
RIBA Gordon Ricketts Fund 2024

Background

The Gordon Ricketts Fund was set up by RIBA Council in 1968 in memory of Gordon Ricketts, who had been Secretary of the RIBA (the equivalent, in today's terms, of the Chief Executive Officer) from 1959 until his death in 1968. The Fund provides biennial grants for RIBA staff to pursue research in a personal field of interest related to architecture that is not necessarily directly connected to their work.

Applicants can apply for a grant of up to £2,000 to pursue their chosen research project.

Eligibility criteria and assessment process

Applications are welcome from past and present RIBA employees. Applicants do not need to be experienced researchers, but all applications should have defined objectives and clearly outline the personal and professional benefits of a specific research project related to architecture.

The application form requests information regarding the research proposed, the time the research is likely to take, how and where it will be carried out, and the sum of money sought with a breakdown of how it will be spent.

Applications will be assessed by a panel comprising members of the RIBA Research Development Group (a sub-committee of the RIBA Education & Learning Committee) and any co-opted individuals with expertise in assessing similar schemes.

Please note that if you are a current employee your application needs to be endorsed by your line manager. Your line manager will need to complete the approval form provided and email this to us separately. This form can be found at www.architecture.com/gordonricketts.

If relevant, applicants may also enclose a reference from an individual who is able to comment on their ability to undertake the research envisaged, but this is optional.

Selection criteria

The following criteria will be used to select the grant recipient(s):

- clearly stated and well-defined research objectives
- a demonstration that the research project will have personal and professional benefits for the applicant
- evidence that the proposal is well-planned, and completion within two years of the project commencing is achievable
- evidence that the applicant has the skills and capacity to carry out their proposed research and produce a final written report within the time frame and budget proposed
- clear consideration of the resources requested: these should be realistic and justified in the breakdown of anticipated expenditure

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Use of the RIBA Library and Collections for the project is desirable but not essential.

Grant amount and use of funds

In 2024, the maximum grant amount per application is £2,000. The panel may decide to assist more than one applicant and to award less than £2,000 as it sees fit. It will, however, not be possible to award more than a total of £2,600 per application cycle.

The money may be used to cover expenses incurred in pursuit of the project, or it may be used to provide temporary cover for a member of staff on unpaid leave from the Institute. Any requests for unpaid leave should be discussed first with your line manager and the HR department.

Terms and conditions of payment

1. The research project should be completed within two years of July 2024. If it becomes clear that the project will not be completed within two years, or the nature of the project requires a longer time, this should be agreed in advance by the RIBA Research Development Group.
2. Grant recipients will be required to submit a short report to the RIBA Research Development Group on completion of the research project.
3. Grants are paid in two instalments: the first instalment of 80% of the award, is made on acceptance of the terms of the grant. The remainder 20% of the award will only be paid on receipt of the final report.
4. Any unclaimed funds will be reinvested into the RIBA Gordon Ricketts Memorial Fund and made available for future applicants.
5. There are no conditions attached to the acceptance of this award affecting the recipient's employment contract with the RIBA.

Final report

Recipients of the grant will need to submit a final written report within two years of commencing the project, in order to receive the final 20% of the grant.

Alternative research outputs will be accepted, provided they are accompanied by a brief written summary of the research findings.

Submitting your application

Applications must be submitted via <https://riba.grantplatform.com>.

The deadline for receipt of applications is **3pm on Friday 14 June 2024**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

Following the deadline, the assessment panel will review applications before meeting to make their decision. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the assessment process by the end of July 2024.

If you would like to discuss your research proposal in advance, or have any questions about the application process, please get in touch with Sophie Arp: sophie.arp@riba.org / 020 7307 3755.

All discussions and information provided in the application form will be treated in the strictest confidence.