

# RGS-IBG Postgraduate Research Awards

## ● Grants of £500 to £2,500 for postgraduate students to undertake fieldwork

●●● The RGS-IBG offers a number of awards for PhD students undertaking fieldwork/data collection in the UK or overseas. Preference will be given to research that furthers geographical knowledge and also demonstrates applied benefits. These awards are funded by the following donors: Albert Reckitt Charitable Trust, Dudley Stamp Memorial Fund, Geographical Club, RGS-IBG Hong Kong branch, Walters Kundert Charitable Trust.

The application deadline is **23 November**.

### Eligibility

- The awards support geographical fieldwork or data collection in the UK or overseas.
- Applicants must currently be registered with a UK Higher Education institution.
- Preference will be given to students who do not receive full funding from a Research Council or comparable levels of support from other sources with support for fieldwork/data
- Preference will also be given to those who have not received this support before.
- Grants are available to individuals only
- Awards cannot be made retrospectively
- Conferences and conference attendance will not be funded.

### Application process

Applications should be submitted by email to the Society's Grants Officer ([grants@rgs.org](mailto:grants@rgs.org)) by **23 November**. This deadline will be strictly enforced.

Applications must contain the following information:

- Name, affiliation and full contact details (please include an email address)

- The year of commencement of the postgraduate course and the intended completion date
- Title and short abstract of project (max 100 words)

**Please note:** If you are seeking funding for field based development research you should apply to the Society's [Slawson Awards](#).

- Aim of the project and objectives (max 250 words)
- A full description of the proposed research, including field site, methodologies and a timeline (max 500 words)
- A brief description of how the research will further geographical knowledge and details of its applied benefit (max 100 words)
- An outline of plans for disseminating the results of the research (max 200 words)
- Details of permissions needed/gained
- A risk assessment and safety management plan and details of appropriate ethical approvals (see conditions of award, max 300 words)
- A fully itemised budget (tuition, stipend, other expenses) detailing the support for your postgraduate study with information on how the grant funds will be used. All details of other funding gained or applied for should be included.
- One page summary CV with details of appropriate experience and expertise.
- Please do not send supporting documents such as previous reports, these will not be used when screening the applications.

Please indicate how you heard about the RGS-IBG Postgraduate Research Awards.

### Data Protection

The information you provide in your application will be held by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) on a computer in accordance with the

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Data Protection Act 1998, and will be used only in connection with your application.

### Referee statements

- Two referee statements are required. One should be from your PhD supervisor. One of these referees should be independent of the research activities and institution.
- Please send each of your referees a copy of the Referee Guidelines below and ask them to send the references directly to the Grants Officer by email by **23 November**. Applications will be jeopardised if referee statements are not received on time. References form a critical part of the judging process.
- Receipt of all materials will be acknowledged.

### Selection process

- Applications will be assessed by an external panel of experts.
- There are no interviews for this award.

### Conditions

- The RGS-IBG requires that the research it funds be conducted in an ethical and responsible manner. **All RGS-IBG awards are conditional on your Institutions approval of the projects risk assessment and ethical considerations. Please provide information on the status of approvals (ethical, health and safety and any other permissions) in your application.**
- Full details of the Society's code of practice for the grants programme can be found at [www.rgs.org/grants-ethics](http://www.rgs.org/grants-ethics).
- The Society will not fund projects that take place in countries or within an area where the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advises against all travel before the project goes into the field.
- Personal medical insurance must be in place for all team members before departure.
- **Within a month** of completion of the fieldwork/data collection, you will be required to complete a short report. High resolution JPEG images which capture the essence of the project (the research problem, methods and findings) are also required.
- A full final report must be submitted electronically and in hard copy by **1 September** of the year following the award. The final report must include a 250 word abstract, a description of the project and its key findings (1000 words minimum), digital

images that capture the spirit of the project and its results, a final budget, and details of presentations, publications and any other outputs.

- Award details, including text and images from reporting, may be used in publications and on the Society website.
- The Society's support should be acknowledged in all publications and outputs. Copies of any such publications and outputs should be submitted to the Society.

### Contact/ Applications

Grants Officer  
Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)  
1 Kensington Gore  
London  
SW7 2AR  
T: (0) 20 7591 3073  
F: (0) 20 7591 3031  
E: [grants@rgs.org](mailto:grants@rgs.org)  
W: [www.rgs.org/grants](http://www.rgs.org/grants)

**The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) offers many other grants for different areas of geographical research at different career stages. Full details of all grants can be found at [www.rgs.org/grants](http://www.rgs.org/grants).**

Applicants may only have one Society grant application pending at any one time. For more information, please read our Frequently Asked Questions, [www.rgs.org/grantfaqs](http://www.rgs.org/grantfaqs).

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**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**  
with IBG

Advancing geography  
and geographical learning

## ● Guide to Referees

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The RGS-IBG is offering a number of awards for postgraduate students undertaking fieldwork/ data collection. Awards are worth between £500 and £2,500.

### Referees

We would be grateful if you could write a reference providing a critical evaluation of:

- The proposed project's strengths in terms of originality, validity and likely contribution to geographical knowledge
- The work's academic and applied importance
- The applicant's ability to complete the programme of work safely and responsibly within the time and budget proposed
- Any additional information that you feel might help the Selection Panel

Your reference will be one of the key factors in assessing the applicant's suitability for a grant.

Please submit your **signed reference statement on letter headed paper** to the Grants Officer by email (details below) before **23 November**.

The Society would like to thank you in advance for your assistance. Your reference will be acknowledged by email.

### Contact

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Royal Geographical Society (with IBG)  
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