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| Bursaries for Research Group executive roles – application form |

One of the requirements to hold the role of Chair, Treasurer of Secretary of a Research Group is Fellowship (including Associate Fellowship) of the Society. There is also a requirement that the majority of a given Research Group committee will also be Fellows of the Society. The latter is important in terms of representation and governance in the Society.

**The scheme**

As part of the Society’s support for Research Groups, annually funds will be available for up to five bursaries (each for one year) to cover the costs of RGS-IBG Fellowship for unsalaried individuals if elected to executive roles on Research Group committees.

**The process**

Those who are interested in taking on a Research Group executive committee role (Chair, Secretary, Treasurer), but whose circumstances prevent them from taking up RGS-IBG Fellowship, are invited to submit an expression of interest for this support using the form below.

The deadline for applications will be **12 August 2024**. Applications will also be considered out of cycle after the Research Groups have held their AGMs.

Applications will be treated in the strictest of confidence. Those applying will be expected to have considered taking up Associate Fellowship first if they are eligible to do so (within 5 years of the completion of their first degree) and if their circumstances permit.

Expressions of interest will be reviewed by a sub-committee of the Research and Higher Education committee, consisting of the Honorary Secretary for Research and Higher Education and the Research Group Representatives. The sub-committee will review to establish eligibility of applications. If the number of eligible applications exceeds five, we will then operate a lottery to decide on the five successful applications. We will operate a reserve list should successful recipients not be elected or take up the role.

Successful applicants will be notified by mid-August. If they are subsequently elected to their chosen committee role, they will be able to draw on the bursary to submit their Fellowship application for the upcoming year.

Bursary holders will have the option in subsequent years, should it be relevant, to request additional years of support in order to complete three-year terms, by submitting a new EOI form. However, such support cannot always be guaranteed. Such applications will be included in the limit of five bursaries per year.

Where Research Groups have financial resource available to support this, they will be able to provide additional years of support to committee members who had previously received a bursary, in an exception to the general principle that committee members should not financially benefit from Research Group funds (so as to avoid any perceived or actual conflict of interest). There is no expectation from RHED that groups choose to use their funds in this way.

To apply for a bursary, please complete and return a copy of the below form to rhed@rgs.org by **Monday 12 August**

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| **Name**  |  |
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| **Contact email**  |   |
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| **Current employment status** **Employment status for coming academic year****Brief (<100 word) case for Research Group Fellowship bursary** |  |
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| **Name of the Research Group for which you are considering standing for election/for which you already hold an elected role** |  |
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| **Committee position for which you are considering standing/for which you already hold an elected role** |  |
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| **Statement as to why you wish to stand for the role (the same as submitted to the Research Group) 150 words** |  |
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| **The details given in this application are true to the best of my knowledge.****If successful, I understand that this bursary is contingent on subsequently being elected to my chosen Research Group committee role.** | (please sign and date): |