
Call for Applications: Using Heritage & Education Centre digital collections

Open research call

Small research grants

Closing date: ongoing

Rationale

1. The Lloyd's Register Foundation is an independent global charity with a mission to protect the safety of life and property and to advance public education. It is also the custodian of Lloyd's Register's unique heritage collection, which contains over 250 years of maritime history including ship plans, survey reports, Register Books and much more. The collection is an important resource for maritime history, marine engineering, naval architecture, offshore engineering and ocean technology. We are committed to using the collection to create impact in line with our charitable aims.
2. The Lloyd's Register Foundation Heritage & Education Centre (HEC), which looks after the collection, is encouraging research that utilises our digital material in different ways. HEC are in the process of making 1.25 million ship plans and survey reports more accessible to the public online and preserving it for future generations. Our website also holds digitised collections of the World Fleet Statistics and Casualty Returns as well as Lists of Surveyors and the Register of Ships.

Aim

3. We want to encourage other organisations to carry out research projects that make use of our own digital material. These projects can also utilise supporting sources held in other collections to add value and broaden engagement.

Information on the Heritage & Education Centre and our digital resources can be found [here](#)

4. We encourage any new ideas for research that make use of our digital resources. Examples and ideas might include:
 - Development of ship and yacht building since the 1800s
 - Impact of the maritime sector on world trade and trade routes
 - Safety at sea
 - Business history
 - Depictions of maritime technology in art
 - Maritime statistics

- Interactive media to present the information in new and exciting ways (for example see [Numbers game: The artists making waves with big data](#))
 - Development of data analytic tools to search and interrogate the rich content of the archive, such as language and linguistic tools (like [Corpus linguistics](#))
 - Explanatory material to sit alongside the digitised content on the website (such as the [Lists of Surveyors](#))
 - Genealogy and biographies of Lloyd's Register technical staff or other relevant people
 - Maps and visual media (see CITiZAN's [interactive map](#) for example)
 - Material to help general readers understand maritime terminology and ship design
 - Archive and collection appraisals (see [Blaydes Maritime Centre](#) example)
 - Links to other related resources (like those on our [Information sheets](#))
 - Other related subjects that utilise our digital archive
5. It is hoped that by supporting research programmes that utilise our online digitised material, HEC's collections can be further opened-up and explored around the world.

Outcome

6. In order to support Lloyds Register Foundation's charitable objectives in establishing the HEC website and add further value and context to our digitised collections, as condition of receiving a grant award you agree that a full and complete copy of your completed research project will be provided to Lloyd's Register Foundation who, with suitable accreditation to you, shall be free without charge to make this available online to users of the HEC on the terms of its Educational Licence, full terms of which can be viewed [here](#).
7. The completed research project will be made available online via the [HEC website](#) to add further value and context to our digitised collections.
8. Links can be made from other online resources to the content hosted on the HEC website to help us monitor page views and use.

Scope of funding

9. The Foundation will support a wide range of research to help fulfil our mission. Initial funding is intended for small scale research programmes, some of which may have the potential to develop into larger projects in the future.
10. Small grants will be awarded from £5,000 to £15,000 to support costs directly associated with the research project such as travel and salaries.
11. The Lloyd's Register Foundation does not fund individuals, but applications are welcome from related organisations including universities, colleges, libraries, small and large collections, archives, museums etc.
12. Grants can also cover the research costs of appraising and using associated resources, from both our own and other collections worldwide. This will help to open-up our own digitised material by placing it in context and making it relevant to a wider audience.

13. Our Heritage & Education Centre can provide some guidance on utilising our library and archive collections.

14. Applications should consider the following:

- Impact (see our [Key Performance Indicator](#) table for guidance)
- How the research can help to increase public understanding of HEC's collections
- The potential for engaging wider interest in the research
- How the research programme will be managed and reviewed
- The intended size, aims and timings of the research
- Any anticipated future projects that this may inform or lead to
- Whether any match funding could be leveraged from other organisations
- An estimated cost breakdown

Timing

15. This call for applications opened in April 2019 and will remain open until all our allocated funding has all been assigned. Applications can be made at any time.

How to Apply

16. Proposals should be submitted using the Lloyd's Register Foundation online [application process](#) and supported by supplementary material as requested.
17. Your application will normally form part of your contract, against which progress and success will be measured.
18. If your application is successful, once we have confirmed funding, we will enter into a contract with you using our standard small grants contract template.

Contact

19. If you have any questions regarding your application please contact hec.info@lrfoundation.org.uk quoting **Small Research Grants - Using Heritage & Education Centre digital collections** in the subject line.