

RGS-IBG Postgraduate Research Awards

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

● Grants of £2000 for PhD students to undertake fieldwork

●●● The RGS-IBG is offering a number of awards for PhD students undertaking fieldwork/data collection. These awards, offered to individuals, aim to help students establish themselves in their particular field. Two to three awards will be offered in each of the following areas: physical environment; conservation/ sustainability; and society/ economy. Up to seven awards will be made in total. Each award is worth £2000. The application deadline is **25 November 2011**.

Preference will be given to research that furthers geographical knowledge and also demonstrates applied benefits. These awards have been funded by donations from a private member of the Society.

Eligibility

- The awards support geographical data collection in the UK or overseas.
- Applicants must be UK/EU nationals.
- Applicants must currently be registered for a PhD at a UK Higher Education institution and upgrading into the PhD programme. Applicants registered on MPhil or other Masters courses are not eligible.
- Students who receive full funding from a Research Council or comparable levels of support from other sources with support for fieldwork/data collection are not eligible to apply.
- Reapplication for the same project is not permitted
- Grants are available to individuals only, and only one application is accepted per individual per annum
- Preference will be given to those who have not received this support before
- Re-application for the same project is not permitted
- Awards cannot be made retrospectively
- Postgraduate research, conferences and conference attendance and replacement wages will not be funded

Application process

Applications should be submitted by email in word format to the Grants Officer at the Society. Deadlines 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 PhD course and the intended completion date and the dates of the intended fieldwork
- Title and short abstract of project (max 100 words)
- Indication of the primary area of study: Physical Environment, Conservation/ Sustainability, Society/ Economy
- Aim of the project and objectives with a description of how the fieldwork/ data collection will contribute to the overall PhD project (max 250 words)
- Location of research area including the latitude and longitude (These are used by the RGS-IBG to geocode information about our grants programme in GIS)
- 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)
- 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 £2000 will be used. All details of other funding gained or applied for should be included.

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- CV with details of appropriate experience and expertise
 - Please indicate how you heard about the RGS-IBG Postgraduate Research Award
 - Please do not send supporting documents such as previous reports, these will not be used when screening the applications.

Referee statements

Two referee statements are required. One must be from your PhD supervisor. 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 **25 November 2011**.

Selection process

- Applications will be assessed by an external panel of experts
- Short listed candidates may be called to interview at the RGS-IBG in London.

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. Full details of the Society's ethical guidelines for research can be found at www.rgs.org/grants-ethics. **Please provide information on the status of approvals in your application**
- **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

Note: Digital photographs should be high resolution and in JPEG format.

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
W: 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.

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.

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● Guide to Referees

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We would be grateful if you could write a reference providing an 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 return your reference to the Grants Officer by email before **25 November 2011** to the address below. The Society would like to thank you in advance for your assistance. Your reference will be acknowledged by email.

Contact

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