One of Europe’s largest research organisations, we’re trusted to support, enable and undertake cutting-edge projects in an amazing diversity of fields. Through world-class facilities and people, we’re driving groundbreaking advances in science, engineering, computing and technology.

Our experts have played fundamental roles in some of the most high profile projects of recent years, like the discovery of the Higgs boson at CERN and the design and build of the Philae lander which is transforming our knowledge of comets and the Universe. These are proud achievements, but they’re just two of countless projects that truly fuel the imagination. The work we do is helping to shape societies, strengthen economies and transform lives.

There are many routes into STFC, whether you’re at the start of your career or an experienced professional. Wherever you join us, you’ll belong to a community of experts working in a dynamic, creative, collaborative culture. A culture that offers the freedom and flexibility to get the most from your work – and your life.

Our team is dedicated to inspiring new ideas and innovations that maximise the impact of our science and technology for the benefit of the UK and its people. At STFC you can make your own contribution to breakthroughs and achievements you’ll feel proud to be part of.

The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) is a place where curiosity-driven, blue-skies thinking meets practical, application-led science and engineering.
We’re working to help more people better understand the Universe – from the largest astronomical scales to the smallest constituents of matter. And we’re creating impact on a very tangible, human scale. What we do touches every aspect of daily life.

By helping create new jobs and new products, winning international contracts and supporting start-ups, we’re generating hundreds of millions of pounds for the UK economy.
We’ve supported Universities for over 25 years with industry relevant design methodologies, helping them to train the next generation of engineers for the electronics industry, currently worth £78 billion per year to the UK economy.

We’re discovering new materials to change the world – like ones to store hydrogen safely and help replace fossil fuels.

Collaborating with the Met Office and Natural Environment Research Council, our IT experts are exploiting ultra-fast supercomputers to design next generation weather forecasting systems.

The instrument technology we designed for ground and space telescopes is being applied to develop diagnostic tests for sight loss.
A state-of-the-art tissue culture centre at STFC’s ALICE accelerator is furthering research into diagnosis and treatment of prostate, cervical and oesophageal cancer.

Our particle physics team helps design, build and operate the most complex detectors ever built, including the giant detectors at CERN.
Our physicists embedded at CERN analysed the data that led to the discovery of the elusive Higgs boson.

We built instruments for the Rosetta probe and Philae lander that are transforming our understanding of comets.

Laser technology we developed is now helping to protect the public in over 65 airports.
INSPIRING LOCATIONS

We’re based across Britain and collaborate with partners around the globe, with specialist operations in Spain and Switzerland.

Daresbury Laboratory
Our facility in Cheshire has been at the forefront of pioneering international scientific research for over fifty years. 300 staff continue to push the boundaries of modern science in fields such as accelerator science, bio-medicine, physics, chemistry, materials, engineering and computational science.

UK Astronomy Technology Centre, Edinburgh
The UK Astronomy Technology Centre (UK ATC) is a national centre of excellence for the development of scientific instrumentation and facilities for ground and space-based astronomy. Our team of around 80 staff, based at the Royal Observatory in Edinburgh, have a world-class reputation for delivering innovative and capable cameras, spectrometers and even turnkey telescope systems.
Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxfordshire
Our expanding Rutherford Appleton Laboratory in South Oxfordshire, currently home to 1300 employees, visiting scientists and PhD students, hosts some of the UK's major scientific facilities; providing a thriving and collaborative environment for research in particle physics, space science, materials, astronomy, photon science, computational and e-science, biology, biomedicine and chemistry.

Polaris House, Swindon
Our headquarters in Swindon hosts a team of over 100 professional and support staff.

Boulby Underground Laboratory, North Yorkshire
Boulby Laboratory, a 1100m deep underground science facility, is one of just a handful of facilities world-wide suitable for hosting deep underground science projects, such as the search for Dark Matter in the Universe, studies of cosmic rays and climate, astrobiology and life in extreme environments.

Chilbolton Observatory, Hampshire
Chilbolton Observatory is at the cutting-edge of atmospheric science, radar and radio research and astronomy.
Graduates
We recruit over 20 graduates each year into a development programme that is designed to bridge the gap between academic and professional qualifications. You start in a real job from day one and enjoy two years of formal training and development. That’s followed by two years spent working towards your chartered status. As a graduate you are guaranteed a job with STFC, and after two years you earn a pay rise.

Interns/Placement Students
You can join us as a paid intern or placement/sandwich student during your degree. There is also a paid vacation scheme. It gives you the chance to gain practical experience while enjoying working with STFC for 4-12 weeks. If you come as a sandwich student or a vacation student, you could also earn the opportunity to be sponsored through the rest of your degree – before returning to us as a graduate.

Apprentices
We run an award winning engineering apprenticeship scheme, which is accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET). We also have exciting opportunities for IT apprenticeships. The apprenticeship scheme combines real responsibility with structured training and learning – leading to a role in a world-class STFC facility.
Experienced scientists, engineers and IT specialists

We offer a wealth of opportunities to professionals with backgrounds in research, engineering and IT, right up to senior management level.

Professional and support services

The amazing work we do in the science and engineering fields wouldn't be possible without the support and contribution of the talented people who keep STFC and our projects running smoothly.

PhD studentships

We also fund PhD studentships at a number of UK universities in the fields of astronomy, particle physics, nuclear physics, solar and planetary science or particle astrophysics. Find out more at www.stfc.ac.uk/funding.
Debbie began her career at STFC in computing. She then became part of the STFC team that worked at CERN, before returning to the UK to join the team at ISIS.

“I think STFC is a fabulous place to work. I’ve had a few life changes since I’ve been here. After having children, I worked part-time for a few years then returned to working full-time once they were older. I’ve had wonderful promotion opportunities during that time and my home-life balance has been fantastic.

“My proudest moment was actually when they turned the LHC on. It’s very hard for young people to understand what engineering is all about. My own children did not know what I did. When they switched on the LHC, I said ‘I helped to design and build one of the large detectors (Atlas)’. My kids were able to tell their school friends what I did for the first time, they said ‘my mummy built a bit of that machine.’”

“The scientists have the dreams, the engineers turn them into reality”
“An excellent place to work, really innovative”

James is a member of our scientific computing team at Daresbury Laboratory. He joined us having previously worked as an administrator and infrastructure analyst with a leading retail bank.

“My job is to install, support and maintain the high performance systems at STFC. The projects really interest me because they are real-world issues. We are striving to make computing as energy efficient as it could be. If you can make it more efficient you can really impact the world globally, not just the UK.

“I’ve learned a lot since I came here. I didn’t really come from a science background, but already my knowledge has expanded three or four times over. Every day I come in and learn something new. And I go home and feel good that I’m working on the newest technologies in the world. Knowing I’ll be one of the first people to learn those technologies is really satisfying.”

James Priestley
High Performance Cluster Administrator, Daresbury Laboratory
Joined STFC: Jan 2015
LIFE AT STFC

A community of experts
You’ll be working alongside specialist professionals, including world-leading experts in their fields. Colleagues are open, knowledgeable and approachable. Managers are supportive and keen to assist with developing your skills.

Travel and conferences
We actively encourage overseas visits and travel to events – both to promote our work and take on new ideas and perspectives from the global research and engineering communities.

Collaboration and secondments
We collaborate extensively with partners in academia and industry all over the world – there are often opportunities to undertake training or secondments, or to work in embedded teams both in the UK or overseas (as we do at CERN).
Life outside work
STFC is big on work-life balance with 30 days holiday a year, flexible working patterns and family-friendly policies. We don’t neglect the social side of things either, with lots of talks, events and clubs to get involved with – and access to sports and leisure facilities.

Professional accreditation
The majority of our technical employees join us with accreditation or receive our support to reach it. 80% of graduates work towards chartership of their professional body. The graduate scheme is accredited with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE), IET and the Institute of Physics (IOP) and we have achieved an interim accreditation with the British Computer Society.

Learning and development
STFC is an organisation dedicated to advancing knowledge. One of the key ways to do that is by investing heavily in training and people – at the start of their career, and then throughout it.
“Watching a camera I helped design being launched to the International Space Station”

“Attending the CERN Accelerator School for a fortnight for technical training”

“Spending two months at the William Herschel Telescope in the Canary Islands”
“Getting my section leader position in Electrical Engineering”

“Being invited to speak at an international conference in Beijing”

“My first promotion”

“Being supported through my doctorate”
FEEL GOOD REWARDS

STFC holds the Gold Investors In People standard – which puts us in the Top 2% of UK organisations for delivering business performance through people.

We offer a package that recognises the value you bring to our organisation – and aim to give you the support you need to enjoy your work and perform at your best.
Work Life Balance

• 30 days holiday plus 10.5 public and privilege holidays
• Flexible working hours scheme
• Childcare voucher scheme
• Workplace nursery*
• Paid emergency leave
• Career breaks
• Maternity, paternity and adoption leave
• Parental leave
• Subsidised restaurant and coffee outlets

Health and Welfare

• Cycle-2-work scheme
• Travel season ticket salary advances
• Discounts to local leisure facilities
• On-site health club** and sports facilities ***
• Health promotion programmes
• Occupational health screening and assistance
• Access to confidential counselling service
• Travel offers, High Street vouchers, discount schemes

Conditions

• Defined benefit pension scheme (employer contribution – currently up to 26%)
• Life assurance (death benefit)
• Give as you earn
• Staff recognition schemes
• Employee referral scheme
• Family-friendly contracts

* Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and Swindon Office only – waiting list applies; ** Daresbury Laboratory only; *** Rutherford Appleton Laboratory only.
We advertise all of our opportunities on the STFC website. It's easy to search and apply for vacancies online at stfc.ac.uk/careers.

If you have any specific requests or questions about working at STFC, you are welcome to email us on careers@stfc.ac.uk.

Connect with us
You can keep up to date with STFC news and our latest vacancies via social media.

- www.stfc.ac.uk/facebook
- twitter.com/stfc_matters
- Linkedin.com/company/stfc
INSPIRING INNOVATION