

RGS-IBG Hong Kong Research Grant

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG

Advancing geography
and geographical learning

● Grants for geographical research in the Greater China region

The Society offers two research grants for students undertaking geographical research in the Greater China region (People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Macau SAR and Hong Kong SAR). One grant of £2,500 will be awarded to a postgraduate student on a PhD course (through the [RGS-IBG Postgraduate Research Awards](#)), and one grant of £1,000 will be awarded to an undergraduate student.

The grant, which is provided by the Hong Kong branch of The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG), may be used to help with travel, equipment, data collection and subsistence in the field.

The application deadline is **23 November**.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be registered with a UK Higher Education Institution.
- Applicants must be undertaking field research relevant to their studies.
- Fieldwork must take place in the Greater China region.
- The fieldwork must be of more than four weeks duration.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously had the opportunity to study in the Greater China region, or whose research would greatly benefit from the addition of fieldwork undertaken in the Greater China region.
- Preference will be given to individual applicants.
- Preference may also be given to those projects working closely with the host community.

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 course of study and the intended completion date
- Title and short abstract of project (max 100 words)
- Aim of the project and objectives, and description of how the research will contribute to your studies(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)
- A full description of the proposed research, including field site, methodologies and a timeline (max 500 words)
- Duration of the research, with start and end dates
- Details of any earlier research in the subject and/or geographical region and how this has led to the current research work (max 250 words)
- Evidence that language and cultural issues in the field have been fully considered (max 100 words)
- An outline of plans for disseminating the results of the research (max 250 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. This should include travel, accommodation and per diem costs, as well as details of the source of funds for budgeted costs that exceed the value of the award
- Evidence that the host country has approved your research, i.e. a letter of support from your Greater China region host and/or copies of

any research permits required. Please also specify if permits will be required for the export, collection or import of field samples

- One page summary CV with details of appropriate experience and expertise
- Please do not send supporting documents such as previous reports, these will not be used when screening the applications.

Please indicate how you heard about the RGS-IBG Hong Kong Research Grant.

Data Protection

The information you provide in your application will be held by the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) on a computer in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and will be used only in connection with your application.

Referee statements

- Two referee statements are required. One must be from your course supervisor. One of these referees should be independent of the research activities and institution.
- 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 **23 November**. Applications will be jeopardised if referee statements are not received on time. References form a critical part of the judging process.
- Receipt of all materials will be acknowledged.

Selection process

- Applications will be assessed by an external panel of experts including representatives from the Hong Kong branch of the Society.
- There are no interviews for these awards.

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. Please provide information on the status of approvals in your application**

- Full details of the Society's code of practice for the grants programme can be found at www.rgs.org/grants-ethics.
- The Society will not fund projects that take place in countries or within an area where the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advises against all travel before the project goes into the field.
- Personal medical insurance must be in place for all team members before departure.
- **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 successful candidate will be very welcome to give a short presentation on the outcome of their research to the RGS-IBG Hong Kong branch, should they be passing through Hong Kong
- 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

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

- The Hong Kong branch of the Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) offers two annual research grants to students registered with a UK Higher Education Institution, undertaking geographical research in the Greater China region (People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Macau SAR and Hong Kong SAR). One grant of £2,500 will be awarded to a postgraduate student on a PhD course, and one grant of £1,000 will be awarded to an undergraduate student.

Referees

We would be grateful if you could write a reference providing a critical evaluation of:

- The proposed project's strengths and weaknesses in terms of originality, validity and likely contribution to geographical knowledge
- 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 submit your **signed reference statement on letter headed paper** to the Grants Officer by email (details below) before **23 November**.

The Society would like to thank you in advance for your assistance. Your reference will be acknowledged by email.

Contact

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