

**Climate Research Bursary Fund: Guidance for Applicants**

Bursary awards of up to £2,000 are available for postgraduate students at the University of Leeds pursuing field research projects on issues relating to Climate Research and/or Plant Biology in any region of the world.

Funds can be used for travel, purchase of data, software or equipment and fieldwork-based research costs.

The scheme is funded as part of an alumni-supported research programme and preference will be given to novel, cross-disciplinary projects that contribute clear, independent outcomes. It is required that each supported project will produce a two page briefing note to outline the main findings and relevance to land managers and policy-makers.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of experts from the Priestley International Centre for Climate and the Centre for Plant Sciences with assessment made against criteria of:

* Fit to climate change and solutions research need, or to innovative connections between plant biology, ecology and environmental science.
* Novelty of proposed project
* Feasibility of proposed project
* Clarity of plan to deliver realistic outcomes
* Demonstrated funding need for additional bursary support.

The bursary scheme is available to all postgraduate students of the University of Leeds for support to the fieldwork component of climate or ecology-facing research projects undertaken as part of their research project.

Submissions of the application form (over page) should be made to Elizabeth Dell (e.r.dell@leeds.ac.uk) by **Monday 12th February 2018**. Awards will be announced during the week commencing 26 February 2018.

**Conditions of the Award**

* Applicants must be a postgraduate student registered at the University of Leeds.
* Awards cannot be made retrospectively and the award period of each bursary will be individually agreed.
* All major expenses (e.g. travel, subsistence and data collection support) will require receipts for auditing the expenditure through the Climate Research Bursary Fund.
* All research must be conducted in a safe and ethical manner. Awards are made on condition that the project has received formal approval through the relevant School Health and Safety Risk Assessment process and, where appropriate, has also received ethical clearance from the University of Leeds Ethics Committee. **Information on the status of these approvals should be provided with your application.** If you are unclear about the procedures for meeting the above conditions, please discuss these with your supervisor.
* Where required, you must have obtained a research permit for the country you are visiting.
* Within a month of completion of the fieldwork you will be required to complete a short report and provide high resolution JPEG images/photographs which capture the essence of the project. The report should be 2 sides of A4 length and must be submitted by **1 September 2018** (or agreed later date if linked to PhD research beyond this date). Your report should be in the form of a briefing note written for a non-expert, public audience, with a short abstract, a description of the project and an outline of its key findings. You should also describe the specific contribution that this award has made to your postgraduate research project.
* Award details, including text and images from reporting, may be used in University publications and webpages.
* Money not spent must be refunded.
* The support from the Climate Research Bursary Fund should be acknowledged in all publications and outputs. Copies of any such publications and outputs should be submitted to Elizabeth Dell.

**Contact / Applications**

Elizabeth Dell | PA to the Dean |
Faculty of Environment | University of Leeds | Leeds LS2 9JT |
0113 343 1941 |
e.r.dell@leeds.ac.uk |

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**Climate Research Bursary Fund: Application Form**

**Please complete and return this form electronically to** **e.r.dell@leeds.ac.uk**

**Closing date for applications: 12th February 2018**

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| **Name:** |  |
| **School Affiliation / Postgraduate Programme:** |  |
| **Research Project Title:** |  |
| **Project Supervisor(s):** |  |
| **Funding Sought :** | £ |

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| **Proposed Research Aim and Objectives (max 100 words):** |
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| **Project Fieldwork Methodology and Contribution to Climate Change and Solutions Research Debates (max 1000 words):** |
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| **Plans for dissemination of research outcomes (max 300 words):** |
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| **Budget breakdown (including outline of personal contributions or other funding sought and/or achieved):**  |
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| **Details of the project’s status in: (a) the School Health and Safety Risk Assessment process and (b) the University Ethics Committee approval process.** |
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| **Declaration:** The information submitted in this application is to the best of my knowledge correct at the time this application was made. Should any significant developments arise since this application was made, I will keep the Fund co-ordinator informed. Should the proposed study be cancelled, I undertake to return the grant award.**Please tick the box to confirm that you will abide by this declaration:⁯****[ ]** *[double click on box to tick]* |