**SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION**

**NATIONAL STUDENT AWARD 2020**

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**Application Form**

The [Scottish Land Commission](https://landcommission.gov.scot/) is shaping a coherent programme of land reform spanning both urban and rural land, to improve the productivity, diversity and accountability of the way Scotland’s land is owned, used, and managed. We provide the leadership that will bring parties together in fresh thinking and change so that the way we own and use land realises Scotland’s potential.

Underpinning this work is a programme of research so that all our decisions and recommendations are thoroughly evidence based.

We rely on the academic community to provide [research](https://landcommission.gov.scot/publications-consultations-research/) on key land reform issues. To help inspire the next generation of researchers, we provide an annual award to a student studying at a Scottish academic institution who undertakes a land reform related piece of research.

The Commission is working on a number of exciting projects in our [Programme of Work](https://landcommission.gov.scot/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Programme-of-Work-June-2019-FINAL.pdf) covering everything from land value tax to new models of community ownership. We are exploring issues, gathering evidence and sparking debate and understanding to develop new approaches to make the most of Scotland’s land.

The core values of the Commission are innovation, challenge, accountability, and empowerment and as such we are seeking a student to provide input and contribute innovative ideas to approaching the workstreams identified in our Programme of Work.

The Scottish Land Commission National Student Award, an annual single award of £1,000, is to encourage students to get involved with land reform and contribute to the Commission’s work.

To apply for the award you are required to explain how you propose to undertake your project, how it will connect with one of the workstreams of the Scottish Land Commission and how it will benefit you and enhance your student experience.

The successful student will be required to write a short report on their subject, contribute a blog for the Commission website, and potentially attend a Commissioner’s meeting to present findings.

Any questions regarding the Award can be sent to [info@landcommission.gov.scot](mailto:info@landcommission.gov.scot)

**Your Project**

We are keen to support any relevant Land Reform related projects across the full range of our work, and applicants are free to explore ideas and issues that are of particular interest to themselves, and develop a relevant project.

However, if you need a bit of inspiration some of the areas we’re particularly keen to explore this year are:

* The potential to deliver affordable housing in crofting communities;
* Motivating behaviour change in relation to land;
* How land reform can help combat climate change;
* Models of cooperative land ownership;
* The role of local governance in furthering land reform; and
* How land reform can realise human rights.

**Your Details**

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| First Name |  | Surname |  |
| Address & Postcode |  | | |
| Phone number |  | D.O.B |  |
| Email address |  | | |
| Student Number |  | | |
| Course Title |  | Level |  |
| Academic Institution |  | | |
| Course End Date |  | FT/PT |  |
| Course/Programme Leader |  | Email |  |
| Personal Academic Tutor |  | Email |  |

**Process and Applicant Requirements (Terms and Conditions)**

* 1. The Scottish Land Commission National Student Award aims to support a project related to the interests of the Scottish Land Commission, being undertaken by a student at a Scottish academic institution.
  2. Applications must be received by the deadline, with no exceptions. The deadline is:
* 24th January 2020
  1. Applications should be received by 5pm on the deadline date. Late applications will be ineligible.
  2. You can only submit one application per deadline and only one proposal per application.
  3. Applications should not assume that an activity previously supported will be supported again. The award is always evolving to best meet the needs and aims of the Scottish Land Commission.
  4. The award is competitive. Only one award will be made each application round.
  5. Please be aware that the quality of your application is important, as well as the content. Complete your application electronically and check for spelling and grammatical mistakes.
  6. Other factors which will be taken into account are:
* how the activity contributes to the work and aims of the Scottish Land Commission;
* your ability to demonstrate how the activity relates to your studies;
* how the activity contributes to your personal development;
* good financial planning.
  1. A recommendation letter from your personal academic tutor or programme leader is required with your application. This recommendation must:
* be written by your personal academic tutor or course/programme leader, having read the terms and conditions;
* be signed and dated, and include contact details; and
* outline the reasons why they support your application.
  1. Retrospective funding will not be awarded. Your proposed activity dates should commence at least one month after the application deadline.
  2. All applications will be assessed individually. The award will be made entirely at the discretion of the awarding panel and their decision is final. There is no appeal process.
  3. If competition is particularly strong the panel may request you attend an interview.
  4. You will be notified by email within one month of the deadline date if you have been successful or not. If successful, you will receive payment within four weeks by BACS transfer or cheque if preferred.
  5. Additional conditions may be applied to the award if the panel feels this to be necessary, prior to your acceptance of the award. Acceptance of the award binds you to any such conditions.
  6. If in your final year, your proposed activity must be completed before your graduation.
  7. The award is fixed at £1,000.
  8. If successful, you will be required to provide a report about your project which should include photographs where possible. The report should be a minimum of 1,000 words. The report may be used by the Commission to promote the award. You will be required to write a blog for the Commission website, and may also be requested to attend relevant events.
  9. The expected timeline for submission of the report and blog will be agreed prior to your acceptance of the award. Acceptance of the award binds you to the agreed timeline.
  10. If for any reason your activity or project does not go ahead, you will be required to return the award.
  11. The fund is completely independent from any other form of financial support available to students, such as from SAAS.
  12. The Scottish Land Commission accepts no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss or damage incurred as a result of any activity which is undertaken in pursuit of fulfilling the aims of the Scottish Land Commission National Student Award. Please make sure that you have fully evaluated any risks and that, where appropriate, have arranged any necessary insurance.

**Eligibility**

* 1. The award is open to all registered Further and Higher Education students studying at a Scottish academic institution, at any level.
  2. The award is aimed at students who, without some support, would not be able to take part in their desired activity. You should explain how the award would enable you to undertake activity that you would otherwise be unable to participate in as part of your application.
  3. You are not eligible to apply if:
* You have previously received the Scottish Land Commission National Student Award
* You or a member or your immediate family have been employed by, or undertaken work for, the Scottish Land Commission in the past 12 months

**Exclusions**

* 1. The award cannot be used, in part or full, to pay for:
* activities which are part of the course curriculum. This includes modules (compulsory or optional) which are credited or studying a year abroad;
* research critical to the content of a dissertation or thesis;
* equipment or materials – unless clearly and solely needed for the project being undertaken;
* organised class trips;
* anything commercial in nature;
* group applications; or
* everyday expenses such as commuting costs, materials/books required for your course.
  1. The Scottish Land Commission National Student Award is not a hardship fund. If you are in financial difficulty, please contact your local student support officer to discuss the range of financial support options available.

**Project Title and Description**

Provide a title and a short description of your proposed project/activity/event.

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**How does your project connect with SLC workstreams?**

Provide detail as to why this is important to you; how it relates to your studies; how it contributes to your own personal development; how the project would support the Scottish Land Commission’s work.

This is your chance to stand out from the crowd. Really sell your project/activity/event – why should we support you? (500 word max.)

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**What is the expected timeline?**

When do you aim to start and finish your project, are there any potential obstacles to completion in time?

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**How would £1,000 help you achieve your project?**

We’re not looking for a detailed budget, but an indication of what sort of expenses you would need to cover to complete your project.

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**Supporting Documents Checklist**

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|  | **REQUIRED** – I have attached a signed recommendation from either my personal academic tutor or programme leader (.pdf or other electronic copy is acceptable) |
|  | I have attached any relevant and supporting correspondence or documentation relating to my proposed activity/project (photocopies acceptable) |

**Data Protection**

Our [Privacy Policy is available on our website.](https://landcommission.gov.scot/data-privacy/)

**Why we collect your data**

We will collect and process the personal data you provide to us during the application and screening process for the purposes of processing the award.

**What we do with your data**

We will use this information to contact you in relation to the award. Your personal information will be shared with members of a panel who are responsible for assessing your suitability for an award, and you agree to supply us with accurate information.

**How long we keep your data for**

We will retain data for as long as it is required to process awards. After a maximum of three years your contact information will be removed from our systems.

**What data we collect about you**

We collect the following information about you: Full Name, Date of Birth, Contact Information, and Education Information.

**How to request your data**

You have the right to know what data is held about you and access, amend, restrict processing of or request removal of that data. If you would like to make a request to obtain/amend/restrict processing of or request removal of your data, you can do so by emailing [info@landcommission.gov.scot](mailto:info@landcommission.gov.scot)

**Acceptance of conditions**

Please ensure you have read the terms and conditions and other sections above carefully before completing this application form. Completed applications should be sent to: [info@landcomission.gov.scot](mailto:info@landcomission.gov.scot)

Please read the statements and below and check the boxes if true. If you cannot check all the boxes your application is ineligible.

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| --- | --- |
|  | I have read, understood and agree to all of the terms and conditions |
|  | I am a registered student at an eligible Scottish academic institution (university or college) |
|  | I am applying for funding for myself only, not on behalf of a group |
|  | Without financial support I will not be able to take part in my proposed activity |
|  | My application is beneficial to my studies, however is not part of the course curriculum; e.g. optional modules (within or outwith term-time), organised class trips, or anything which is credited or counts towards completing my course |
|  | I am not requesting retrospective funding; my activity takes place at least one month after the deadline |
|  | I and none of my immediate family have been employed by, or undertaken work for, the Scottish Land Commission in the last 12 months |
|  | I am aware the fund is competitive, and I accept that the decision is at the discretion of the awarding panel, and that this decision is final |
|  | I will provide feedback on my experience and am happy to take part in any publicity |
|  | I will write a report for the Scottish Land Commission (minimum 1,000 words), and a blog for the Commission website on completion of my project |

**Declaration**

I declare that I have read and understood the application requirements, the statements in the application and all supporting materials submitted are true to the best of my knowledge, and, if successful I will abide by the terms and conditions.

Signature:

Date:

Completed applications should emailed to: [info@landcommission.gov.scot](mailto:info@landcommission.gov.scot)