?
*

- ◯ Awarded
- ◯ Ongoing

27. Date awarded or expected completion date
*

If you do not know the exact completion date, please use the first of the month you expect to complete.

28. Classification (grade) awarded or predicted for the first degree *

- ◯ First class
- ◯ Upper second class - 2.i
- ◯ Lower second class - 2.ii
- ◯ Other (please specify)

29. Dissertation (or final project) title(s) - if applicable.

0/32,000 characters

30. Dissertation (or final project) grade/expected grade

0/32,000 characters

31. Details of modules studied **RELEVANT** to the project applied for, and the grade awarded/expected

0/32,000 characters

32. I have uploaded transcripts of my degree of my predicted grade (provisional transcript) when I completed the University of Leeds online application form *

If you answer 'no' to this question, please email transcripts to pgrapplications@leeds.ac.uk with the subject line "YES DTN supporting documents"

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

33. I have completed or am undertaking a second/further degree *

Second degree award (MA, MSc etc)

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Second degree award (MSc, MA, Masters etc...)

34. Type of further degree
*

- ◯ Masters (MA or MSc)
- ◯ Master of Research (MRes)
- ◯ Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
- ◯ Other (please specify)

35. Name of programme studied
*

0/32,000 characters

36. Institution studied at
*

0/32,000 characters

37. Has this been awarded or is it ongoing?
*

- ◯ Ongoing
- ◯ Awarded

38. Date awarded or expected completion date
*

If you do not know the exact completion date, please use the first of the month you expect to complete.

39. Classification (grade) awarded or predicted for second degree
*

- ◯ First
- ◯ Upper second class - 2:i
- ◯ Lower second class - 2:ii
- ◯ Distinction
- ◯ Merit
- ◯ Pass
- ◯ Other (please specify)

40. Details of modules studied **RELEVANT** to the project applied for, and the grade awarded/expected

0/32,000 characters

41. I have uploaded transcripts of my degree/s or my predicted grade when I completed the University of Leeds online application form *

If you answer 'no' to this question, please email transcripts to pgrapplications@leeds.ac.uk with the subject line "YES DTN supporting documents"

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Additional relevant experience

42. Additional, **relevant** qualifications not already listed

If you have additional, relevant academic qualifications at UG or PG level not already listed, please provide details here

0/32,000 characters

43. **Research experience**

Please give details on previous research experience as part of your degree or outside (employment/internships/placements), highlighting skills and experiences you feel are **relevant** to your 1st choice PhD project

44. **Publications**

Peer-reviewed publications and presentations are not required to apply to YES DTN, but if you have any please list them here.

0/32,000 characters

Employment History & Work Experience or Internships

Please include in this section details of any relevant employment, work experience or internships, especially if it shows additional relevant experience for PhD study or the project applied for.
Please do not list roles not relevant to this application such as hospitality or shop work.
You can list up to four different employers.

45. Employer 1 - Employer name

0/32,000 characters

46. Job title

0/32,000 characters

47. Brief details of role and responsibilities

48. Start date

49. End date

50. Employer 2 - Employer name

0/32,000 characters

51. Job title

0/32,000 characters

52. Brief details of the role and responsibilities

53. Start date

54. End date

55. Employer 3 - Employer name

0/32,000 characters

56. Job title

0/32,000 characters

57. Brief details of role and responsibilities

58. Start date

59. End date

60. Employer 4 - Employer name

0/32,000 characters

61. Job title

0/32,000 characters

62. Brief details of role and responsibilities

63. Start date

64. End date

65. Please outline any other relevant work related training or experience you have gained not already covered

Structured Personal Statement

Each question has a 250 word limit for the response

You are advised to draft your responses in a separate document first and then paste them in, as this page may time out. Please make sure you click on "finish later" to save your responses and return to the form later.

66. What motivates you to do a PhD?
*

Use this space to explain why you want to complete a PhD

67. What excites you about your chosen project? Why is it important to work on this topic?
*

68. How does your professional and academic background prepare you to do a PhD?
*

69. How do your existing skills match with the required skills for your first choice project? What skills do you hope to acquire during the PhD?
*

70. Why is a YES•DTN studentship the right way for you to get a PhD? *

You have applied to a cohort based training programme, not a standalone PhD. You need to demonstrate why you have made this choice.

Contextualisation

71. Please list any mitigating circumstances that we might want to take into consideration.
    E.g.
    mitigating circumstances which explain why your degree results do not represent your full potential, or
    adverse conditions you had to overcome during your first degrees or in employment

All students experience different challenges throughout their careers, leading to different opportunities and outcomes. We seek to recruit students with the potential to thrive in a PhD training environment, regardless of what opportunities may have been available to them and what barriers they may have faced beforehand. We take an evidence based approach that recognises that for many reasons - such as belonging to a marginalised group, having caring responsibilities, financial disadvantage, being the first in your family to attend university, suffering significant illness or bereavement, and so on - a student's potential is not always accurately reflected in grades.

Details given in response to this question provide context for each application which can be taken into account during review. Any information provided will be shared only with the shortlisting & interview panel and will not be kept on record. The applicant will not be asked to expand on this information by the panel but is welcome to discuss it further themselves if they choose. We stress that this is not about giving advantages to certain students but helping to take into account disadvantages that have been faced.

Diversity, Equality and Inclusion

YES•DTN may ringfence up to 10% of interview slots for under-represented applicants who are appointable. YES•DTN has identified the following under-represented groups (for home/UK fee status applicants only):

- Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups

- Those from a disadvantaged economic background (fulfil any of the our sub-criteria based on the 2021 Social Mobility Commission Socio-economic diversity and inclusions Employers Toolkit and UK Government guidance).

To help us with our ring fencing, please provide further information. The information you provide by completing this section will be held in accordance with the University of Leeds Student Privacy Notice (https://dataprotection.leeds.ac.uk/gdpr/student-privacy-notice/)

It will be used as a means of addressing underrepresentation among minoritised groups in UK postgraduate research and will not be shared with supervisors.

If you have any questions about how the equalities data you share is managed or may be used, please contact the YES•DTN team by email at yes-dtn@leeds.ac.uk

72. If you think you would be eligible for a ring-fenced interview slot, please select from one of the options below and complete the University of Leeds PGR Applicant Equalities Monitoring form linked below if you haven't already. https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/leeds/university-of-leeds-pgr-applicant-equalities-monitoring
*

- ◯ I would like to be considered for a ring-fenced interview and consent to the data provided through the form above being used for this purpose
- ◯ I would not like to be considered for a ring fenced interview

How did you first hear about YES•DTN?

73. Please let us know how you found out about YES•DTN *

- ◯ University of Leeds research opportunities: phd.leeds.ac.uk/
- ◯ YES•DTN advert on FindaPhD
- ◯ PhD Project advert on FindaPhD
- ◯ Recommended by a friend
- ◯ Recommended by an academic staff member
- ◯ Shown advert in lectures
- ◯ PhD / Postgraduate Fair
- ◯ Other (please specify)

Declaration

74. The information given on this form is complete and accurate and to the best of my knowledge gives a true description of my qualifications and experiences.
    *

- ◯ Yes

75. We will need to share the information submitted with with the project supervisors at the University of York so they can review your application as part of the shortlisting process.
    Please confirm you are happy for us to share the information supplied on this form
    *

- ☐ Yes - you can share my information with the project supervisors at York
- ☐ No - do not share my information with the project supervisors at York

76. We may need to share the information submitted with with industry or other external partners so they can review your application as part of the shortlisting process.
    If you are happy for us to share the information you have provided in this form with industry partners please let us know below.
    *

- ☐ Yes - you can share my information with external partners who may be involved with the project
- ☐ No - do not share my information with the project's external partners