

Mineral Physics Group (MPG) Travel Bursary Scheme

The MPG invites applications for its travel bursary scheme. The purpose of this scheme is to support members of the Mineralogical Society and others who are actively engaged in research in the broad field of mineral physics. This includes supporting attendance at conferences, meetings and workshops, although the MPG particularly encourages applications to support visits to overseas laboratories and national/international research facilities, including synchrotron and neutron radiation facilities which do not support travel. Preference will be given to postgraduate students and younger researchers, although applications are welcomed from all researchers (applications from members of the Society will be preferred in cases where applications outstrip funds available). Applications will be judged primarily on the basis of academic merit by members of the MPG committee. This scheme is run in addition other bursary schemes offered by the Mineralogical Society and others of its Special Interest Groups (<http://www.minersoc.org/groups.html>).

Applications (including estimated total cost and any other support anticipated) should be sent electronically to the secretary of the MPG of the Mineralogical Society.

Applications must include the following:

1. A case for support detailing the nature of the work to be conducted, reasons for travel, academic benefit of the proposed work for the mineral physics community etc (not more than 1 side of A4, PDF only).
2. A full breakdown of estimated costs.
3. Full details of all applications submitted or being submitted to other bursary schemes. The committee will look favourably upon applicants who seek to obtain matching funds from other bodies/organisations.
4. A letter of support by the applicant's academic supervisors (in the case of applications by postgraduate students).
5. A 2-page CV (PDF) for the applicant.

The following restrictions apply:

1. Applications must be received not less than eight weeks in advanced of the proposed trip and before travel plans have been finalised.
2. Bursaries are limited to a maximum of £400 or 50% of the total cost of the visit (whichever is smaller).
3. Applicants are allowed to receive more than one MPG award (but not in the same year) but must include details of previous awards in their application.
4. A separate application must be submitted by each individual requesting support.
5. Preference will be given to applicants who are members of the Mineralogical Society.
6. Incomplete applications will be rejected immediately without consideration by the committee.
7. The decision of the MPG committee regarding awards is final, and resubmission of unsuccessful applications is not normally permitted unless specifically requested by the committee.
8. Successful applicants must provide a one-page report (PDF) outlining how the money was used. This report will be posted on the bursary report section of the Mineralogical Society website (www.minersoc.org/bursary-reports.html)

To facilitate assessment, there are two deadlines for applications to this scheme normally on the 15th January and 15th June each year. Please note that funds available to the MPG are limited and the MPG committee reserves the right to make no awards in any given calendar year and to halt the bursary scheme without prior warning. Copies of all receipts and evidence of travel are required before any funds will be paid. Successful applicants must use the money for the purpose specified in the application, i.e. the bursaries are not transferable. Applicants who, for whatever reason are unable to undertake the project for which the funds are requested, must return the money immediately to the Mineral Physics Group.

Finally, successful applicants are encouraged to support the activities of the MPG and the Society. This includes attending a group/Society event, offering to help convene a session, helping with the work of publicizing the Society, assisting with MPG committee work, submitting a paper to one of the Society's journals *etc.* The group and the Society have much to offer. Go to www.minersoc.org to read more.