

**BBSRC PhD STUDENTSHIP
DRINC scheme**



Biopsychology Group
Institute of Psychological Sciences
Faculty of Medicine and Health
University of Leeds

Investigating the hedonic response in individuals resistant and susceptible to weight gain

Supervisors: Dr. Graham Finlayson and Prof. John Blundell
Sponsor: BBSRC (DRINC scheme)

Applications are invited for a three-year BBSRC PhD studentship commencing October 2009. The studentship will attract an annual tax-free stipend of at least £13,290 in addition to covering tuition fees. The PhD will be based in the Institute of Psychological Sciences at the University of Leeds.

The aim of this studentship is to examine aspects of the hedonic response that characterize individuals who are able to stay lean or respond well to a weight loss intervention compared to those who are obese or do not respond to sustained efforts to lose weight. Considering individual differences and comparing susceptible individuals with those resistant to weight gain or alternatively, those resistant or susceptible to weight loss, could help to identify the factors that protect against or enhance the risk for weight gain leading to obesity. The PhD work will extend and develop the theoretical basis of hedonic processes and contribute to understanding and management of the obesity epidemic. This studentship represents an exciting opportunity to conduct research as part of an international, multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, clinicians, and physiologists.

Students who have, or are expected to attain, a 1st or 2.1 class honours degree in Psychology or behavioural science, neuroscience, or a related scientific discipline are invited to apply. A relevant Master's degree is desirable. The 3-year PhD studentship will take effect from October 2009.

To apply for this studentship applicants should complete a University of Leeds application form (<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/students/appfmweb.doc>) and submit this together with a CV to Dr Graham Finlayson, Institute of Psychological Sciences, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT. For further information please contact Dr Graham Finlayson (e-mail: g.s.finlayson@leeds.ac.uk) or Prof. John Blundell (mail: j.e.blundell@leeds.ac.uk)

Closing Date 14th June 2009
Interviews to be held on 3rd July 2009.