

Livestock Emissions & Abatement Research Network Fellowship Programme

LEARN

In November of 2007, New Zealand established an international research network entitled the 'Livestock Emissions & Abatement Research Network' (LEARN). LEARN is an international research network focused upon improving the understanding of greenhouse gas emissions from livestock agriculture.

The objectives of the network are to improve quantification of non-CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions from animal agriculture at all scales and facilitate development of cost effective and practical greenhouse gas mitigation solutions.

The Network focuses on information sharing, facilitation of discussion and face to face contact with researchers around the world. The Network encourages mutually beneficial partnerships and active collaborations, rather than occasional exchanges of ideas.

LEARN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMME

The LEARN Fellowship Programme will help facilitate the development of the wider LEARN network of researchers. The LEARN Fellowship Programme provides the opportunity for individuals to work alongside some of the world's best researchers and develop links with the intention that they will keep these throughout their careers. Successful candidates will take up a position of short-term employment within a New Zealand organisation.

The New Zealand Government offers up to nine (9) LEARN Fellowship Programme Awards per annum for scientists or technicians from developing countries to work in New Zealand in the area of Livestock Emissions research.

The LEARN Fellowship Programme has two awards available:

LEARN Work Trainee Awards

Tenure: Up to six months

Academic Requirements: Completion of a post-graduate qualification. Preference will be given to those applicants who are currently enrolled in a PhD in their home country.

LEARN Work Trainee Awards are available to gain work experience in New Zealand relevant to PhD field of study. It is envisaged that candidates will be able to contribute their work experience to their PhD research. All successful LEARN Work Trainee candidates are strongly encouraged to return to their home country upon completion of the award.

LEARN Post-Doctoral Fellowships

Tenure: Up to 12 months

Academic Requirements: Completion of a PhD within previous five years (preferably) of application submission.

Preference will be given to those applicants that are currently employed by, or sponsored by, a Research Institute or Government organisation in their home country. Candidates who successfully gain a LEARN Post-Doctoral Fellowship are expected to return to their home country upon completion of the Fellowship.

RESEARCH AREAS

The LEARN Fellowship Programme awards are available for individuals wanting to work with New Zealand researchers within the following areas:

- Methane emissions from livestock.
- Nitrous oxide emissions from livestock.
- Soil carbon.
- Integrated whole farming system impacts on greenhouse gases at all scales.
- National agriculture inventory development.

ELIGIBILITY

Candidates MUST:

- Be a registered member of the LEARN network.
- Not hold citizenship or permanent residency in New Zealand or Australia.
- Not be citizens of Fiji (until further notice).
- Satisfy New Zealand Government requirements for international entry into New Zealand.
- Have a postgraduate qualification to apply for a *LEARN Work Trainee Award*.
- Have completed a PhD qualification within the last five years to apply for a *LEARN Post-Doctoral Fellowship*.

Furthermore, preference will be given to candidates who are:

- Employed or undertaking doctoral study in their home country.
- Resident in their country of citizenship for at least two years prior to application.
- From a developing country as defined by the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD (DAC) list of Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) recipients. The list is available online via <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/32/40/43540882.pdf>. This is in order to facilitate in-country capacity building. However, all applications shall be considered by the Advisory Panel upon their merits.

FUNDING

	LEARN Work Trainee Award	LEARN Post-Doctoral Fellowship
Stipend	\$15,000 (pro-rata)	\$65,000 (pro-rata)
Training & Development	\$1,500	\$3,000
Relocation Allowance	Up to \$3,000	Up to \$3,000
Tenure	Up to 6 months	Up to 12 months

Please note: All values quoted in New Zealand dollars

SELECTION PROCESS

An advisory board appointed by the Programme Administrator will consider applications. Selection shall be based upon a number of criteria with preference given to applications from high achieving candidates (supported by academic transcripts, letters of recommendation and publishing record) from developing countries.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS & HOST ORGANISATIONS

The New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre (NZAGRC), hosted by AgResearch Limited, administers the LEARN Fellowship Programme on behalf of the New Zealand Government via the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The LEARN Fellowship Programme Awards are tenable at New Zealand education or training providers, government departments, Crown Research Institutes and or relevant business enterprises.

New Zealand host organisations/service providers set individual objectives for successful candidates in accordance with their standard organisation job description, setting out expectations and other employment related matters. The objectives will reflect the training needs of the individual and critical aspects of the research that the candidate would undertake. The objectives will be used to assess the progress of the individual throughout the award tenure.

Universities and research institutes involved in the scheme are expected to cover overheads for the successful candidate.

The following terms and conditions apply to all Fellowship holders:

- Candidates must complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) and submit the EOI to the NZAGRC. A full application should not be completed unless the Candidate is invited to complete an application.
- Full application forms are to be completed in close consultation with New Zealand research organisations and submitted to the NZAGRC by the NZ Host Organisation (not by the applicant).
- Candidates may not simultaneously hold other fellowships or scholarships also funded by the New Zealand government. This includes, but is not limited to New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarships, Commonwealth and NZAID Scholarships.
- Candidates who hold New Zealand citizenship or permanent residency may not apply under any circumstances. Should a Fellowship recipient apply for permanent residency or citizenship during the tenure of their fellowship it will be withdrawn.
- A fellowship shall lapse in the event that a person to whom an award offer has been made fails to arrive in New Zealand within twelve months of the award being granted.
- Fellowship holders are responsible for securing an appropriate entry visa to New Zealand and for any fees associated with the visa, including a medical examination. The offer of a fellowship does not guarantee that such a visa will be granted.
- Transfer of funds from MAF to host organisations will take place once the candidate has accepted the award and confirmation has been received of their arrival in New Zealand.
- All successful candidates will be expected to have sufficient funds at their disposal to last for their first month in New Zealand.
- Fellowship recipients must follow the rules and regulations of their host organisation.
- Fellowship recipients shall comply with the Terms and Conditions of the award in place for the year in which they were granted the award.
- Fellowship recipients are expected to provide updates twice yearly on their research to NZAGRC in a form suitable for publication on the LEARN website. These updates should take the form of a short paper (4 pages) and a short presentation.

- Host Organisations/Service Providers will be required to provide mid-term and end of term reports to the NZAGRC for each recipient under their supervision.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information or clarification about the LEARN Fellowships Programme visit the LEARN website: www.livestockemissions.net or contact the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre.

Information on the LEARN Fellowship Programme can be obtained from New Zealand High Commissions and Embassies worldwide.

Information on the LEARN Fellowship Programme is also listed within the following websites:

NZAGRC Website: www.nzagrc.org.nz
PGGRC website: www.pggrc.co.nz
Education NZ Website: www.newzealandeducated.com/scholarships
MAF website: www.maf.govt.nz
NZ Aid website: www.nzaid.govt.nz

CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATORS

New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre
Attention: Centre Administrator
Grasslands Research Centre, Tennent Drive
Private Bag 11008
Palmerston North 4474
New Zealand
Email: enquiry@nzagrc.org.nz

HOW TO APPLY

STEP 1: Expression of Interest

Candidates must complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) form and, if selected to proceed, the remainder of the application process will be facilitated by the NZAGRC and the proposed New Zealand host organisation.

1. **READ** this Terms & Conditions document thoroughly.
2. **CHECK** eligibility.
3. **DOWNLOAD** the Expression of Interest form from www.livestockemissions.net Printed copies of the EOI form are available from the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre.
4. **COMPLETE** the Expression of Interest form in English.
5. **SUBMIT** the Expression of Interest form to the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre.

STEP 2: Application

The LEARN Fellowship Programme Awards are tenable at New Zealand education or training providers, government departments, Crown Research Institutes and or relevant business enterprises.

1. **SUCCESSFUL EOI:** NZAGRC advises candidate of potential New Zealand host organisations.
2. **CONTACT** New Zealand host organisations.
3. **COMPLETE** the Application form in English with assistance for New Zealand host organisation.
4. **SIGN** and date the declaration.
5. **ATTACH** supporting documentation as indicated on Application form.
6. **SUBMIT** Application form to the New Zealand host organisation.

NOTE: Applications must NOT be submitted to NZAGRC by the applicant.

STEP 3: ASSESSMENT

The full application must be submitted for assessment by the New Zealand organisation who will host the candidate for the award tenure.

1. New Zealand Host organisation will **SUBMIT** full application to NZAGRC Centre Administrator.
2. The LEARN Fellowship Programme Advisory Board will **CONSIDER** the full application.
3. The New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre will **ADVISE** the New Zealand host organisation of the outcome of the Application. The New Zealand host organisation will contact the applicant.