**BES POST Fellowship**

Applications for the 2017 BES POST Fellowship are now open. The deadline for applications is **Monday 16 April 2018 (5pm)**, and interviews will be held **11 May 2018 at POST’s offices.**

**The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology**

The Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST) is Parliament’s in-house source of independent, balanced and accessible analysis of public policy issues related to science and technology.

POST regularly publishes short briefing papers (POSTnotes) and longer reports giving parliamentarians a broad overview of the background to an issue and an analysis of the policy implications.

**BES POST Fellowship**

The BES POST Fellowship is an outstanding opportunity to gain an insider’s view of Parliament works and hone your ability to communicate scientific issues to a wider audience.

The Fellowship last for **three months**, and is based at the Houses of Parliament in London.

The fellow will work on a policy topic grounded in science and technology, producing a POSTnote, contributing to a longer report, or assisting a Select Committee in a current inquiry. The Fellow will be expected to organise a seminar to inform or disseminate their work, which may occur after their three-month placement has finished.

The exact topic of the Fellowship will be determined by the Board of POST. Applicants should therefore be aware that, on joining POST, they may be working on something other than their originally-proposed topic.

**Eligibility**

Eligibility is restricted to **BES members** currently studying for a PhD in a UK university, who are engaged in their 2nd, 3rd or 4th year of full-time study or part-time equivalent at the time of application.

**Funding**

The successful applicant will receive a £5,000 award to cover their living costs while undertaking the three-month fellowship at the Houses of Parliament, London. Computing, email and other facilities necessary for the project will be supplied by POST. £4,000 will be paid on at the start of the fellowship, and the remaining £1,000 on completion.

**Start date**

The Fellowship will ideally start in September 2018 subject to final agreement between the applicant, POST, the applicant’s supervisor and University.

**Restrictions**

Candidates will have to receive parliamentary security clearance before they can receive the BES POST Fellowship. POST is a strictly non-partisan organisation. Fellows will be expected to abstain from any party political activity and generally to uphold the principles of parliamentary service, including a commitment to confidentiality, during their time with the Office.

**Application Process**

To apply, please submit:

1. A completed POST Fellowship application form, which has been approved by your Head of Department or principal supervisor.

2. A two-page summary of a proposed topic for a POST publication. This summary should demonstrate why you think this project would be of particular parliamentary interest. This should also demonstrate your ability to write in a style suitable for a parliamentary (rather than academic) audience.

3. A one page statement illustrating:

* Your interest in and suitability for the Fellowship.
* How the training you have received and your research and other experience to date will enable you to carry out this work

4. A BES Equality & Diversity monitoring form (this information is collected for monitoring purposes only and will not be used by the assessment panel). [Download the monitoring form.](http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/BES_Equality-and-Diversity-Monitoring-Form-2017.docx)

Completed applications should be emailed to [camilla@britishecologicalsociety.org](mailto:camilla@britishecologicalsociety.org) by 17:00 on Monday 16 April 2018.

Please note, late applications will not be accepted. A panel consisting of BES and POST personnel will assess the applications.

**Queries**

Any queries relating to the application process should be directed Camilla Morrison-Bell, BES Policy Manager, at camilla@BritishEcologicalSociety.org

Dr Jonathan Wentworth from POST is available on 020 7219 2161 to discuss any general aspects of the scheme.

Please note that neither the BES nor POST can advise on the strength or weaknesses of individual proposals.