

Judith McKenzie Fieldwork Award Application Guidelines

Please read carefully before applying and retain for reference

General

The IAS Judith McKenzie Fieldwork Award (JMFWA) aims to build sedimentological field observation and data collection skills in the next generation of earth scientists. It therefore supports MSc students in their dissertation field work and allows them to experience being an active part of the International IAS community.

The initial funding for the scheme arose from the IUGS Émile Argand Award, presented to Judith McKenzie at the International Sedimentological Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in August 2016. Judith is Professor Emeritus of Earth System Sciences in the Geological Institute, Department of Earth Science at ETH Zürich. She is a past president of the IAS and founded the IAS International Summer Schools of Sedimentology. The IUGS award of US\$ 15,000 was transferred in trust to the IAS and according to the Emile Argand Award bylaws 2015 it shall be used to implement scientific activities of the new earth-scientist generation, which can be achieved by supporting specific research, through a lecture series program or any other choice of the recipient that is agreed with the Evaluation Committee. The JMFWA meets the stipulated criteria for using the Argand Award funds, with the field reports from the recipients serving as proof to IUGS. Gender and diversity criteria will be considered during the selection of the awardees.

Up to 5 awards of €300 each are given twice per year to IAS student members as defined in the eligibility criteria below.

Application is via member profiles on the IAS website using the specific template that can be downloaded there. It requires a grant proposal (written by the MSc student applicant), with a budget and their CV, and a signed letter of support from the student's supervisor on a distinct page with the official letterhead of the host institution.

Applications are evaluated by a committee headed by a member of the Council of Management 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 active student members of the IAS
- The student's supervisor (who writes the supporting statement) must be a full member of the IAS
- The student must be enrolled on a MSc programme both at the time of application **and** when the fieldwork will be carried out
- The proposal must be submitted before the fieldwork commences

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 the field-based research
- Feasibility of the project
- Cost effectiveness of the project
- Demonstration that the proposed fieldwork cannot be satisfactorily completed without the award

In addition, preference is given to researchers who are not supported by substantial funding and who are not funded by commercial organisations. If two or more proposals rank equally on the criteria above the proposal from the country and institution that is less economically advantaged, and/or that which promotes the widest diversity and inclusion, will be favoured.

Application requirements and procedures

Applications must be submitted via the IAS website using the Word template form provided. All parts must be completed in full by the applicant:

- **Section 1:** The year and session that you application is for
- **Section 2:** Your personal details and the name, address and website of your educational institution, you may also give your social media identifiers if you wish
- **Section 3:** Name and email address of your research supervisor (who must be an IAS member)
- **Section 4:** Answers to the yes/no questions and MSc course title
- **Section 5:** Fieldwork proposal – **please follow the precise instructions on the next page**
- **Section 6:** A short CV covering your name, address, email, university education, work experience, awards and scholarships, any independent research projects that you have previously carried out.
- **Section 7:** You must include a scan of an official document that confirms your enrolment as a MSc student in your institution. Only include relevant parts but ensure that it has a valid date.
- **Section 8:** Please attach a signed letter of recommendation from your research supervisor (maximum one A4 page). This should clearly detail their evaluation of your capability to carry out the planned fieldwork and the reasonableness of the budget request. It must also justify the necessity of the IAS award and lack of alternative funding – the application will be turned down if this is not clearly and sufficiently explained. The letter must have your Educational Institution's Official letterhead and the supervisor's name and title as well as their signature. Please remember that the supervisor must be a full member of the IAS.

The completed Word form, proof of enrolment 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.

Layout and content of the fieldwork proposal

5a - Descriptive title

5b - Introduction (*max. 250 words*): Briefly introduce the subject of your MSc dissertation and provide relevant background information. Provide the context for your MSc study within the field of sedimentology. Summarize previous work (cite up to 5 relevant papers and list the references at the end of the proposal formatted as per reference lists in *Sedimentology* papers).

5c – Aims and context (*max. 125 words*): Clearly describe the aims of the fieldwork and list the specific objectives to be achieved in the field. Be sure to include the basic hypothesis – the geologically significant problem that you are seeking to address - and why it is important.

5d – Methods and strategy (*max. 250 words*): Outline the planned field methods as well as any laboratory follow-up. Illustrate your field strategy with a schedule that includes your objectives and shows when, where and how you intend to achieve them. You may find it useful to include a table or GANTT chart. This is the most important part of your proposal and requires careful consideration.

5e – Budget (*max. 125 words*): Provide a brief itemized summary of the costs of the fieldwork in Euro, clearly identifying what aspects the IAS award funds of €300 will be utilized for. Other confirmed or provisional sources of funding supporting the fieldwork must be detailed and the consequences of any shortfall discussed. **Note** – the award only supports the fieldwork of the student applicant, including travel, accommodation, consumables, small pieces of field equipment. Field assistants' costs are not covered.

Deliverables and grant payment

Successful applicants for the JMFVA will be sent a form to confirm their acceptance of the award and to provide their bank details for its subsequent payment. Please note, **payment is made directly to the recipient and not their educational institution**. The grant will be transferred **after** the IAS receives a short fieldwork report and financial statement. This will ideally be within 1 month of completion of the fieldwork and must be within 1 year of acceptance of the award. **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.

Fieldwork report

This should be a Word or pdf document, 2-4 pages in length including figures and any references, including:

- A concise title, your name and your educational institute (but not your email address) and the grant round of your award (e.g., "*Judith McKenzie Fieldwork Award, Spring 2022 Session*")
- Your fieldwork aims and objectives
- How the fieldwork was conducted (methods, days spent in the field, etc.)
- The type of data you collected (maps, sketches, logs, photos, sample lists, etc.)
- Key results of the fieldwork
- A brief reflection on how the fieldwork influenced and inspired your development and training as a scientist



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 notes

We encourage JMFWA recipients to subsequently present their fieldwork results at an IAS **International Meeting of Sedimentology** or **International Sedimentological Congress**. IAS student members can submit applications for travel grants to facilitate participation in such meetings.

The IAS should be acknowledged in all reports, presentations and publications produced that arise fully or in part from the JMFWA fieldwork.

We also encourage JMFWA recipients to post updates of their fieldwork on social media accounts and tag the IAS (#IAS; @sedimentology), or to send brief updates to include on the IAS social media.

In addition to the fieldwork report the IAS would like to receive up to 4 high quality **photographs** with permission to use these on its website and publicity. "Action" photos of sedimentology fieldwork are best, also spectacular outcrops or modern environments, and images of detailed sedimentological features. The photographs 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.