22 June 2018

File ref: T3/26/368

HS Lee

Sent by email: request-484433-3c246450@whatdotheyknow.com

Dear HS Lee

Freedom of information request

Thank you for your email of 29 May 2018 clarifying your emails of 12 May 2018, and 23 May 2018. You requested information about admissions statistics for CDT Data Science and Business School PhD programmes, and the ESRC Doctoral Scholarship specifically.

The University of Edinburgh is a global university, rooted in Scotland. We are globally recognised for our research, development and innovation and we have provided world-class teaching to our students for more than 425 years. We are the largest university in Scotland and in 2016/17 our annual revenue was £929 million, of which £265 million was research income. We have over 39,000 students and over 9,700 full-time equivalent staff. We are a founding member of the UK's Russell Group of leading research universities and a member of the League of European Research Universities.

EPSRC CDT Data Science

The EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Data Science launched in September 2014 and will train 50 PhDs over five years, with 2018/19 the fifth intake. Further information is available on the Centre's website: http://datascience.inf.ed.ac.uk/. The CDT is an MSc by Research + PhD (1+3 years) programme. Students complete a Masters by Research in the first year of the programme and, subject to satisfactory progress, are then registered on the PhD. There is no option to enrol directly onto the PhD.

You requested the number of applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments for the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Data Science during each application cycle of 2015/16 to 2017/18 and a breakdown by British/EU/non-EU students. Tables 1-3, below, give the requested figures by tuition fee status. Further information about tuition fee status is published at https://www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/tuition-fees/fee-status. Please note a small number of applicants are still to establish their fee status at the application stage.

As this is a research council funded programme, there is a limited amount of funding available for students in the overseas tuition fees category. Further information is available on the programme pages: http://datascience.inf.ed.ac.uk/apply/ and http://datascience.inf.ed.ac.uk/apply/non-eu-students/.

You will see that I have not provided the exact number where the number is fewer than five. This is because disclosing these low numbers could enable individuals to be identified. Disclosing this information would be likely to breach data protection principles. The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 does not require us to provide this sort of information as it is exempt under sections 18 and 38(1)(b).

Table 1: CDT Data Science applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2015/16-2017/18, UK fee status

UK applicants	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Applications	33	26	34
Offers	<5	7	9
Acceptances	<5	<5	6
Enrolments	<5	<5	6

Table 2: CDT Data Science applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2015/16-2017/18, EU fee status

EU applicants	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Applications	45	76	105
Offers	8	12	9
Acceptances	5	6	8
Enrolments	5	6	8

Table 3: CDT Data Science applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2015/16-2017/18, Overseas fee status

Overseas applicants	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Applications	105	117	120
Offers	0	5	<5
Acceptances	0	<5	<5
Enrolments	0	<5	<5

Business School PhDs

You requested the number of applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments for Business School PhDs, regardless of funding status, during each application cycle of 2015/16 to 2017/18, with a breakdown by British/EU/non-EU students. Please note, in contrast with the admissions process for the CDT, 2017/18 figures are not available for the Business School as the admission cycle for this academic year is not yet completed. I have therefore provided figures for 2014/15 to 2016/17 in Tables 4-6 below. Figures for 2017/18 will be available from mid-September 2018.

Table 4: Business School PhD applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2014/15-2016/17: UK fee status

UK applicants	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Applications	22	21	22
Offers	<5	6	9
Acceptances	<5	5	7
Enrolments	<5	6	5

Table 5: Business School PhD applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2014/15-2016/17: EU fee status

EU applicants	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Applications	16	15	28
Offers	<5	<5	11
Acceptances	<5	<5	5
Enrolments	<5	<5	6

Table 6: Business School PhD applications, offers, acceptances, and enrolments, 2014/15-2016/17: Overseas fee status

Overseas applicants	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Applications	373	429	531
Offers	27	32	36
Acceptances	25	24	26
Enrolments	12	19	16

ESRC Doctoral Scholarship

Finally, you requested statistics for the ESRC Doctoral Scholarship with a breakdown by British/EU/non-EU applicants.

The University of Edinburgh is a member institution of the Scotland-wide Doctoral Training Centre (DTC) which is funded and accredited by the Social and Economic Research Council (ESRC). The DTC provides world-class postgraduate research and training in the social sciences across a wide range of disciplines, known as 'pathways'. These scholarships are decided by the ESRC Scottish Graduate School in social sciences, business and management, and accounting and finance pathways. The School nominates candidates, as do the other universities involved in the pathway. We only hold figures for the Business School's own students. Only UK or EU applicants are eligible for this funding.

Over the three years requested, the School submitted 6 applications for these scholarships, of which one received an offer. No scholarships were accepted. Due to low numbers I am unable to provide a breakdown by year or by UK/EU fee status. Disclosing this information would be likely to breach data protection principles. The Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 does not require us to provide this sort of information as it is exempt under sections 18 and 38(1)(b).

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Privacy notice

The University of Edinburgh's privacy notice, which describes how we use the information you have supplied about yourself and your request, is available on-line at Privacy Notice.

Yours sincerely

Eleanor Rideout
Information Compliance Officer

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