

# Walters Kundert Fellowship

**Royal  
Geographical  
Society**  
with IBG

Advancing geography  
and geographical learning

## ● £10,000 for geographical research in Arctic or mountain environments

The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) offers an annual fellowship of £10,000, for research in physical geography within Arctic and/or high mountain environments, with preference for field studies that advance the understanding of environmental change past or present.

The aim of the award is to encourage applicants from across the spectrum of geographical research to enhance the understanding and well-being of the planet's Arctic and high mountain environments through research.

The fellowship is supported with the kind generosity of the Walters Kundert Charitable Trust.

The application deadline is **23 November**

### Eligibility

- The main objective of the research must be to advance geographical knowledge of Arctic or high mountain environments.
- Applicants must have a proven research record beyond their PhD.
- The applicant must be based in the UK, or a member or Fellow of the Society employed outside the UK.
- The project must be field based.
- Individuals or groups can apply – but the Principal Investigator (PI) of any project must make the application.
- If funding is being sought for a component part of a larger project, the sub-project should be free-standing with its own objectives.
- Equipment costs should not comprise more than 10% of the total budget.
- Conference attendance will not be funded.
- Institutional overheads will not be funded.
- Salaries for research staff are not eligible for funding (but replacement costs for teaching assistance to free up research time of the Principal Investigator may be considered).

### Application process

Applications should be submitted by email to the Society's Grants Officer ([grants@rgs.org](mailto:grants@rgs.org)) by **23 November**. This deadline will be strictly enforced.

Applications must contain the following information:

- Name, affiliation and full contact details (please include an email address)
- Title and short abstract (max 100 words)
- Aim of the project and objectives (max 250 words)
- A full description of the proposed research, including methodologies and details of time in the field (max 1,000 words)
- Duration of fieldwork/research with start and intended end date
- An assessment of the wider context and relevance of the research to Arctic or high mountain regions (max 500 words)
- An outline of plans for disseminating the results (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
- One-page CV of the project Principal Investigator; an appended list of their publications, and details of all other researchers involved if appropriate (name, qualifications, expertise, nationality, role - max 200 words per member)

Please indicate how you heard about the Walters Kundert Fellowship.

### 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. Both 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.
- Receipt of all materials will be acknowledged

### Selection process

Applications will be assessed by an external panel of experts. We do not expect interviews to be held for this award.

### 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 institution's approval of the project's risk assessment and ethical considerations.
- Full details of the Society's code of practice for the grants programme can be found at [www.rgs.org/grants-ethics](http://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.
- **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 award winner may be asked to present a lecture on the project work at the RGS-IBG at a mutually convenient date
- 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](mailto:grants@rgs.org)  
W: [www.rgs.org/grants](http://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](http://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](http://www.rgs.org/grantfaqs).

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## ● Guide to Referees

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The Walters Kundert Fellowships are awards given in support of geographical research in Arctic or high mountain environments.

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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