Marine Stewardship Council
Scholarship Research Program Terms & Conditions 2019

These conditions define the basis on which the Marine Stewardship Council (hereby referred to as the MSC) offers support. The MSC seeks to establish a partnership with Scholarship Research Program recipients in which each party is clear as to its rights and obligations. If you accept a scholarship from the MSC it will be on the understanding that you have agreed and accepted the following terms and conditions.

Scholarship recipient obligations:

- The scholarship recipient is assumed to be the individual named on the application form, with the contact details as provided on the form, unless the MSC is notified otherwise.
- Before a scholarship can be paid, scholarship recipients must provide to the MSC details of the project start date and expected date of completion. Any variation over one month from these dates must be notified to the MSC in writing (email preferred).
- The project or activity to be funded by the MSC scholarship must be as described in the original application. Any significant variation must be reported to the MSC when the project begins, or as soon as possible thereafter.
- Scholarships are often made directly to individuals (the scholarship recipient) and in such instances, that individual is directly and solely responsible for complying with the scholarship terms and conditions. Scholarships made to individuals are not transferable in any circumstances.
- Institutional scholarship recipients may nominate an individual, other than the applicant, to manage work being funded by the MSC scholarship. The MSC must be advised of any such nomination at the time of confirming acceptance of the scholarship.

Progress and Final Report

The MSC requires the following core outputs from the successful scholarship funding recipient:

1) An interim progress report submitted via email (1000 words maximum).
2) A final project report (10,000 words maximum in the usual format of Executive Summary, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References). Note: this can also be a copy of the journal paper or thesis associated with the project results.
3) A final communications report that contains a non-technical lay summary suitable for use in explaining the research to the general public (1500 words maximum – template to be provided by the MSC).
4) Supporting material for the communications report i.e. photographs, video, etc.
5) Scholarship winners are expected to provide the MSC with timely input on assets such as blog posts and/or social media posts that promote their project results and the scholarship program more broadly.

The interim progress report must be submitted to the MSC within one month of mid-point of the project e.g. If the scholarship recipient’s project is 12 months in duration, the interim report must be submitted by the end of month 7.
The final project report, non-technical lay summary and supporting materials must be submitted to the MSC within three months after the project end date.

The scholarship recipient must advise the MSC, with supporting explanation, if a delay should occur in the submission of the report and agree a revised reporting date with the MSC.

Failure to submit a report within three months of the expected end date will mean that the scholarship recipient, or host organisation where applicable, will be required to reimburse the full value of the award to the MSC. In such cases, future applications for funding (from the individual or institution) will not be considered.

Dissemination of results

The following shall apply:

- All written monitoring and reporting material must be submitted to the MSC in English language
- Scholarship recipients must keep the MSC staff informed of all plans for dissemination of results
- The MSC reserves the right to use the details of the scholarship award, the name of the scholarship recipient and the findings of the non-technical lay summary in its annual report, website, and other relevant publications.
- The MSC wants the research to have the greatest impact and reach and encourages the publication of results in journals.
- The MSC will consider covering the cost of open-access publication for articles that have arisen directly from the scholarship and are aligned with the original aims and objectives of the project proposal. Please contact the MSC for further details.
- Where applicable, recipients may be asked to present the project and its findings in a relevant forum (special interest group meeting, trade conference, hospitality event organised by the MSC etc.)
- The support of the MSC must be acknowledged in all written and published publications and oral presentations arising from the project. The MSC logo (and user guidelines) will be supplied upon request for this purpose.
- Failure to disseminate results and to acknowledge the support of the MSC may result in monies being recovered and future scholarship recipients being refused.
- The MSC will on occasion request the use of copies of photographs for utilisation in MSC promotion.

Finances

The Scholarship is restricted to the costs of the project only and cannot be spent on non-project related costs or other expenses.

Any under-spend of the scholarship at the end of the project, or if the project is curtailed early, must be returned to the MSC.
MSC obligations

The scholarship is administered by the MSC, under the instruction of the MSC Chief Science & Standards Officer.

Dissemination of personal data

The MSC will publicise details of the scholarship award and the name of the scholarship recipient in our annual report, website, and other relevant publications.

Applicants submitting a scholarship application must review and understand MSC’s policy on data processing, sharing and retention outlined within the scholarship research program privacy policy.

Payment

All payments over £500 shall be justified by receipts.

The MSC will make a payment of 75% of the total scholarship award in the month preceding the given start date of the project. Earlier payment may be requested in writing by the scholarship recipient with supporting explanatory information.

The remaining 25% of the scholarship award will be made on receipt of satisfactory interim and final project reports.

Payment will be made to the scholarship recipient, or to another payee nominated in the application form (if an organisational applicant).

Payments will not be made for retrospective spending made prior to the formal offer of the scholarship program award.

Withdrawal of a Grant

The MSC reserves the right at any time and without notice to withdraw the scholarship funding, either in full or in part, if the scholarship recipient fails materially to comply with these terms and conditions.

Modification or Variation of Regulations

The MSC reserves the right to modify, add to, or vary these regulations, as it sees fit and undertakes to give prior notice to the scholarship recipient of any change.

The MSC will seek to ensure that the grant-holder is not disadvantaged by such changes.