

J M Lessells Postgraduate Scholarships in Engineering

Please read the following guidelines carefully before completing the application form.

- A. The application form must be completed in typescript.
- B. One signed, hard copy of the completed form, must be submitted and an electronic version must be e-mailed (resfells@royalsoced.org.uk) to the Research Awards Coordinator by 5pm by the closing date - **Friday 26 March 2010**
- C. Please ensure that your referees also complete their reports in typescript and that they return them directly to the Research Awards Coordinator by the closing date.
- D. Application forms and referees' reports will only be acknowledged if requested.

REGULATIONS

1. The Council of the Royal Society of Edinburgh is pleased to invite applications for a limited number of Travel Scholarships under a Trust founded by the late John Moyes Lessells. All branches of Engineering are eligible for consideration, including computer and software engineering.
2. The purpose of the Scholarships is to enable engineers of promise to study some aspect of their profession in any other part of the world except the United Kingdom. In order that benefit may ensue not only to the Scholar but to the advancement of Engineering in the United Kingdom, acceptance of a Scholarship implies a willingness to spend at least two years in the United Kingdom following the period of tenure.
3. The Scholarships are open to applicants who have already graduated with an Honours or Higher Degree in Engineering from a Scottish Higher Education Institution or who are currently pursuing a postgraduate degree in engineering at a Scottish University. The Scholarships are not available to pursue activities overseas as part of a first degree, nor for activities associated with an MEng. Applications will also be considered from candidates who have first degrees in related subjects and substantial postgraduate experience in a field of engineering.
4. A Scholarship may be awarded **either** immediately on completion of a first degree **or** to a candidate who, after a few years experience, wishes to broaden his/her interests with a view to career development. The Scholar is required to devote his/her full time to a research project or an educational course or such combination as may be approved by the Society. The Scholar will be appointed for any period up to a maximum of one year, although visits of approximately 2 – 5 months are strongly preferred. Visits of less than two months will not normally be considered.
5. Applicants in employment should provide evidence that their employer will grant the necessary study leave if a Scholarship is awarded.
6. The value of the Scholarships is £1,250 per month, pro-rata. The host institution may supplement the Lessells award and there is no barrier to other sources of income or support e.g. sponsorship by the Scholar's employer. Candidates who hold other awards are not excluded from applying.
7. Applications for 2010 awards must be received at the Society **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 26 MARCH 2010**. Please note that this date is closely adhered to.

8. Please ensure that all sections of the form are fully completed. In addition to details of the career and record of the applicant and of current study or employment situation, an outline of the work contemplated under the Scholarship tenure should also be included.
9. Candidates for Scholarships will be expected to negotiate directly with the proposed host institution so as to ensure that the course of study would be acceptable. **The application should be accompanied by a letter from the proposed host institution, signed by the Head of Department, indicating that (a) it would provide the study facilities required, and (b) the name of a Contact Person who would supervise the Scholar.** A member of the host institution should not also serve as a referee for the candidate's application.
10. All travel and accommodation arrangements are the responsibility of the Scholar. Attention is also drawn to the need for insurance cover for such eventualities as personal injury, loss of possessions or the need to cancel the visit for any reason.
11. The Society will normally invite shortlisted candidates to make themselves available for interview in Edinburgh in the middle of May. The successful candidates will be expected to accept or decline the offer of a Scholarship as soon as practicable. To facilitate these arrangements applicants should ensure that the Society is able to contact them during this period.
12. Candidates will undertake to produce a report and give a presentation on completion of their Scholarship. This report should be up to 3 x A4 pages in length and cover the background, content and outcomes of the research conducted during the visit. More details of the requirements for the report will be issued on appointment. On return from the research visit, Scholars are required to make a presentation to the Selection Committee. This presentation will be made at the annual meeting usually held in November each year. The year when the presentation is given will depend on the exact date of the visit and it is understood that this could be over a year after the completion of the Scholarship.
13. Completed application forms should be returned to: *The Research Awards Co-ordinator, The Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22/26 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2PQ.* (resfells@royalsoced.org.uk)

November 2009