LMS Research Schools

Notes for Applicants

The principal aim of the Research Schools programme is to introduce qualified research students to important and developing areas of research through lectures delivered by internationally leading mathematicians, and to help establish the participants as future leaders in their research communities. Research Schools can also be attended by Early Career Researchers (defined as within five years of PhD completion, excluding academic career breaks), subject to availability of places. The Research Schools are run by the LMS. The LMS Research Schools are often partially funded by the Heilbronn Institute for Mathematical Research (HIMR).

The main criteria for a successful proposal are the topicality and the mathematical significance of the Research School, the general alignment with the mission of the LMS, the likely demand for places both nationally and internationally, and the standing of the proposed lecturers in the international mathematical community.

The LMS Research Schools cover all areas of contemporary mathematics.

The LMS Research Schools are funded by an LMS grant of up to £15,000. The budget includes the accommodation and subsistence for all speakers and participants. All research students pay a registration fee of £150 and all Early Career Researchers pay a registration fee of £250.

1. Research School structure

A typical Research School should:

- Have material accessible to first-year students and benefit all research students.
- Have a broad topic to attract at least 40 research students.
- Run over five working days.
- Consist of three lecture courses, each lecturing 1 hour per day.
- Offer (at least) one guest lecture by an eminent speaker.
- Have a maximum of 18 hours of lectures.
- Have daily tutorial sessions led by a tutorial assistant per lecture course.
- Offer a social event. For example, a dinner or an afternoon excursion.

We welcome proposals which have academic validity but vary from this template, either in style or number of attendees. Research schools may be organised by one or more Research School organisers.

The LMS is keen to publish high quality lecture notes that may be produced for the Research School or after the lectures have been delivered, subject to acceptance by the Editor.

2. Proposals

Proposals should be no more than four sides of A4 and include:

- The mathematical case for the Research School (not more than one page):
  - The aims of the Research School, its appropriateness to the LMS Research School programme and the likely level of demand for the Research School both nationally and internationally.
An outline of the program, including brief descriptions of the syllabus for each lecture course together with a description of the tutorial arrangements and any other academic support.

The names and short CVs (not more than one paragraph each) of the proposed lecturers, tutorial assistants and organisers. Where a proposed lecturers’ participation is not yet confirmed, reserves should also be listed. Organisers should highlight their experience in organising similar events.

Careful consideration should be given to the gender balance. Preference may be given to Research Schools where there is a gender balance among the proposed lecturers, tutorial assistants and organisers.

- Details of the administrative arrangements, including arrangements for dealing with visa and work-permit issues.
- A brief description of the proposed location and accommodation for speakers and participants.
- A draft budget, showing expected costs and proposed sources of funding (including charges made to participants). It is expected that the budget will include provision for need-based financial aid for research students to contribute towards their travel expenses and/or registration fee. The draft budget should include any honoraria, travel, accommodation and subsistence for lecturers, accommodation and subsistence for participants and cost of social event (not more than one page).

Applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their ideas for Research Schools with the Chair of the Early Career Research Committee, Professor Chris Parker (research.schools@lms.ac.uk).

Proposals should be submitted to Ben Lloyd (research.schools@lms.ac.uk) by 22 February 2020.

Research School proposals will be sent to expert referees and considered by the LMS Early Career Research Committee. The main selection criteria will be the quality of the Research School and demand for the Research School.

Clay Mathematics Institute Enhancement and Partnership Program

To extend the international reach of the Research School, prospective organisers may also wish to consider applying to the Clay Mathematics Institute (CMI) for additional funding under the CMI’s Enhancement and Partnership Program. Further information about this program can be found at: http://www.claymath.org/programs/enhancement-and-partnership-program. Prospective organisers are advised to discuss applications to this program as early as possible by contacting the CMI President, Nick Woodhouse (president@claymath.org). There is no need to wait for a decision from the LMS on your Research School application before contacting the CMI about funding through this program.