



CDP Frequently asked questions

	Question	Answer
1	Does the CDP programme concern only universities or also other institutions providing doctoral studies?	The CDP call text refers to higher education institutions (HEI) and not only universities. Any institution that qualifies as HEI and grants PhDs can participate.
2	Can an individual person apply for CDP?	CDP calls are for Higher Education Institution (University Departments/Universities) only.
3	Is it possible for two or more HEIs to apply together?	For this pilot call each HEI has to apply separately for the CDP. Collaborations with other HEI on the relevant topic published in this call should be highlighted in the application.
4	Which countries are eligible to participate in the CDP?	The same criteria as for Horizon 2020 apply and are explained on page 3 of: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/other/wp/2016-2017/annexes/h2020-wp1617-annex-ga_en.pdf
5	How many institutions can be selected?	As stated in the call text, for each thematic area up to 5 institutions can be selected.
6	Who is the legal representative of a Higher Education Institution (as mentioned in the application form)?	The legal representative is the person who is authorised to make legal commitments on behalf of the Higher Education Institution. It is up to the HEI to define who their legal representative is. In the case of the CDP agreement it is the one authorised to negotiate the collaboration agreement on behalf of the department or university.
7	At the beginning is there a screening exercise to sub-select a set of universities (one or more?) per domain?	Yes, an internal evaluation committee will be evaluating and ranking the applications. For the pilot phase up to 5 HEIs will be selected.
8	Does JRC transfer money for the fees to universities?	There will be no transfer of money between JRC and the higher education institution (HEI). This does also apply for the student fees.
9	Are there funds to support the collaborative projects, for instance, mobility of the PhD student?	Under the collaborative scheme, there will be no money transfer between the JRC and Higher Education Institutions. According to the collaborative scheme, the selected PhD students will be working on their PhD program partially at their University and partially at one of the JRC sites. While being in the JRC, students will be employed on the basis of temporary contracts and in line with the

		European Commission rules and regulations. This will include their salary and budget for execution of the work (use of laboratories and materials), including work related missions. JRC does not fund the student or the university when the student is not under contract with JRC.
10	How will the students be paid when on JRC sites?	Currently, PhDs are recruited under the grantholder 20 scheme: https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/working-with-us/jobs/temporary-positions/granholders
11	What is the benefit for a HEI by providing a student to JRC, if there is no money transfer?	Examples of benefits are: The HEI gets the possibility to open up their research to a major policy research institution which may lead to extra funding and visibility. The HEI does not need to fund a full PhD but only part time as the other part is covered by JRC. E.g. JRC funds one or two years or covers the last years if the grant time allocation is too short.
12	Is there a maximum number of PhD students for each CDP?	There is currently no maximum number defined. It is envisaged that a small number of PhD students starts per theme and that this number may increase over the duration of the scheme.
13	How will the recruitment procedure work?	The exact process is part of the negotiation procedure and it may differ from HEI to HEI. It is therefore part of the negotiation procedure. In any case, both parties must agree on the selection of the student.
14	How can I become an external expert to assist in the evaluation of CDP applications?	Potential external experts and evaluators are selected from the Horizon 2020 Expert Database: http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/desktop/en/experts/index.html
15	Can the HEI propose running schemes for the CDP in one of the thematic areas or will the doctoral programmes be developed from scratch?	Both options are possible. The establishment of the programme will be part of the negotiation process.
16	If one Institute brings different departments (schools) together, should there be 1 form filled for all or one each from each department (school)?	If the departments work within the same thematic fields and can be regrouped by their research expertise, then the application can be done by the Institute. If the different departments work within different thematic fields, then an application form should be sent for each department. If one or several departments of the same Institute are selected, the negotiation of the Collaboration Agreement will then be done on Institute level for the administrative and legal issues and with each department for the thematic work programmes.