



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil



**Science, Technology, Research & Innovation for the
Environment (STRIVE) Programme 2007 – 2013**

**Terms and Conditions
for support of Grant Awards of
STRIVE Masters Scholarships**

The STRIVE Programme is funded by the Irish Government
under the National Development Plan 2007-2013

This document sets out the Terms and Conditions for support of Grant Awards of Science, Technology, Research & Innovation for the Environment (STRIVE) Masters Scholarships.

Applicants should read the following carefully and also consult the other documentation provided (e.g. *Guide for Grantees, Technical Description*).

All documentation referred to in the following is available from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) website (www.epa.ie).

Terms and Conditions for support of Grant Awards of STRIVE Masters Scholarships

- 1.** Funding is provided by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the Grantee. The term 'Grantee' is defined as the third level institute which will host the student. Where the EPA commences funding a project, it undertakes to continue to provide funding in accordance with the proposed schedule of funding set out in the Memorandum of Agreement, subject to the following exceptions:
 - If the EPA is dissatisfied with the performance of the student, it may at its absolute discretion decline to continue funding the project;
 - If the money which the EPA receives from the State to enable it to provide funding to projects (including this project) is discontinued or reduced, the EPA may cease funding the project; and in particular, if it is so reduced, the EPA may elect not to continue funding this project, even if it continues to fund other projects.
- 2.** The Grantee must notify and agree with the EPA any significant changes that occur with respect to the research project (e.g. budget reallocations, etc.).
- 3.** Should the Masters scholarship be terminated under any circumstances, all unspent monies at the date of the termination must be reimbursed to the EPA. A Final Cost Statement must be submitted to the EPA.
- 4.** The STRIVE Programme shall be the sole source of funding for the project.
- 5.** The Grantee must ensure that adequate facilities are available for the research proposed. Overheads will not be funded by the EPA as part of the Masters scholarship awards.
- 6.** Scholarships should begin within the same calendar year as the award.
- 7.** The student should be engaged on the scholarship on a full-time basis, though it will be acceptable for the student to undertake demonstration work which is relevant to the research areas and which does not exceed six hours a week. Students may take annual leave on terms laid down by the Grantee.
- 8.** The Grantee is required to provide the EPA with an annual Technical Progress Report as well as an annual Cost Statement by the 1st October of each year using the templates available from the STRIVE Section.
- 9.** Payments will be made annually by the STRIVE programme to the Grantee following the certification of financial and technical progress reports referred to above.
- 10.** STRIVE Masters Scholarship Seminars may be organised by the EPA. Participation/Attendance by the student is required at these seminars.
- 11.** The student is expected to publish the results of their research in appropriate peer reviewed journals. Electronic copies of publications should be provided to the EPA.

- 12.**The EPA and Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) support should be acknowledged in the publication of any results and reference should be made to funding provided by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013. Details of the correct use of logos etc. are available from the EPA on request. Reference must be made to the support given to the project from the STRIVE programme in any publications arising from the project.
- 13.**The Grantee is expected to provide high quality academic supervision for the duration of the scholarship.
- 14.**Authorisation for any deviation to the agreed work programme or the terms and conditions must be sought from the EPA in writing.
- 15.**On completion of the scholarship (i.e. award of the Masters degree), a hard-bound copy of the thesis as well as an electronic copy of the abstract should be sent to the EPA. All significant datasets produced during the research project must be submitted to the EPA at the end of the project for archiving by the EPA Environmental Research Centre (ERC).
- 16.**The Final Cost Statement for the project and the End of Project Questionnaire must be submitted within 3 months of the agreed project completion date. Grantees who do not comply with these requirements will be deemed ineligible to apply for future STRIVE research grants.

For more detailed information on reporting requirement, project management and submission of final reports, datasets and end-of-project questionnaires please refer to the *Guide for Grantees*.