**Durham University Expeditions Group 2023/24**

**Application Guidelines**



**1.0 Overview**

Through the Durham University Expeditions Panel, modest funding is available financially to assist:

• Research Expeditions

The Panel may, exceptionally, consider applications from groups of students who wish to organise and conduct independent projects as part of the research programmes of approved volunteer-based commercial organisations (e.g. Wallacea).

Funding is provided from Durham University Student Opportunities Fund, with the support of donors. Note that funding is primarily provided to support the research purposes. The Panel is prepared to sponsor Expeditions by permitting them to use the title ‘Durham University Expedition’ and by the offer of financial assistance.

**2.0 Essential eligibility criteria**

• Membership of the expedition must consist of at least 50% Durham student members

• The proposed duration in the field is a minimum of two weeks

• The planning of the expedition is sufficient to ensure the aims of the expedition are met

**3.0 Guidelines**

Expedition members should seek help and guidance from relevant academics in the University, previous expedition prospectuses and their members, and the Royal Geographical Society’s publications.

Geography Department

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Biological and Biomedical Sciences

Prof. Robert Baxter [Robert.baxter@durham.ac.uk](mailto:Robert.baxter@durham.ac.uk)

Expedition planners should be prepared to present their plans in the form of a prospectus (see below) and to answer questions at the initial group meeting. Financial allocations will not be paid until a final prospectus has been approved.

**3.1 The Prospectus**

**One copy** of the preliminary prospectus should be emailed to the Secretary in a PDF or other electronic format by the deadline date. The prospectus should include in the following order:

a. Title page

b. Concise statement of aims, objectives, dates, locations c. An outline of the research project .

d. Preliminary financial estimates (including intended personal financial contributions, not less than £400 per person, with a 15% contingency).

e. Brief details of all expedition members and in respect of Durham students their college, department, year, relevant experience, etc.

f. Travel and accommodation arrangements (including dates of stay). An ‘end’ date should be provided which should be prior to the commencement of any independent travel that may be undertaken by member(s) of the Expedition.

The prospectus needs to be presentable and accurate photographs are not necessarily needed; any maps should be clear and relevant.

**Please note that Expeditions may NOT include “Durham University” in their title until after the expedition has been approved by the University Panel.**