



**Geological Survey Ireland Geoscience Research Programme
Travel for Access & Lab. Analysis Grant 2024
- Terms and Conditions -**

Call Timeline:

Deadline for Applications:

12noon, Thursday April 4th 2024

Communication of Results:

Before Tuesday April 30th 2024

Period of expenditure:

Between May 1st to September 30th 2024

Objectives of the Geological Survey Research Programme and call

The Geological Survey Ireland Research Programme supports excellent geoscience research in Ireland. The aim of the Programme is to build capacity, increase research impact and strengthen research teams in geoscience on the island of Ireland.

Although GSI research themes are broad ranging, individual applications for funding are expected to clearly define the proposed project within the scope of the call and describe the added value for relevant Geological Survey Ireland programmes.

To increase the impact of GSI investments in facilities, archives and research equipment, the Access & Lab Analysis Grants aim to support:

- (i) researchers accessing GSI, or GSI funded, facilities/equipment/physical archives. For more details see [GSI funded equipment](#) or GSI facilities , or
- (ii) travel costs or laboratory analysis costs for taught research MSc projects; these projects must be nominated by GSI or approved in advance and must support GSI programmes (for more information see the [GSI website](#)).

Duration of grant

The costs must be committed or paid between May 1st and September 30th 2024.

Definitions & eligibility

- (i) **Students, Research Assistants or Postdoctoral Researchers are eligible to apply for travel costs to access GSI facilities/archives, or GSI funded facilities or equipment (e.g. ESRL, GSI funded equipment)**
- (ii) **Taught MSc students undertaking a project nominated by GSI may apply for funding to cover the cost of fieldwork and/or lab analysis costs for the project.**

Student – Students must be enrolled for taught MSc. Or Research MSc or PhD programme in the host organisation and as lead applicant will act as the point of contact for the grant.

Postdoctoral Researcher/ Research Assistant - Postdoctoral Researchers or Research Assistants must be employed at the host institute until completion of the work proposed in the application and the final report is submitted.

Supervisor – the Supervisor is directly responsible for oversight of the activities and financial expenditure and reporting. They must hold a qualification/have relevant experience in the aspect of the work assigned to them and have a contract beyond the end date of the proposed project and reporting period

Host organisation – this must be a Higher Education Institute based in Ireland or Northern Ireland. A valid tax clearance certificate must be supplied on request.

Department/School – this will be the host unit (e.g., Department, School, College etc.) as appropriate for the management of the funds. GSI will transfer funds to this unit and invoices/expenses must be paid by this unit.



Submission & application requirements

Applications must be made before the deadline using the template provided and applicants must adhere to the formatting rules. Any applications not adhering to submission and formatting rules, or received after the deadline, will be deemed ineligible and will be returned without review. All applications must be submitted by email to research@gsi.ie before the assigned deadline, **12noon, Thursday April 4th 2024**.

Format and Layout

Text font should be no smaller than Arial 11 with page margins no less than 2.5cm (please do not alter the layout of the template file). All word limits outlined in the application template must be adhered to. Only PDF files will be accepted. All documents and appendices must be included in one file which must not exceed 5MB.

Budgets

All values must be presented in Euro. The total contribution requested from GSI must not exceed €1,500 with costs of travel and subsistence/accommodation not exceeding €1,000 in any one application. Any projects with GSI contribution exceeding €1,500 will be deemed ineligible.

TALA grants can be co-funded by cash/in-kind contributions from partner organisations though this is not a requirement; in such cases, the total cost of the project including the partner contributions and GSI funding requested must be included in the budget table and budget justification.

In-kind contributions can include personnel time, access to facilities, access to existing data, etc.

All projects must adhere to financial rules from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (appendix 1).

Eligible costs

- Travel (including travel costs to collect data or to access facilities)
- Subsistence & Accommodation
- Lab analysis or sample preparation (as external services)

For example:

Item	Cost €
Lab analysis/sample prep (external)	0
Travel costs (incl. travel for fieldwork)	0
Subsistence & Accommodation (incl. fieldwork)	0
	0
Total Project Budget	0
Contribution (cash & in-kind), if applicable	0
	0
Total requested from GSI	0

If there are any queries regarding eligible and non-eligible costs, or budget calculations, please contact research@gsi.ie **before** submitting your proposal.

The relevant department of the host organisation is expected to pay the expenses/invoices and then invoice GSI for amount up to a maximum as indicated in the Letter of Offer

Budget Justification

This section of the application form should clearly justify the planned expenditure. Quotes and confirmation of access (e.g., lab or ESRL facilities) may be included as additional material where relevant.



Review process and criteria

Once received, all applications will be checked for eligibility. Applications that are deemed ineligible, or beyond the scope of the call, will be returned without review. Applications that are eligible will be assessed by blind review by relevant technical experts within GSI. Reviews will be undertaken in a fair and equal manner. Reviewers will be made aware of policies supporting equal opportunity for all researchers (e.g., Science Europe Practical Guide to Improving Gender Equality in Research Organisations).

Projects requesting support and access to facilities or archives must include a letter of support.

For ESRL facilities at Trinity College please contact Michael.Stock@tcd.ie.

For projects requesting access to the GSI facilities or archives must include a letter of support from GSI (contact research@gsi.ie).

For access to the GSI funded equipment a letter of support from the relevant host should be included.

Priority will be given to students and projects that do not have other funds available for the proposed activities, and projects that are likely to increase impact of GSI investments and technical programmes.

Reporting

A final report will be requested on completion of the project or by September 2024, whichever is earlier. This must include an activity report and financial report signed by the relevant Department/School of the Host Institute.

Ethics

All proposals are expected to adhere to reasonable ethics rules (e.g., IAPG or IGI ethics guidelines, national rules, and procedures). Where organisational ethics guidelines are in place (e.g., the HEI), the lead applicant is expected to adhere to the relevant ethics committee guidelines.

Integrity

All applicants are expected to adhere to the [National Policy Statement on Ensuring Research Integrity](#) in Ireland and the [European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity](#).

Equality and diversity

The Geological Survey Ireland supports equality and diversity in all its activities including research funding calls. Applicants are assessed based on scientific excellence and the criteria as outlined in the call terms and conditions. Applicants will not be discriminated against on gender, disability, sexual orientation, age, race, ethnic group, civil status or family status as outlined by the [Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission](#) (guidelines will also be given to external reviewers in this regard). All Host Organisations (private or public entities) funded by Geological Survey Ireland are expected to promote fairness and equality in all aspects of the proposed research and adhere to relevant equality law.

Non-compliance

Where proposals are found to be non-compliant as per these Terms and Conditions, projects will be deemed ineligible and returned without review. Non-compliance during implementation of successful projects may result in termination of the Grant Agreement and withdrawal of funding.

Confidentiality

All applications and subsequent correspondence with applicants and reviewers will be treated as confidential.

Acknowledgement

The Geological Survey Ireland Geoscience Research Programme must be acknowledged clearly in all activities and outputs including publications, conference presentations, reports, events etc. For written or printed material, including powerpoint presentations, this must include a logo and written acknowledgment. High resolution image files of the relevant logos will be made available and must be used with equal and due prominence as to that of the Host Organisation.

All dissemination and communication activities must be recorded and included in the final report.



Programme management

The programme will be managed by the GSI Research Manager, Dr Aoife Braiden. Any queries should be submitted by email to research@gsi.ie.

Intellectual property and data management

IP will remain with the applicant researcher. Where possible, data and projects outputs should be made open access. GSI supports the [National Open Research Forum framework](#) for open access to research data and outputs.

For clarification on any of the Terms and Conditions herein please contact Dr Aoife Braiden, research@gsi.ie



Appendix 1: Financial rules from Department of Public Expenditure and Reform

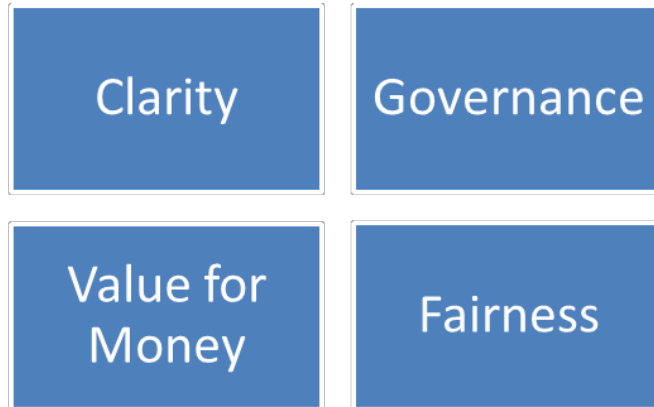
<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/10b42-circular-132014-management-of-and-accountability-for-grants-from-exchequer-funds/>



Statement of Principles for Grantees

Are you in receipt of public funding?

This Statement outlines the 4 principles which apply in the case of bodies in receipt of grant funding provided directly or indirectly from Exchequer sources.





This Statement should be brought to the attention of every grant receiving body
If you are in receipt of Public Funding you should

Clarity Understand the purpose and conditions of the funding and the outputs required Apply funding only for the business purposes for which they were provided Apply for funding drawdown only when required for business purposes Seek clarification from the grantor where necessary – on use of funds, governance and accountability arrangements.	Governance <i>Ensure appropriate governance arrangements are in place for:</i> oversight and administration of funding control and safeguarding of funds from misuse, misappropriation and fraud accounting records which can provide, at any time, reliable financial information on the purpose, application and balance remaining of the public funding Accounting for the amount and source of the funding, its application and outputs/outcomes.
Value for Money <i>Be in a position to provide evidence on</i> effective use of funds value achieved in the application of funds avoidance of waste and extravagance	Fairness Manage public funds with the highest degree of honesty and integrity Act in a manner which complies with relevant laws and obligations (e.g. tax, minimum wages) Procure goods and services in a fair and transparent manner Act fairly, responsibly and openly in your dealings with your Grantor

