



Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann Royal Irish Academy

Call for applications for the Eoin O'Mahony Bursary in Irish History 2019

Deadline: 17:00pm (GMT), Tuesday 19th March 2019

This document outlines:

- What you need to know about the Royal Irish Academy Eoin O'Mahony Bursary
- How to make your application
- How we assess and decide on your application
- How we process your application

Applicants are required to read the guidelines to applicants carefully before submitting an application.

Background

The Eoin O'Mahony Bursary in Irish History was established in memory of genealogist and newspaper columnist Eoin O'Mahony, and is open to candidates engaged in historical research on subjects of Irish interest, including family history projects, particularly those associated with the 'Wild Geese'.

- The purpose of this grant is to provide support for the direct costs of consulting sources related to the study of Irish history abroad, up to a maximum of €2,500.
- Typically awards made are in the region of €1,000-€2,000.
- The application form is available [here](#).
- All queries can be sent to grants@ria.ie.

Criteria and priorities

Each application will be assessed on the following criteria:

- academic merit, taking into account originality, relationship to, and the volume of, existing research in the field
- scholarly importance of proposed research
- suitability of methodology
- feasibility
- presentation
- intended outcomes
- dissemination of research (plans for publication or other dissemination)

Assessors will evaluate the ability of the applicant to undertake the proposed research. The primary assessment of quality will be based on the specific research objective of the proposal, and whether the methodology and research outlined are likely to lead to successful achievement of this objective.

Who can apply:

- We are seeking applications from researchers across all career stages.
- There is no requirement for an applicant to be a university graduate however applicants must demonstrate that their research is likely to constitute a significant and scholarly contribution to historical knowledge.
- The grant is open to candidates engaged in historical research on subjects of Irish interest.

- The applicant must be resident in either the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland.
- Research must take place outside of the island of Ireland.

Costs and activities which are eligible

- Proposals for a clearly defined piece of research or research activity undertaken through a short international visit(s), which will have an identifiable outcome on the completion of the project.
- Travel and maintenance for grant holder incurred during international visit(s).

The only expenses payable are the costs directly related to the research being carried out, up to a maximum of €2,500.

Costs and activities which are ineligible

- Only one Eoin O'Mahony Bursary award may be held, or applied for, at any one time, and an application cannot be accepted if the applicant has a report outstanding on a previous Eoin O'Mahony Bursary award.
- The scheme invites applications from both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, however, travel within the island of Ireland is not eligible for funding. Research activities must take place outside the island of Ireland. For example, travel from Northern Ireland to Great Britain or travel from the Republic of Ireland to Great Britain is allowed.

What is required to make an application?

- A completed application form.

How applications are processed and assessed

Applications that are deemed eligible will be passed on for assessment. If we decide your application is ineligible, you will receive a letter informing you that your application will not be assessed.

Eligible applications will be assessed by the Eoin O'Mahony Committee of the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) based on the criteria and guidelines within this document. Recommendations will be made to the RIA for ratification based on the budget and the applications received. You will then receive a letter of decision. If your application has been successful, we will include information about what you should do next. If you have not been successful you may contact the RIA for feedback on your application.

Application Information

How to apply

Applicants must complete the online application form by **17:00 (GMT) on Tuesday 19 March 2019**

Section one: Applicant details

- **All** correspondence will be sent to the named individual at the address specified on the form.
- If applicable, please give a **brief** summary of your academic career, listing previous appointments.
- **Relevant achievements:** this space should be used to detail any relevant achievements or academic training (including degree name and date) that would demonstrate to the panel your ability to conduct the research you are proposing.
- List any other professional qualifications and distinctions.

Section two: Research Proposal

In preparing the outline of the research proposal please:

- clearly specify the context, and research objectives of the proposed study
- describe the methodology to be used
- set out a realistic research programme, describing the activities that will take place, and explaining how they will contribute to the research objectives

Applicants are advised that failure to provide adequate detail on the research proposal may seriously weaken their application. The proposal must:

- provide an account of their research which does not rely on special prior knowledge on the part of assessors
- identify the primary outcomes of the research
- show value for money

Points to note:

In assessing value for money, the assessor will consider the intended outcome relative to the amount requested. However, it is appreciated that some modes of research are more expensive than others and proposals will not be discriminated against on these grounds.

Section three: Travel Proposal Details

It is essential that applicants clearly state the reasons why funds are needed. For example, it is insufficient to state that the applicant will visit a particular archive. Adequate details must be provided of sources to be consulted, and the length of visit must be clearly justified. The applicant should briefly explain why alternative access to material, such as microfilm/digital copy, is not appropriate.

Grants are intended only for the planning and conduct of primary research. They are not available to cover the costs of spending time at another institution for purposes such as the writing up of primary research. All applications must clearly itemise the research to be undertaken at any location.

List the institutions to be visited:

It is possible to seek funding for visits to more than one country or to make more than one visit to a partner in a year. You must provide a clear rationale for any such proposal.

Section four: Duration of Visit

Please state the start and end dates of the current proposal. An estimate is sufficient, but evidence of forward planning will be viewed favourably.

Section five: External Support

If you have been granted other support or applied for other support in connection with the current proposal please provide details. The RIA has no objection to its grants being held in conjunction with awards from other bodies, provided there is no duplication of expenditure.

Applicants should clarify why they need additional Academy funding. During the assessment period applicants must keep the Academy informed of the outcomes of any other applications for funding. Failure to do so may jeopardise the application's prospects of success. In cases where applications to the RIA and to another funding agency (covering the same elements of a project) are both successful, the applicant will be asked to choose which award to accept.

Section six: Previous RIA Awards/Fellowships

Please give details of any research grants you have received from the Academy within the last five years.

Please note: only one Eoin O'Mahony Bursary award may be held, or applied for, at any one time, and an application cannot be accepted if the applicant has a report outstanding on a previous Eoin O'Mahony Bursary award.

Section seven: Publications

Please provide a list all recent publications relevant to this application (to a maximum of six). The evaluation of a proposal may take into account the applicant's track record in terms of publication.

Please outline:

- how this research will contribute to existing research in the field
- publication/dissemination plan

The Academy attaches importance to the dissemination of research, and assessors will take into account how far the plans for publication or other dissemination have been developed.

Section eight: References

Please provide the names and contact details of two referees.

Section nine: Costings

Applicants should prepare accurate costings for the proposed research expenses. Funding is offered competitively, and proposals on the margin for award may have a greater chance of success if they are modestly costed. Costs should be clearly itemised and justified in terms of research.

If the RIA is being asked to support only a proportion of the total costs, please list all the expenses connected with the research, as assessors will gauge the costs with reference to the scale of the whole project. Please indicate which costs are being sought from the Academy.

Travel costs should be fully itemised and the length of time for which subsistence is sought should be justified and in line with the guidelines as set out by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform.

Subsistence Rates:

The Academy will offer no more than €2,000 per month for expenses away from home. Eligible expenses, which must be receipted include food, accommodation and local daily travel and cannot exceed the daily totals within the guidelines provided by the department of Public Expenditure and Reform: For a full list of subsistence allowances abroad please see here: <https://circulars.gov.ie/pdf/circular/per/2017/07.pdf> The Academy does not pay per diem rates and will only cover expenses that are vouched by receipt.

No payments can be made to the principal investigator or co-investigator either for their own salary costs or for replacement teaching. Grants are cash-limited, and there is no scope for supplementation of an award. Failure to present costed budgets may invalidate your application.

Declaration

Please note that submitting the application form constitutes confirmation that the information provided is complete and accurate, and acceptance of all terms, conditions and notices contained in the *Guidelines for Applicants*. Subsequent discovery of any deliberate falsehood will automatically render the application null and void. If an award has been made, the RAI may require a full refund.

Payment of an award may be withheld if there is an overdue report on any other grant awarded by the Academy to the applicant, pending submission of the relevant final report.

A full list of successful projects will be published on the Academy website.

Research Ethics

The Academy requires the research it funds be conducted in an ethical manner. It expects accurate reporting of findings and a commitment to enabling others to replicate results where possible; impartiality of researchers to the subject of the research; fair dealing in respect of other researchers and their intellectual property. Applicants should indicate whether their proposed research raises any special ethical issues.

All applicants must confirm that they:

- secured approval for the proposed research from their respective institutions *Research Ethics Committee* (or its equivalent)
- are aware of and signed up to their respective institutions *Code of Good Research Practice*

Independent researchers without access to formal ethical scrutiny and approval should briefly describe any special ethical issues and explain how they will be addressed. Independent researchers should observe, where appropriate, the standards of research practice set out in guidelines published by scientific and learned societies, and other relevant professional bodies. All researchers should be aware of the legal requirements that regulate their work.