

# **POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowships**

## **FAQs**

### **Can I apply for a Fellowship for less than one month?**

The minimum period of a POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowship is one month.

### **Can I apply for a Fellowship for more than three months?**

The POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowship programme will only provide funds for a maximum of a three-month period. If an applicant is able to secure a longer visit with the host supervisor, this is acceptable, but the fellow will need to find additional funds for his/her stay beyond the first three months.

### **Will the POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowship pay for me to attend a training course?**

POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowships are intended to support visits to institutions for training, information exchange and networking. Funds are not provided to pay fees for a prescribed training course or summer course.

### **Will POGO find me host institution to visit?**

It is the responsibility of an applicant to identify and contact a potential host supervisor/institution and to agree a visit. The application form must be accompanied by a letter of acceptance from the potential host.

### **I am a senior scientist. Can I apply for a POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowship?**

The POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowships are aimed at early to mid-career scientists who will benefit from learning new skills and techniques and making new contacts.

### **How do I know if I would be considered “an early career scientist”?**

There is no rule set in stone but generally speaking a candidate having held a PhD for less than 7 years would fall in the “early career” category. Some exceptions may be considered on an individual basis so please contact the Secretariat if you are in doubt.

**I am a citizen of a developing country, but I currently live and work in a developed country. Can I apply for a POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowship?**

The goal of the POGO-SCOR Fellowship is to promote capacity building in developing countries. Applicants living in a developed country would have to demonstrate clear plans of returning to the developing country on completion of the training programme, and explain how it would lead to capacity building in the developing country. Note that the POGO-SCOR Fellowship also requires that you explain how the proposed training is relevant to ongoing or planned programmes at the parent institute in the developing country. In these cases the parent supervisor should be affiliated with an institution located in the applicant's country of origin.

**Will POGO apply for my visa if I need one?**

It is the responsibility of the applicant to procure the visa. The fellowship award letter from POGO can be used as a supporting document. In addition, you may require a letter from your host supervisor. Please note that the fellowship does not constitute a job. Nor does it represent admission to an academic course. It represents financial support to defray travel and living expenses while the fellowship holder undertakes professional training. You may find that <http://www.visabureau.com/worldwide/default.aspx> is a useful website.

**What is the scope of POGO-SCOR Visiting Fellowships?**

The Fellowships are primarily intended to provide training and experience in making ocean observations, and in analysing and presenting conclusions from these observations. Working from existing data sets is appropriate, as is making new observations at sea or from the shore. The fellowships are not intended for research projects that are only loosely connected to practical sea going observations.

**I have been awarded a POGO fellowship before, can I still apply?**

The POGO trainings are highly competitive programmes so the chances of a candidate being awarded multiple fellowships are very low. Such applications will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the reviewers will look at how long ago the previous fellowship was awarded, how it benefited the applicant and how the applicant intends to build on the previous training.

**The hard copy of the recommendation letter from the parent supervisor may reach the POGO Secretariat after the applications deadline, would this penalise my application?**

As long as the electronic format of the recommendation letter is uploaded in the application portal it does not matter if the hard copy of the same letter is received after the deadline.

**Is there a list of host Institutions? Are there any requirements to qualify as host institute?**

No, there is not a list of potential host institutions. The applicant should orientate his/her search according to the topic of interest and contact the potential host supervisor.

**Does the host institute need to be located in a developed country? (I noticed that in the flyer we already say that the training can be undertaken anywhere in the world)**

There is no obligation to choose the host institution in a developed country. If you believe that the host institution of your selected host country is able to offer you the training required, the application would be acceptable.

**I have not completed my PhD, can I apply for the fellowship?**

The fellowship is dedicated to scientists, technicians, graduate students (preferably PhD) and post-doctoral fellows involved in oceanographic work at centres in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

Graduate students or students at PhD level are allowed to apply even if they are in the middle of their PhD but a degree and master are expected to be achieved in those cases. In these circumstances the parent supervisor should be the master supervisor.

**I am a bachelor student, can I apply for the fellowship?**

If you are a bachelor student or have not completed a master, please provide justification why POGO should consider your application. Please note that the POGO-SCOR Fellowships are competitive.