



The
Geological
Society

serving science & profession

RESEARCH GRANTS

GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

Allowable expenses

- Travel and subsistence
- Local travel costs
- Specimen shipping costs
- Laboratory expenses
- Undergraduate field mapping projects (separate scheme - see website for details)

Non allowable costs

Include:

- Attendance at committee meetings of IUGS and similar international bodies
- Conference attendance

Please also note that:

- Applicants in receipt of NERC (or other RCUK) funding will need to make a strong case for funding although new, innovative opportunities will be considered.
- The Society will not provide funding where there has been a failure by the research supervisor to fully cost field or laboratory work.
- Applications which the Committee considers to be premature, e.g. too early in the applicant's course, will be ruled out.
- All applications are judged on scientific excellence but in deciding between those of equal merit preference will be given to Fellows of the Society.
- The Committee will be sympathetic to applications from candidates with a demonstrable need for funding.

Application Form

- All applications must be submitted on the downloadable form
- The project description may not exceed two A4 pages of typescript and must be in a font size of 10 or larger.
- The project must have a clear title
- The role of the applicant is to be stated if the application is part of a broader project. What is your role within the team? Set out what it is that you will do.

- Attach bibliography/list of references separately identifying any of your own relevant publications or up to 6 most relevant research articles published by others
- Give breakdown of expenses sought
- State any previous awards from GSL
- State sources of additional funds already obtained and applications pending
- State that all necessary permissions have been obtained, the ownership of any specimens collected in the course of the work, and indicate what will happen to any specimens collected at the end of the project (eg lodged with a museum, disposed of)
- As appropriate, confirm that an institutional risk assessment has been, or will be, carried out and the fieldwork will only proceed once it has been approved by the institution. This is particularly when an application is for funding to work in a remote area.

Letters of support

The application **must be accompanied** by two letters of support from Fellows of the Society. These letters must include:

- In what role the referee knows the applicant and for how long
- The stage at which the applicant is in their education/career including qualifications with key dates
- If still in education their progress to date
- Information on the proposed project - how does it relate to applicant's PhD or other current research project(s) in which s/he is involved
- Assessment of the applicant's ability to undertake the project
- Funding of applicant's current position and knowledge of any demonstrable need or hardship

Requirements for successful applicants

- A report must be produced, either interim or full, by the end of the calendar year in which the grant is made. There is no specific format but the preferred style is more a piece of geosciences journalism than a learned paper. It must be no more than three pages clearly identifying the purpose of the research and what has been achieved, i.e. the results, rather than accounting in a financial sense on how the money was spent. It must state whether the recipient has had articles published or about to be published. Failure to produce a report will make future applications ineligible.
- Funding from the Society must also be acknowledged in all publications relating to the funded project.
- Successful applicants may be asked to write a piece for the Society's magazine *Geoscientist* and the Society's blog.
- All reports will be published on the Society's website.