



Royal
Geographical
Society
with IBG

Fi Wi Road (Our Road): Freeing up Futures for Black British Geographers Internship 2024

The Fi Wi Road Internship returns for the fourth year with another exciting opportunity for Black and mixed-Black heritage geography students. Funded by the Royal Geographical Society and The British Society for Geomorphology, with additional support in 2024 from the University of Glasgow School of Geographical and Earth Sciences, we will be supporting undergraduate students in paid part-time internships, from June to September 2024.

Through group sessions, one-to-one mentoring, skills workshops, and hands-on conference administration, the 'Fi Wi Road' project will support you in building networks, voice and experience within a discipline in which Black geographers are consistently under-represented, and often brutally marginalised and squeezed out.

This opportunity is open to Black or mixed Black heritage students who are currently enrolled in a UK university and eligible to work in the UK. Strong preference will be given to Black pre-career researchers enrolled on undergraduate degrees in Geography departments. We welcome applications from Human and Physical Geography, and the Geosciences.

Job description

This scheme will run part-time from June to September 2024, and interns will be working alongside [Fi Wi Road CIC](#), the [Royal Geographical Society](#) (RGS), and the [British Society for Geomorphology](#) (BSG).

Throughout the internship you will be expected to aid in coordinating and facilitating EITHER the annual RGS Conference OR the BSG Conference. Applicants should therefore ensure that they are available across the dates outlined in the 'Essential' section below.

Your responsibilities will include:

- Participation in conference planning meetings
- Administrative support for conference sessions
- In-person support on the day
- The opportunity to present to staff and delegates

The internship will culminate in a conference a topic of your own choosing centred around the theme of Black Geographies. With support from the Fi Wi Road team and your fellow cohort, you will plan and coordinate a one-day fair conference by and for Black researchers, academics, and students.

What you will receive:

- Experience co-administering an academic conference
- Opportunities to present your ideas and experiences at conferences and online
- Mentoring from a fellow Black academic
- Support from a cohort of other PCR Black researchers
- Experience designing, organising, and delivering a conference
- Hourly pay with expenses

Interns will be compensated at £15/hr, and employed for approximately 80 hours across the 4-month period. This is a remote working position, with in-person mandatory events in London, Loughborough, and Glasgow. Details are yet to be confirmed, but this year's fair is likely to take place at University of Glasgow, on Monday 16th September.

Where travel is necessary all costs for travel and accommodation will be covered.



Person Specification

Essential:

- This scheme is open to Black and mixed Black heritage students
- Enrolled at a UK university and legally able to work in the UK – international students registered at a UK university are welcome to apply, but all applicants must take responsibility for ensuring that they do not contravene any study or visa requirements.
- Applicants should have access to a laptop/computer/tablet device, and a suitable internet connection. If you have any concerns about digital access, please email cynthia@fiwiroad.co.uk
- **Available during for the RGS Conference (29th August – 1st September) , Fi Wi Road Fair (16th September), and BSG Conference (2nd September – 5th September)**

Desirable:

- A strong preference will be given to current Geography and Geoscience undergraduates
- We aim to achieve a balance within the cohort between physical and human geographers
- Highly organised, and able to prioritise a varied workload
- Flexible, with a desire to work as part of a team
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Good written and presentation skills
- A commitment to making collections, subjects and sites relevant and more accessible to a wide variety of audiences, especially under-represented audiences

Application process

Stage 1

To apply for a position on this internship you will need to submit the following for consideration:

- Your most recent academic transcript
- A 1,000 word academic writing sample. The work submitted should cover an area of your interest, it does not need to be purpose written and can be an extract from a previously submitted piece of work.
- A written statement of motivation (max. 500 words), more details about this can be found below.

Deadline: 29th April 2024

Stage 2

If successful in the first stage, you will be asked to submit a short video (max. 5 minutes), more details about this can be found below.

Deadline: 13th May 2024

Successful applicants

All applicants will be asked to provide the details for a reference. Your referee should have an understanding of your ability to remain organised, prioritise effectively, and work as part of a team. Referees will only be contacted if the applicant has been successful.

All successful applicants will have been informed by 20th May 2024.

Written prompt

Please provide a written statement about your motivations for applying to this position. This statement should be in prose, not bullet points. Max. 500 words.

Your written piece should aim to cover the following points:

- What do you hope to learn from this opportunity?
- How do you envisage building on the skills and experience you would gain from this internship in the future?
- Referencing your own (established or developing) area of research interest, what contributions would you like to make to Geography/Geosciences?
- Successful applicants will join a cohort of 5 Black Geography PCR interns. How will you personally contribute to supporting this collective?

Video Questions

Max. 5 minutes. Anyone unable to produce video recordings for any accessibility reasons will be offered an alternative on an individual basis.

- Who are you and why are you applying for an internship?
- Discuss a piece of research that you have contributed to in the past that you were passionate about. How would you like to build on this?
- What does 'freeing up Black futures in Geography' mean to you? How can we begin to achieve this? What challenges do we face?

For queries, contact cynthia@fiwiroad.co.uk