



# Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann Royal Irish Academy



**QUEEN'S  
UNIVERSITY  
BELFAST**

## **Call for applications for Archaeology Radiocarbon Dates Scheme 2020**

**Deadline for receipt of applications: 17:00 p.m. (GMT),  
Thursday, 15 October 2020**

### **About this document:**

This document outlines:

- What you need to know about funding for the Archaeology Radiocarbon Dates Scheme
- How to make your application
- How we assess and decide on your application
- How we process your application

### **Background**

The Royal Irish Academy (RIA) in association with Queen's University Belfast (QUB) offers radiocarbon dating for up to twelve samples per annum to be used for the purposes of archaeological research in Ireland. A minimum of two out of the twelve radiocarbon dates offered are exclusively allocated to students each year. A maximum of five samples can be applied for by an applicant, but may not all be awarded.

Seven samples were awarded in early 2020 and there are five remaining for this round of applicants. Applicants are asked to read the guidelines for applicants carefully before submitting an application.

The application form is available [here](#).

All queries can be sent to [grants@ria.ie](mailto:grants@ria.ie)

### **Criteria and priorities**

In order to make a decision, each application will be assessed on the following criteria:

1. The relevance of the proposal to the furtherance of archaeological knowledge, in the context of the finite nature of the archaeological resource (30%)
2. Clear demonstration of the dating objective (30%) (rationale for dating that sample/material and how it will answer a specific and relevant research question)
3. Clear demonstration of how each proposed sample or samples relate to the archaeological event of interest (e.g. the relationship between sample and dating objective is certain, very likely, likely, or possible) (30%)

#### 4. Evidence of plan for impactful and relevant dissemination (10%)

##### **Who can apply:**

- This scheme offer is open to research projects and academics from all levels. Undergraduate students, post-graduate students, established researchers etc. are welcome to apply.
- Applications will be considered for further research emanating from what were originally developer-led projects, provided all licensing requirements have been met in full

##### **What is required to make an application?**

A completed application form including:

1. A copy of the relevant section of the Ordnance Survey map with the site or sites marked (if sample is coming from an excavation)
2. An adequate site plan (if sample is coming from an excavation)
3. Where the applicant is not the holder of the excavation licence for the site to which the radiocarbon date pertains, a letter from the excavation licence holder (if relevant) stating that the applicant has discussed the application with him/her and that there is permission in principle for the dating of the sample

##### **How applications are processed and assessed**

- Applications that are deemed eligible will be passed on for assessment. If we decide your application is not eligible, you will receive a letter informing you that your application is ineligible and will not be assessed
- Your application will be assessed by the Grants subcommittee of the Standing Committee for Archaeology (SCA) based on the criteria and guidelines within this document and recommendations will be made from the SCA to the RIA for ratification
- 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

##### **Online Application Form and Appended Information**

Applicants must complete the online application form with the appended information as indicated below. Failure to do so correctly may disqualify the applicant from consideration for funding.

**SECTION ONE:** Please insert project title and brief project abstract for RIA administration

**SECTION TWO:** Applicant Details including contact details and relevant qualifications and experience and details of any previous RIA grants

**SECTION THREE:** Project rationale

Criterion: The relevance of the proposal to the furtherance of archaeological knowledge, in the context of the finite nature of the archaeological resource (weighting 30%)

- Site details (site name, townland and county)
- Clarification that the proposed sample has been identified and deemed suitable for dating based on the recommendation of the relevant specialist (eg osteoarchaeologist, zooarchaeologist, environmental specialist)
- Please upload a copy of the relevant section of the OS survey map with the site of sites marked (if sample is coming from an excavation)
- An adequate site plan (if sample is coming from an excavation)
- If the applicant is not the excavation licence holder, a letter from them stating there is permission in principle for the dating of the sample
- Please outline the research issues that the proposed date(s) will address (max 500 words)

#### **SECTION FOUR: Project design**

Criteria: Clear demonstration of the dating objective: rationale for dating that sample/material and how it will answer a specific and relevant research question (weighting 30%) Clear demonstration of how each proposed sample or samples relate to the archaeological event of interest e.g. the relationship between sample and dating objective is certain, very likely, likely, or possible (weighting 30%)

Please list all proposed samples for dating (maximum 5) here. In cases where multiple samples are listed not all samples may be funded.

For each proposed sample please include the following details:

- Please list all type of material/s of sample/s
  - Specific identification of all proposed sample/s
  - Weight of sample/s
  - Stratigraphic details (Please give details of the contextual and stratigraphic location of each sample, attaching plan or section)
  - Specific research issue that is to be addressed
  - Rationale for dating and how it will answer a specific and relevant research question
  - How each proposed sample or samples relate to the archaeological event of interest
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- Excavation licence number/finds registration number
  - Date excavation took place (if applicable)
  - Sources of funding for the research project and/or excavation
  - Details of publication, if relevant, listing references, including existing radiocarbon dates on this or similar materials if applicable
  - Confirm authorisation to date this/these samples

#### **SECTION FIVE**

- Please outline your plans for dissemination and publication of results of radiocarbon dates (max 500 words)

#### **Terms and Conditions of funding for successful applicants:**

##### **General:**

- Following the award of a grant, recipients must apply for the required licence(s) from the NMS (National Monuments Service) and the National Museum of Ireland (NMI) and follow the conditions specified. Awards are subject to licence approval.
- The recipient shall comply in all respects with the Safety, Health and Welfare legislation.
- Recipients are required to disseminate the results of the project in an appropriate manner agreed with the RIA. All such dissemination must acknowledge the assistance of Queen's University Belfast and RIA in line with 'Guidelines for Acknowledging funding'. This must take place within three years of the award.

Failure to comply with any conditions in these guidelines for applicants and terms and conditions for successful applicants or imposed upon on proposal by the Standing Committee for Archaeology, or with the conditions of any associated licence, may disqualify the candidate from future funding under this scheme.

- The Academy reserves the right to publish relevant details of recipients and award including, but not necessarily limited to, the names of recipients, the type of support offered and a summary of the proposed activity.

## **Reports and publishing:**

*Reports under RIA requirements:*

1. **Final report:** Grant recipients are asked to submit a report (template will be circulated in advance of deadline) outlining the main findings of the project, plans for dissemination of the outcomes, and feedback on the grants processes.
2. **RIA conference:** Grant recipients may be asked to present their finding at the biannual RIA 'Revealing the Past' conference.

Failure to supply any of the above reports in a timely fashion will disqualify applicants from further funding.

Some or all of the illustrated reports may:

- form the basis of a press release to be issued jointly by the RIA and QUB
- will be published on the RIA website
- will be made available on the Digital Repository of Ireland
- may figure in other publications of the RIA and QUB

### *Publication*

Recipients are required to publish the results of the project in an appropriate manner agreed with the RIA. All such publications must acknowledge the assistance of the RIA and the QUB as appropriate. Publication should normally take place within three years of the last award of post-excavation funding.

Recipients who fail to meet the above-mentioned reporting and publication requirements within an acceptable timeframe (10 years from receipt of funding) will have their cases referred to the relevant licensing authority for further action in this regard.

Those who have failed to meet the publishing requirements will be precluded from applying for future funding under this scheme.

Submission of reports to the RIA does not exempt grant recipient from separate requirements to submit reports to the NMS and NMI as per licence requirements.