

**Ethologische Gesellschaft e.V.**

Guidelines Grant Applications

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# 1. Types of grants and their benefits

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Stipends for early career researcher | | Research funds | Ethology Grant |
| MSc & BSc theses | PhD pilot study | Small, pilot and early-stage projects | Independent or stand-alone research projects |
| €500 | €1,000 | €2,000 | €5,000\* |
| 31 March | 31 March | 31 January | 31 August |
| [BSc & MSc form](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/EthoGes_research_grant_BSc-MSc-student.docx) | [PhD form](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/EthoGes_research_grant_PhD-student.docx) | [Research form](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/EthoGes_research_grant_regular-member.docx) | [Ethology form](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/EthoGes_EthologyGrant.docx) |

\* sponsored by *Ethology*, our [Society’s Journal published by Wiley](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/ethology/).

The full overview of grants, stipends and prizes can be downloaded [here](https://www.etho-ges.de/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/Overview_EthoGes_Funding_02-2025.pdf).

# 2. Eligibility

* Membership at the society for at least one year (except of MSc & BSc stipends, which need membership at the time of application)
* Active involvement in all phases of the project
* No one other than the applicant can be supported by this grant
* Appropriate ethical approval (e.g. animal welfare)

# 3. Application and selection process

1. Applicants need to use the provided forms (see table in section 1) and will receive an acknowledgment of receipt of their application by email.
2. Each complete and timely application will be reviewed by members of the extended council, excluding members with conflict of interest. The evaluation process takes one to two months.
3. Criteria include the scientific quality of the project, the excellence of the applicant, and the expected benefit of the funding for the project:

***Criteria***

* *Quality and importance of the project and their expected results*
* *Is the project unlikely to be funded from another source?*
* *Hypotheses and goals clearly delineated*
* *Quality of project description*
* *Realistic time-, budget-, general goals?*
* *Expertise/merit of applicant*
* *Expected impact of the funding on career of applicant*
* *Additional aspects worth considering?*

1. Successful applicants must render their funds according to the regulations for accounting and expenses of our society within one year. Exceptions can be discussed for longer projects (>1 year) and under special circumstances.
2. Presentation of results (optional, but recommended, for MSc & BSc stipend): Summary report for publication in EthoNews and presentation at one of the society’s annual meetings or the ECBB.
3. Publications or presentations of projects funded by the Ethologische Gesellschaft e.V. should acknowledge the financial support. Recipients of the “Ethology Grant” should in addition acknowledge the financial support of the journal *Ethology* (Wiley).

# 4. The form

*To be considered for the selection process the applicant needs to submit the appropriate form of grant application (see table in section 1) providing the following information: Name, address, and affiliation, project title, summary, background information, research question with predictions and hypotheses, methods and time schedule, references, estimation of costs, other available funds, declaration of Ethologische Gesellschaft e.V. membership and active involvement in the project.*

**General points**

* Format: Standard fonts in legible size
* Stick to space/word limits per section
* Focussed, clear and intelligible text: Avoid jargon, long sentences and repetition (see space limit), use highlighting (bold, italics, underline) of key parts and figures/graphs if needed
* Explain abbreviations at the first time used
* Consistent use of terms
* Complete all sections

**Title**

* No restrictions, but short and informative titles are recommended

**Summary (max. 200 words) & keywords**

* Introduction to the topic, aim/hypothesis, methods, importance/impact
* Choose three appropriate keywords

**Declarations**

* Need to be ticked to confirm eligibility, etc

**1. Rationale and significance of this request and how it relates to theory and/or ethology in general (max. 1 page)**

* Clear introduction and background to identify research gap → formulate aim (short here, more details in 2)
* Originality and new insights of the proposed project; if the project is not clearly within the field of animal behaviour, how is it related or why is it important for the field?
* Importance of funding for the project, e.g. to conclude an ongoing project, to make a project possible in the first place, pilot study as groundwork for bigger project?...

**2. Hypotheses and predictions (max. 1/2 page)**

* General research questions / hypotheses
* Precise predictions for expected / possible findings
* Based on background given in 1.; add citations and additional information where needed

**3. Methods, data and statistics - please be specific (max. 1/2 page)**

* Short but precise description of field work or lab procedures, behavioural tests, statistics and ethical considerations
* Location of lab and/or field work; equipment needed
* Citations possible, e.g. published standard procedures
* Bullet points possible if reasonable

**4. Timeline of the project**

* Possible categories: Field and lab work, data collection, data management, statistical analyses, writing, outputs...
* Expected outputs, e.g. planned publications, theses, conference presentations…
* Planned start date, e.g. July 2025
* List, table or Gantt chart possible

**5. Budget – Please provide detailed information for all expenditures not to exceed the grant budget. Do you have additional funds for this project? If so, please list funding sources and amounts.**

* The fund can cover material expenses as well as travel and subsistence costs (for the applicant only).
* Include all expenses and indicate which parts are covered by other funding sources
* Highlight the requested total amount
* List or table possible

**6. References**

* No specific citation style required; just be consistent

**7. CV (applicant)**

* Example subsections: Education, previous positions, publications, funding success, communication and outreach, teaching, rewards...

**8. Support by supervisor (short statement) (for MSc and BSc theses only)**

* Free format, usually short paragraphs
* Do not forget date, supervisor name (affiliation if different to applicant) and signature