



**Australian Government**

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**Great Barrier Reef  
Marine Park Authority**

**SCIENCE FOR MANAGEMENT AWARDS**

**GUIDELINES FOR 2011**

## INTRODUCTION

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority provides funding to students working towards a Doctorate or Masters degree in the physical, biological and social sciences disciplines.

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's *Science for Management Awards* Scheme aims to support research which:

- is relevant to the planning and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area;
- makes a contribution to the Reef's ecologically sustainable development; and
- is particularly relevant to the Authority's Climate Change Action Plan 2007-2012.

The aim of the scheme is to provide students with funding to support their research programs. Preference will be given to those students in the first two years of their Doctorate or first year of their Masters degree whose research is considered to be of a high priority for the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area.

Grants are usually in the order of between \$1000 and \$4,000 (including GST).

**Applicants are advised to read these guidelines before applying.**

## DESCRIPTION

### **Type of research funded**

The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority will consider applications from students studying any aspect of the physical, biological, social, cultural and economic environments of the Great Barrier Reef. However the research must be relevant to the planning and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area in a changing climate.

The 2011 Science for Management Awards will be funded by the Australian Government's Climate Change Action Plan 2007-2012. Projects must address the identified critical knowledge needs for improving the resilience of the GBR to climate change, or for helping reef-based industries and regional communities to adapt to unavoidable impacts.

[http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp\\_site/info\\_services/publications/misc\\_pub/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plan/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plan](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/publications/misc_pub/climate_change_action_plan/climate_change_action_plan)

Funds will not be provided for:

- conference attendance (including registration);
- consumables such as computer disks and paper;
- purchase of books and journals; or
- wordprocessing/typing costs.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Science for Management Awards applicants must:

- be a post-graduate student studying towards a Doctorate or Masters degree at an Australian university or, in the case of overseas students, be a post-graduate student studying towards a Doctorate or Masters degree and be sponsored by an Australian research institute or university; and
- reside in Australia for the full term of the grant.

Researchers with reports outstanding to the Authority may be ruled ineligible to apply.

## DURATION OF GRANTS

Grants are awarded for one year and all funds should be expended by 31 December of the year of the award. It is possible for students to have their funding carried over into the following year if a formal (written) request is submitted to the Authority. Students may be funded for consecutive years but will have to re-apply each year.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should complete the *Proposal for Science for Management Award 2011* form and submit their application by **31 January 2011**. **Note: Two (2) copies of the application are required.**

Application forms are available from the Authority's web site at:

[http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp\\_site/info\\_services/science\\_management/information\\_for\\_researchers/grants](http://www.gbrmpa.gov.au/corp_site/info_services/science_management/information_for_researchers/grants)

Please ensure that all parts of the application form are completed and all of the relevant signatures are obtained. The relevance of the project to the planning and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park must be clearly stated along with the project's objectives, research plan and financial details.

### **Endorsement by Supervisor or Head of Department**

The applicant's supervisor or Head of Department must sign the application form to show their support of the project.

### **Endorsement by Head of Institution (or delegated officer)**

This section of the form must be signed by the Head of the Australian institution/university (or delegated officer) with which the student is affiliated/sponsored by. In many cases the Director of the institution's research office is the officer delegated to sign the application form.

By signing the application, Heads of Institutions certify that the student has the basic support of the institution.

## ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The Authority has an established process for the assessment of all research proposals and all submissions will be assessed according to that process. Applications are assessed by scientifically trained staff of the Authority and the Manager, Science Coordination. A small number of senior management staff will assess those applications relevant to their program area and expertise.

### **Assessment criteria**

Applications are assessed on a competitive basis. The main criteria used to assess applications are:

1. *Relevance to management* — is the project relevant to the planning and management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and World Heritage Area in a changing climate, i.e. does it directly address the critical knowledge needs identified in the Climate Change Action Plan 2007-2012?
2. *Scientific design* — is the planning and methodology of the project sound?
3. *Presentation of application* — is the application easy to understand and well written? Is adequate information provided by the applicant?

Criteria No. 1 is given the highest weighting.

### **Notification of outcome**

Applications will be accepted by the Authority until 31 January 2011 and will be assessed in Feb-March. Students will be notified of their success in April.

### **CONDITIONS OF AWARD**

Successful applicants and their institutions will enter into an agreement with the Authority whereby the Authority assists with research costs encountered by the student. Applicants should already be supported by their administering institution with regard to basic expenses and have access to equipment, laboratories, research publications and computers.

The successful applicant must accept the conditions set out in the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority Science for Management Awards Conditions of Award*. Additionally the administering institution must sign the conditions before payment of the grant can be made.

A tax invoice must be submitted to the Authority by the administering institution before the grant monies can be awarded.

### **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

In return for funding, the student is obliged to submit a financial statement and brief report to the Authority by 31 December of the year in which the grant was awarded. The Student may also be requested to present a seminar at the GBRMPA Seminar Series if possible.

The report should include an outline of the achievements of the research program and the relevance of the outcomes to the management of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. A hard and electronic copy of the report should be submitted. The report may be published by the Authority.

The financial statement must outline the expenditure of grant funds and be endorsed by the delegated officer of the administering institution.

### **ENQUIRIES**

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