

Grants and opportunities

Call for applications for Cambridge Masters in Conservation Leadership, October 2015

The Cambridge Masters in Conservation Leadership is a full-time, 11-month course, aimed at graduates with leadership potential who have at least 3–5 years of relevant experience in conservation. The unique features of this course are its delivery by a partnership between university departments and conservation organizations based around Cambridge, and its focus on issues of management and leadership. The goal is not only to develop conservationists with enhanced research skills and greater awareness of the complex drivers of biodiversity loss but also to develop their ability to act and lead effectively. This includes the development of professional management and leadership skills, including strategic planning, finance, HR management, innovation, entrepreneurship and the management of change. The course fosters the leadership potential of its students by promoting their capacity to understand the links amongst the drivers of biodiversity loss, and to think creatively about conservation solutions across organizational and political boundaries and economic sectors.

This Masters is based in the Department of Geography at the University of Cambridge, which works in collaboration with partners in the Cambridge Conservation Initiative to deliver the course.

Application for entry to the course in October 2015 opens in September 2014. Several full or partial scholarships are available for applicants from less developed and developing countries. Further funds are available from the Cambridge Trusts. To be eligible for all scholarships applicants must apply by early December 2014. Full details of the course, how to apply, and funding opportunities can be found at www.geog.cam.ac.uk/graduate/mphil/conservation

Conservation Leadership Programme: call for applications for 2015 Team Conservation Awards

The Conservation Leadership Programme (CLP) is a training and capacity-building programme that targets individuals from developing countries who are early in their conservation career and demonstrate leadership potential. This partnership between BirdLife International, Conservation International, Fauna & Flora International and the Wildlife Conservation Society has been supporting young conservationists for nearly 30 years by awarding project funding, training and mentoring.

In 2015 CLP will be granting the following Team Conservation Awards: Future Conservationist (up to USD 15,000 each); Conservation Follow-up (up to USD 25,000 each; available only to previous Future Conservationist

Award winners); and Conservation Leadership (up to USD 50,000 each; available only to previous Follow-up Award winners). The application deadline for the 2015 awards will be in November 2014 and application materials will be available on the CLP website in August. Awards will be announced in April 2015. Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact a CLP staff member well before the application deadline for advice on their proposal. Staff members can help teams determine if their project fits within specified criteria, offer advice on methods and project activities, and put teams in touch with local partner offices or other experts who can provide additional advice. Detailed eligibility criteria, including country eligibility, award guidelines and an application form are available at www.conservationleadershipprogramme.org, e-mail clp@birdlife.org

Call for applications for the Whitley Awards 2015

The Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) is a UK registered charity offering Whitley Awards to outstanding nature conservation leaders in the developing world. Whitley Awards are both an international profile prize and a form of project grant (currently GBP 35,000 over 1 year). WFN aims to identify, recognize and fund the most dynamic, inspirational and effective conservation leaders and their teams working in middle- and low-income countries; focus on local leaders who are nationals of the countries or regions where they are working; support work that is rooted in good science or research but that also emphasizes the benefits of biodiversity and ecosystems to local communities; fund pragmatic projects that aim to have a measurable, long-lasting impact; and raise the profile of winners and help them network effectively, educate others, and heighten public awareness of the problems facing biodiversity and ecosystems worldwide.

Whitley Awards are the result of a competitive process and are presented at the annual Whitley Awards Ceremony in London each May. Winners join a growing network of over 160 winners across 70 countries. WFN stays in close contact with winners and the most successful gain access to apply for Continuation Funding of GBP 35,000–70,000 per grant.

The deadline for applications for the next Whitley Awards is 31 October 2014. Potential applicants can read about the eligibility requirements and download an application form from www.whitleyaward.org. Please note that WFN does not fund undergraduate projects, expeditions, Master's research, or pure-research PhD work. If you have any questions regarding the Whitley Awards, e-mail David Wallis (david@whitleyaward.org).