

EDGE Fellowships: FAQs 2019

How can I check if my focal species is an eligible species for the EDGE Fellowship programme?

[Click here for a list of eligible species](#)

My focal species is not on the eligible list but it is listed as Endangered/Critically Endangered by IUCN. Can I still apply?

No. Your project must focus on a species that is on the list of eligible species.

I am working on a species that is from a taxonomic group that not on the spreadsheet. Can I still apply?

Not at the moment. Your project must focus on a species that is on the list of eligible species.

My focal species is eligible but there's a lot of conservation work already focused on it. Can I still apply?

Yes, but your application will not be as competitive as others. Priority is given to EDGE species where limited research has been done and/or that currently receive little or no conservation attention.

My focal species is classified as Data Deficient (DD) on the IUCN Red List and so doesn't have an EDGE score. Can I still apply?

Not at the moment. Your project must focus on a species that is on the list of eligible species.

My species is not listed as a Photo Ark species on the list, am I not eligible?

You are still eligible. All species on the list are eligible for the EDGE Fellowships. We have a number of Nat Geo Photo Ark EDGE Fellowships available (must focus on a Photo Ark species) but we also have a number of EDGE Fellowships, which are open to all species on the list.

Who are the EDGE Fellowships targeted at?

Fellowships are targeted at early-career (less than 10 years' experience) conservation biologists. No formal qualifications are required but preference is given to candidates with an undergraduate degree in a relevant subject or equivalent experience.

I don't need any training but I'm looking for funds to support my project which focuses on an EDGE species. Can I still apply?

No. The EDGE Fellowship programme is a lot more than just a source of funding; the Fellowship is designed to build capacity for successful conservation in locations and communities where additional training and expertise are needed. Successful applicants will demonstrate a clear need for all elements of the EDGE Fellowship programme.

Do I need to be enrolled at a University to apply?

No. We support individuals not enrolled at University. Most Fellows are employed by conservation NGO's, Universities or government departments.

I'm in the middle of a PhD (or about to start one). Can I still apply?

Yes, but you must demonstrate that your EDGE Fellowship project is a discrete part of your PhD and that it has distinct objectives and outputs.

How involved do I need to be in the project?

We expect the applicant (i.e. the potential EDGE Fellow) to lead project development and the application process. The application **must not** be written by someone else. If the application is successful, we train and support EDGE Fellows to develop their project plan, collect and analyse data and submit regular reports on their work. We expect the Fellows to lead on all of these activities. Although Fellows can be part of a larger project, the Fellow is required to make a significant contribution to the project throughout the 2-year duration of the EDGE Fellowship.

English isn't my first language. Can I still apply?

Yes, certainly. However you must provide evidence that your English skills meet the minimum requirements (IELTS score 7.0, or TOEFL score 600, or internet based TOEFL score 100, or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English grade C, or equivalent). All training and mentorship will be carried out in English, so your language skills must be sufficient to benefit fully from this support and produce all the required outputs of the Fellowship. If you do not hold a formal qualification, please ask two referees to provide a reference on your English skills.

I'm not from a developing country. Can I still apply?

Applications are strongly favoured from areas where conservation capacity is most needed and where support is most likely to have a large impact. Projects in [middle/high income countries](#) are unlikely to be supported. However, if you feel you can justify your need for training please contact the EDGE team on fellows@edgeofexistence.org **before applying**.

I do not live in the same country as the project I am proposing. Can I still apply?

No. Applicants must be nationals and/or residents of the country in which the proposed focal species occurs. If you live in the country where your project will take place, but are not a national of that country, you must demonstrate that you are able to remain in the country and have a long-term commitment to conservation in that country.

What costs will/won't you cover?

We do not cover salaries but a contribution to stipends/per diems will be considered but it should not form the majority of the budget. Normal costs include equipment, accommodation and travel required for the EDGE Fellowship to be completed. All costs associated with the training courses are covered by EDGE and are not to be included in your project budget.

I cannot make the EDGE Conservation Tools training course in January and February 2019. Can I still apply?

No. Successful applicants must attend, and pass, the entire Conservation Tools training course to be eligible for the full EDGE Fellowship. There is no flexibility with this.

When is the application deadline?

17:00 (GMT), 18th June 2019

I cannot submit all aspects of my application by the deadline. Can I still apply?

No. Applications that are incomplete after the deadline has passed will not be considered. If there are circumstances out of your control, please contact the EDGE team.

When will I know the outcome of my application?

We aim to inform all applicants of the outcome by October 2019.

I've still got questions. Who can I contact?

The EDGE team at fellows@edgeofexistence.org.