

Care Policy and Evaluation Centre (Department of Health Policy)

PhD Studentship for Simulation of Social Care Demand and Expenditure

The [Care Policy and Evaluation Centre](#) (CPEC) at the [London School of Economics and Political Science](#) (LSE) is an international research centre working mainly in the areas of long-term care (social care), mental health, developmental disabilities and other health issues. The Centre is affiliated to the Department of Health Policy at LSE. It has been involved in a number of key policy and practice developments.

The Centre leads the NIHR Policy Research Unit in Adult Social Care (ASCRU2). ASCRU2 is a collaboration between the LSE, University of Kent and King's College London, carrying out research in England to provide national and local policymakers with the evidence and information they need to make decisions about adult social care. ASCRU2 received funding for five years from January 2024 until December 2028. Its programme of work is decided with England's Department of Health and Social Care.

CPEC is recruiting for a full-time MPhil/PhD studentship linked to ASCRU2, with a start date of October 2025:

The doctoral student will be required to examine topics related to the macro/micro simulation of future patterns of social care demand and expenditure in England. Within this field, the topics could include simulations relating to, for example, the balance between unpaid and formal care, the balance between community-based care and housing with care, equity issues relating to the adult social care funding system, and social care workforce and pay. Although the focus of the analyses should be the English system, the topic is of interest internationally and the PhD might examine international systems and evidence relevant to the English context.

The successful applicant will be expected to participate in activities organised by NIHR ASCRU and CPEC, and, as appropriate, other National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) and NIHR Academy activities.

The successful applicants will join the [Department of Health Policy](#)'s MPhil/PhD programme and work closely with their supervisors and colleagues in CPEC at LSE.

The Department of Health Policy trains and inspires people passionate about health by advancing and challenging their understanding of health and social care systems and the social, economic and political contexts in which they operate. The Department's PhD programme is an integral part of the academic environment at LSE, producing doctoral graduates of the highest quality. The programme draws upon multidisciplinary perspectives, notably from economics, social policy, and public policy.

The research student will benefit from the excellent research environment within CPEC at LSE and will join a thriving cohort of research students in the Department.

Funding

The 3-year award will cover full-time UK/EU LSE tuition fees¹ and an annual stipend of £22,000 from 1 October 2025.

Additional support (for travel, conference attendance, general research expenses) will be available through the NIHR SSCR programme as appropriate.

Entry requirements

Applicants are not required to have existing expertise on the topic, but they must meet the requirements for PhD applicants set by the LSE (see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/health-policy/study/mphilphd-programme>). Applicants will normally need master's degree marks equivalent to an LSE high merit grade, with an overall average of at least 65% in their MSc (or equivalent) and at least 65% in their dissertation (or equivalent); any conditional offer for a place on the MPhil/PhD programme will be subject to obtaining such marks.

Application process

In order to be considered for each studentship, applicants should apply for the MPhil/PhD programme in Health Policy at the LSE, marking their application with the relevant studentship name. Information about how to apply is available here: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/health-policy/study/mphilphd-programme>.

As part of the application process applicants will be asked to submit a research proposal. This is a 1,500 word document explaining - in light of the topic focus outlined for each studentship - the research proposed to undertake during the studentship. Along with an application form supporting documents are required and further information on these (as well as guidance on completing the application form) is available at <http://www.lse.ac.uk/study/graduate/enquirer/howToApply/completingYourApplication/home.aspx>.

Informal enquiries

Informal enquiries should be sent to Raphael Wittenberg (r.wittenberg@lse.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications for this PhD Studentship is 31 January 2025.

¹ Please note overseas students will need to cover the difference between overseas fees and the funded amount for home/EU fees themselves.