

# Learning and Leading: Overseas Fieldwork Apprenticeships

- Five fieldwork apprenticeships for undergraduate students to join an academic led field project

Each year the RGS-IBG Learning and Leading Fieldwork Apprenticeships will give five young undergraduates the opportunity of participating in an overseas research project for a number of weeks at the end of their first year at university as a fieldwork apprentice. Each recipient will work on a field research project led by a university lecturer under the auspices of their university.

The overall purpose of the programme is to increase opportunities and motivation for self development among young people, through learning outdoors and the experience of studying and experiencing 'new' environments and cultures.

Examples of the range of field projects that an apprentice could join are researching: glaciology in Iceland; carbon exchange in Kalahari; mapping vegetation in the Bolivian Andes; refugee settlements in Uganda; public awareness of risk in Sumatra; urban and community regeneration in China. Examples of previous apprenticeships, are found under '*meet the participants*' on [www.rgs.org/Learning&Leading](http://www.rgs.org/Learning&Leading)

Each student will be supported by a bursary of £2,000.

## Eligibility guidelines

- Applicants must be a UK national, resident and studying geography as an undergraduate in a UK HEI in the first year of their Bachelors degree.
- Applicants must have the support of a lecturer at their UK HEI to participate in an overseas fieldwork project.
- Applicants must participate in a field based programme overseas that lasts for more than one month
- Students must commit to becoming an active Geography Ambassador for the RGS-IBG. More details about the Ambassadors programme can be found at [www.rgs.org/ambassadors](http://www.rgs.org/ambassadors) Students should also be willing to commit to share experiences with others at their own institution and through the project website more broadly
- The programme is for students for whom such field research opportunities are outside their previous experience and an opportunity that would not otherwise be available to them.

## Application procedure

Application forms can be downloaded from [www.rgs.org/learning&leading](http://www.rgs.org/learning&leading). The form should be completed electronically, answering all questions, and emailed to the Project Co-ordinator at the Society by **17.00 on Friday 17 February 2012**. This deadline will be strictly enforced.

## Information required from referees

Each application must be accompanied by two written references:

1. A written reference from your geography tutor
2. An Academic Mentor Form to be completed by the UK lecturer with whom you intend to undertake the fieldwork apprenticeship (the academic mentor) signed by their Head of Department.

If these are the same person, another lecturer in the department should serve as the geography tutor referee. A copy of the referee guidelines is provided. Make sure you give a copy of your completed application to your referees.

The references should be emailed directly to the Project Co-ordinator by **17.00 on Friday 17 February 2012**. Applications will be jeopardised if referee statements are not received on time.

## Selection process

- Applications will be assessed by an external panel of experts
- Short listed applicants will be expected to conduct an interview, either at the Society in London (travel expenses will be paid), or via a video-link.

## Contact/ Applications

For applications or further information, contact:  
Amber Sorrell

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**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 W: [www.rgs.org/grants](http://www.rgs.org/grants)**