

## EDGE Fellowship 2024 FAQs

**How can I check if my focal species is on the curated species for the EDGE Fellowship programme?**  
[Click here for the curated species list.](#)

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

No. Your project must focus on a species on the curated species list.

**I am working on a species from a taxonomic group not included in the curated species list. Can I still apply?**

Not at the moment. Your project must focus on a species on the curated species list.

**My focal species is eligible, but it already receives a lot of attention from conservation organisations. 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 also doesn't have an EDGE score. Can I still apply?**

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

**Whom are the EDGE Fellowships targeted at?**

Fellowships target early-career (less than ten years paid experience) conservationists. 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 on an EDGE species. Can I still apply?**

No. The EDGE Fellowship programme is more than just a source of funding. The Fellowship is designed to strengthen the capacity for conservation in locations and communities where additional training, expertise and support 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 conservationists in a variety of sectors. Most EDGE Fellows have positions in a conservation NGO, a university or a government department.

**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 has distinct objectives and outputs.

**How involved do I need to be in the project?**

We expect applicants to lead the application process, project development, and implementation. 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, submit regular reports on their work, and manage their budgets. We expect EDGE Fellows to lead all of these activities but recognise that they will likely be part of a team of people who implement the work.

**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, either with a certification (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) **OR** by providing two references who can comment on your English ability. 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.

**I'm not from a low- or middle-income 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 all countries outside of G7 Nations, the EU, New Zealand, Australia, and South Korea will be considered. However, if you are from one of these countries and feel you can justify your need for training, please get in touch with the EDGE team at [fellows@edgeofexistence.org](mailto:fellows@edgeofexistence.org) **before applying**.

**I do not live in the same country as the proposed project. Can I still apply?**

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

**What costs will or won't you cover?**

EDGE Fellows receive a grant of £10,000. The grant covers the costs of equipment, accommodation and travel required to complete the EDGE Fellowship. EDGE Fellows also have the option of using up to £100 per month for the 24-month project period (totalling £2,400) as a salary, but this will need to be budgeted within the £10,000 total and agreed upon by the EDGE Regional Project Manager. The grant cannot be used towards the core running costs of an organisation, administrative overheads, or tuition fees. EDGE covers all costs associated with the training courses, and these are not to be included in your project budget.

**I cannot attend the EDGE Conservation Tools training course in January and February 2024. Can I still apply?**

No. Successful applicants must complete 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?**

23:59 (BST), 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**I can only submit some 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 get in touch with the EDGE team.

**When will I know the outcome of my application?**

We aim to inform all applicants of the outcome by October 2023.

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

The EDGE team at [fellows@edgeofexistence.org](mailto:fellows@edgeofexistence.org).