



Fisheries Society of the British Isles

Research Studentship Information

Please direct any enquiries about the content of this form to:

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The Society will be represented by the Council in all communications concerned with the appointment and administration of FSBI Research Studentships.

1 ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

1.1 The competition for studentships is open to suitably qualified candidates who are members of the Fisheries Society of the British Isles.

1.2 The Appointee should hold a first or upper second class honours degree in a subject relevant to fish biology, normally in biological sciences. However, an alternative qualification, or combination of qualifications and experience, which demonstrate equivalent knowledge and ability may be considered by the Council.

1.3 Students will be subject to the normal conditions of appointment of the host institution.

2 FINANCIAL SUPPORT

2.1 The appointee will receive an annual maintenance allowance for a period **not exceeding three years**. Currently this is £13,600 for universities outside London or £15,600 for London-based universities (i.e. £1,000 more than the NERC standard rate). The stipend is paid quarterly directly to the student, the first installment being paid on registration at the host institution.

2.2 The Society will be responsible for the payment of institutional fees, including the costs of tuition, registration for a higher degree, examinations and membership of the Students Union. The Society will pay annual university fees up to the level required for EU nationals. Students from outside the EU must make their own arrangements to pay the balance of any university fees due.

2.3 An annual Research Support Training Grant of £1,250 will be allocated to the Department hosting the student. This grant will be administered by the supervisor but must be solely for the benefit of the student's research.

N.B. No further funds will be made available by the Society to support the student's research, so supervisors and students must consider carefully how they would fund expensive field or laboratory work.

2.4 Students will be encouraged to undertake paid teaching within the host institution, provided that such duties including preparation do not exceed six hours per week.

2.5 Students will be eligible to apply to the Society for a travel grant to attend scientific meetings, provided that a paper or a poster is presented at the meeting.

2.6 Students will be encouraged to attend the annual FSBI symposium and to present a poster summarising any aspect of their funded research. The Society will cover all reasonable costs associated with attendance.

3 CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

3.1 Research projects may be in any field of study relevant to fish biology and to the aims of the FSBI, as listed on the inside cover page of the *Journal of Fish Biology*. Projects concerned solely with shellfish (Mollusca or Crustacea) are not eligible for support.

3.2 The studentship must be taken up at an institution approved by the Society. This need not be the institution in which the applicant is currently studying but it will normally be within the United Kingdom or the Republic

of Ireland.

3.3 The studentship must start in the same year as the award is made, normally 01 October.

3.4 The Society requires, with each application, an endorsement from the host institution that it can provide a place and adequate research facilities for the student, and that satisfactory supervisory arrangements will be provided. Similar statements must be provided by any collaborating institutions.

3.5 The appointee must register for a higher degree at the institution named in the application within three months of being appointed.

3.6 Vacations are permitted up to a total of eight weeks in the year, including public holidays. The periods taken must be approved by the supervisor.

3.7 The student must submit a brief annual report to the Society giving details of progress and any problems encountered in the research project. The student must also prepare an annual progress report that will be published in the Society's Newsletter.

3.8 A separate progress report will be requested from the supervisor at the end of each academic year.

4 TERMINATION OF A STUDENTSHIP

4.1 The studentship may be terminated, or its conditions varied, without notice, at the discretion of the Council.

4.2 Students whose progress or conduct is judged by the Society to be unsatisfactory, may have their awards discontinued.

4.3 Awards will terminate on the date that a student ceases training or takes up paid employment if this occurs within the normal time period of the studentship. The student will be liable to refund to the Society money allocated for periods subsequent to that date.

5 ABSENCE

5.1 All absences from the institution other than those normally associated with research training or approved vacations must be reported to the Society through the supervisor.

5.2 In the event of illness for periods exceeding two weeks medical certificates must be forwarded to the Society by the supervisor. The return to work following such absences must similarly be reported.

5.3 Awards will be maintained at the full rate for the first four weeks of absence covered by a medical certificate and at half rate for the next four weeks, within any twelve month period from the first day of absence. Continued sick leave will normally lead to an award being held in abeyance.

6 GENERAL

6.1 We currently support seven students.

6.2 Normally one or two studentships become available each year. The studentships are advertised on <http://www.jobs.ac.uk> in October and the closing date for the current round is 15 December 2011. All applications will be acknowledged.

6.3 Applications are reviewed by a sub-Committee of the FSBI Council which prepares a short list. Applicants will be informed if they have been selected for the short list at this stage.

6.4 Short listed candidates will be invited to attend for interview at the end of February. Expenses for attending the interview are paid by the FSBI, and these will include approved travel to the interview from within the British Isles.

6.5 The application form must be completed by the applicant, not by the proposed supervisor. Any contribution by a proposed supervisor or other persons must be acknowledged, as required by Section 4 of the application form.