

# **British Phycological Society Funding Schemes**

## **Guidelines**

### **Funding for Student Activities**

The BPS allocates funds for a variety of student activities related to the study of algae. These include: (1) **Student Bursaries** for attending phycological meetings, field courses and workshops and (2) **Summer Undergraduate Research Projects**. Details of these awards and eligibility of applicants are given below.

#### **1. Student Bursaries**

**These include:**

1. Bursaries to aid students to attend the Society's Winter Meeting
2. Bursaries to aid students to attend other phycological and algal-related meetings
3. Bursaries to aid students to attend field courses and workshops involving algae

#### **Eligibility**

Applicants **must** be members of the British Phycological Society at the time of application. They must also be *bona fide* students, that is in full or part-time education. This encompasses undergraduates and postgraduates, including those working for masters' and PhD degrees or for other professional qualifications. For PhD students the period of eligibility will normally be four years after the start of a PhD project. Exceptional cases such as where the PhD programme is longer than four years or the student has no other sources of income, can be considered with the prior agreement of the Chair of BPS Awards and Training Committee.

#### **Application for Funding**

Application for funding **must** be made using the official application form on the BPS website < <http://www.brphycsoc.org> > under the heading 'Documents' – 'Application for a Student Bursary Form'. **Applications must be made electronically.** Where this is not possible please contact Chair of the BPS Awards and Training Committee at least 2 weeks before the deadline.

Applications for student bursaries must be made directly by the student. When completing an application, a student must give a breakdown of the costs incurred, which normally includes registration fees, subsistence and travel. These should be based on economy-class accommodation costs and travel wherever possible. Where student reductions are possible these should be included. Other costs, such as loss of income or incurred domestic costs are not eligible for applications to the BPS bursary scheme.

Successful bursaries usually take the form of a partial contribution towards the overall costs of an application. Students are strongly encouraged to seek additional funding from other sources.

Funding is awarded on the condition that the student writes a report about the event funded for the BPS newsletter *The Psychologist* within 2 months of the meeting, workshop or course attended.

### **Closing Dates for Applications for Student Bursaries**

March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 30<sup>th</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Criteria for assessing BPS Student Bursary applications**

#### **General Criteria**

1. The applicant will be required to present a poster or oral presentation and attend a substantial part of the Meeting.
2. The subject matter of the presentation should be deemed to be a valid contribution towards psychology.
3. There should be an attempt to obtain a contribution to costs funds from the 'home' institution and elsewhere. BPS awards should not be seen as a way of saving money with respect to other sources of funding.
4. Students will normally be limited to one application per year. Exceptionally, a second application may be considered. In such cases support would, if given, be of a more limited nature.

#### **Criteria applicable to National and International Psychological Meetings not Organised by the BPS**

1. Relevance of a meeting to the subject of postgraduate research - needs to take into consideration the stage at which student is in the studentship cycle.
2. Relevance and extent of the academic contribution by a student - poster, oral presentation, etc.
3. Significance and quality of the meeting. Is this a meeting where the student will be able to hear and meet leading contributors to the subject in question?
4. Any follow-on meetings, workshops and other valuable inputs?
5. Sum requested – proposals to obtain partial funding from elsewhere will normally be expected, with the outcome specified if known.

#### **Criteria applicable to Field Courses and Workshops**

1. Relevance of course or workshop to student's research or professional development.

Enquiries concerning BPS Student Bursaries should be directed to Chair of the BPS Awards and Training Committee.

## 2. Summer Undergraduate Research Projects

These aim to give students an opportunity to carry out a research project during the summer vacation. The emphasis is on providing a research experience and training for the student. Summer projects usually last from 6-8 weeks. Applications are made by the project supervisor either for a named student or to enable a student to be sought. In the latter case funding will not be released until the Supervisor provides details about the student appointed to the project. Limited finance is available for travel and subsistence. Financial support should also be sought from elsewhere and outcomes declared.

### Eligibility

Applications for Summer Undergraduate Research Projects should be made by the project Supervisor who must be a member of the BPS at the time of application.

### Application

Application for funding **must** be made by the project Supervisor using the official application form on the BPS website < <http://www.brphycsoc.org> > under the heading 'Documents' – 'Application for Summer Undergraduate Project. **Applications must be made electronically.**

A concise description of the project must be provided taking into account the relatively short period of research and allowing for a written report to be completed. The benefits of the project to the student must be indicated on the form.

Funding for successful projects usually takes the form of support for accommodation and subsistence with a minor contribution towards incidental consumables and travel. The student will receive complimentary membership of the BPS (without journal) for the year following the project. Funding is awarded on the condition that the student writes and submits a project summary for publication in the BPS newsletter *The Psychologist* before the end date of the project. Students should be encouraged, wherever possible to present their research at the following BPS Winter Meeting.

### Closing Dates for Applications for Summer Undergraduate Research Projects

December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>

### Criteria for assessing BPS Summer Undergraduate Research Project applications

1. The aims and design of the project are important. A small, innovative project with a reasonable chance of success is generally preferred to routine data collection as part of a larger project.
2. 'Pump-priming' projects with the prospects of subsequent applications for larger sources of funding are welcomed.

3. The application must detail what the student will do and make clear any inputs to the project by the Supervisor or others that are essential for the project as a whole.
4. The work should be achievable within time available.
5. The benefits to the ongoing training and development of the student will be taken into account.
6. The project must be written up as a formal report before the end of the project and a copy submitted to the BPS A&T Committee.

Any enquiries concerning BPS Summer Undergraduate Research Project Applications should be directed to Chair of the BPS Awards and Training Committee.