

## Placement Year and MBio in Industry FAQ's

### **What is the difference between the MBio in industry and the Industrial Placement?**

The MBio in industry takes place in year four after the third year, students undertake a research project and write a thesis during the MBio year, leading to a Masters level qualification, this route often leads to a PhD.

The placement in industry takes place in the student's penultimate year (between years two and three), gaining professional experience in Industry to be a more competitive candidate on graduation from the Bachelors level programme.

### **Do I pay tuition fees during my placement year?**

Yes, tuition fees for the BSc placement year apply, although they are vastly reduced e.g. £1,385 in 2021/22 placement year.

Tuition fee for the MBio is at the full standard yearly rate.

### **Is a placement guaranteed?**

No. The department has a Placements Officer who works closely with local and national employers and international partner universities to source and promote placement opportunities to you. The Placement Officer also works in partnership with you to provide support for all aspects of the placement recruitment process. Students are expected to actively engage with the support provided in order to secure a placement.

### **What if I'm not able to secure a placement?**

Students who actively engage with the support provided by the Placements Officer from their first year are very likely to find a placement. Flexibility when seeking a placement is encouraged, narrowing a placement search to a particular location, sector or company is inadvisable. However, in the very rare instance that a placement is not secured students are able to progress into their final year of study or for an MBio placement reverting to the in-house route.

### **What support is available to me on Placement?**

During your placement year you will retain your personal tutor from your previous years of study, they will visit you whilst you're out on placement. The MBio & Placement Year Course Director, Placements Officer, Director of Student Experience and Director of Undergraduate Studies are also available to you as a source

of support. In the workplace you will be assigned a Placement Supervisor, and MBio students will also receive an assigned academic supervisor.

### **Does the Placement Year count towards my final degree classification?**

The placement year is assessed on a pass/fail basis and does not contribute towards your final degree classification, although it is recognised on your degree certificate. The MBio is weighted at 120 CATS with the MBio in Industry year contributing 40% to your overall degree classification.

### **Are Industry Placements Paid?**

The majority of placements are paid at a national average of £16,000 per annum. The amount you could earn can vary significantly depending on the industry and location. Some sectors; charity, conservation may offer unpaid placements. As a University we don't advertise unpaid placements, but may approve an unpaid placement sourced by the student on a case-by-case basis.

### **Do I have a deadline for finding a placement?**

You'll need to have secured a placement before the following academic year commences e.g. for a placement beginning in Autumn 2022, the placement should be secured before August 2022.

### **I'm an international student, can I do a placement?**

Yes, International students are able to undertake a placement. However if you have any concerns about how this might impact your VISA it's important you seek advice from the VISA support team.

### **What type of work can I do?**

For the Placement year the work should offer you the opportunity to develop your professional skills and should provide an increase in responsibility as the year progresses, the work undertaken can be as relevant to your degree as you would like it to be allowing you to apply the knowledge gained through your studies into practice in the workplace. On the MBio the work should be entirely relevant to your degree allowing you the ability to work on a research project in an area of interest to you.

### **What timescales are involved?**

Placement opportunities are typically advertised in the October of your Second year, Final year for MBio students, you should be ready to apply to positions at this stage. Students can commence their placements as soon as their Summer exams have finished (late May/Early June), and will finish no later than September of the following year. Placement dates are agreed with the placement provider prior to commencement of the placement year.

If you have any further questions regarding industrial placement opportunities please do not hesitate to get in touch; [slsplacements@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:slsplacements@warwick.ac.uk)