

Post-Doctoral Research Grants Application Guidelines

Please read carefully before applying and retain for reference

General

IAS Post-Doctoral Research Grants are intended as seed funding to assist early-career post-PhD researchers in establishing a proof of concept to support applications to national research funding bodies, or to fund areas of a project that were not included in the original project scope.

Up to 4 grants are awarded twice per year to Early Career IAS members as defined in the eligibility criteria below. Each grant is up to a maximum of €2,500.

Application is via member profiles on the IAS website and requires submission of a research proposal and plan with budget, using the template on the submission webpage, an up-to-date CV, and a signed letter of support from the researcher's supervisor, line manager or Head of School on a distinct page with the official letterhead of the researcher's host institution.

Applications are evaluated by a committee headed by an IAS Council of Management member after the deadline and a recommendation put to the full Council of Management before a final selection is made. Applicants are personally informed as to the outcome of their application by email within 3 months of the closing date.

Eligibility

Applicants for IAS Post-Doctoral Research Grants must:

- Be full members of the IAS
- Have been awarded their PhD within the previous 7 years
- Have not previously received one of these grants

If an applicant does not meet criteria 2 owing to a career break they should provide relevant details within their CV and in the letter of support. Previous receipt of an IAS Postgraduate research grant does not impact eligibility.

Unsuccessful applicants may re-apply **once** during a subsequent round if they have not obtained funding from other sources. In this case their application should explain how they have continued their research in the interim period and why an IAS grant is still required, as well as addressing any feedback received.

Deadlines

Spring application round (1st session)

Deadline: **31st March at 24h00 CEST / UTC+2**. Recipient notification: By 30th June

Fall round (2nd session)

Deadline: **30th September at 24h00 CEST / UTC+2**. Recipient notification: By 31st December

Evaluation criteria

Applications will be evaluated and ranked on the following criteria:

- Scientific quality of research, including novelty, timeliness and anticipated output
- Feasibility of the project and likelihood of success
- Cost effectiveness of the proposed work programme
- Scientific and publication track record of the investigator
- Demonstration that the proposed work cannot be conducted without the grant

Preference is given to applications with a specific defined aim rather than top-ups of other grant applications, as well as to researchers who are not supported by substantial funding and who are not funded by commercial organisations.

Application requirements and procedures

Applications must be submitted via the IAS website using the Word template form provided on the website. All parts of the form must be completed. These are:

- **Applicant's personal details and email**
- **Name, address and website** of applicant's host institution, and additional **information** requested
- **Research proposal** – including title, scope, aims, objectives, significance and impact of the project
- **Research project plan** – including methodology, facilities, timescale, itemized deliverables (with target dates), itemized budget and details of any existing funding or pending applications to support this project
- **Applicant's CV**

The combined research proposal and research project plan (parts 4 and 5 of the template) should not exceed three A4 pages, and the CV (part 6) should not exceed two A4 pages.

- **A signed and dated statement of support** from the researcher's supervisor, line manager or Head of School with the Institution's official letterhead and the letter writer's title below the signature must be attached to the application. The letter should:
 - Indicate the letter-writer's professional relationship with the applicant
 - Confirm that the applicant meets the eligibility requirements for the Post-Doctoral Research Grants scheme
 - Provide an assessment of the capability of the applicant to successfully carry out the proposed research
 - Be no more than one A4 page in length

The completed Word form and the statement of support must be combined into a single pdf and uploaded through the IAS website before the deadline. The date and time of submission are automatically recorded.

Examples of acceptable funding are direct costs of fieldwork, laboratory analytical costs and specialist equipment other than computers.

Funding is not available for salaries, travel to attend conferences, workshops or exhibitions, institutional core funding or overheads, per diem rates, student tuition fees and summer research bursaries. If in doubt, please enquire well in advance of the submission deadline.



Deliverables and grant payment

When a grant application is approved the recipient will be sent a form to confirm their acceptance of the grant and to provide their bank details for its subsequent payment. Please note, Please note, **payment is made directly to the recipient and not their educational institution or to any service providers.**

The grant will be transferred **after** the IAS receives a scientific report and financial statement. This should be within 1 year of the receipt of acceptance of the grant, and the IAS must be contacted if there are unforeseen delays that prevent this. **We regret that no advance payments can be made.**

Grant recipients who allow their IAS membership to lapse before submitting their reports can expect to forfeit their grants.

Scientific report

This should be a Word or pdf document, 4-6 pages in length including figures and references, and include details of the scientific results that were obtained from the grant. Any publication arising from the work should be noted. The scientific reports are archived on the IAS website for any member to read and may be appended to IAS newsletters. The report must have an appropriate concise title, the name and affiliation (but not email address) of the researcher and the respective grant round (e.g., "IAS Postdoctoral Research Grant, Spring 2022 Session").

Financial statement

This should be a separate merged pdf consisting of:

1. A summary table of costs incurred in local currency and in Euro based on the exchange rate on the date of expenditure (we suggest using <https://www1.oanda.com/currency/converter/>)
2. Scanned copies of receipts and/or invoices that document all the costs claimed for

The expenditures must align with the budget items in the application.

Other requirements

Any changes in project scope after award of the grant must be discussed and agreed with the IAS.

The IAS should be acknowledged in all reports, conference presentations and publications produced using the results of the grant. It is expected that publications arising from research conducted using an IAS grant will be offered for consideration in an IAS journal (Sedimentology, The Depositional Record or Basin Research).

The IAS would be grateful to receive 3-4 high quality photographs from your research that it can use on its website and publicity materials. These will be credited wherever possible.

Submission of an IAS Grant application is taken as confirmation that you have read this document and agree with all of the requirements and expectations herein.

If you have any questions please contact the IAS through the website well before the closing date and we will do our best to assist you.