



BESF

BARBADOS ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY FUND

STUDENT TUITION & RESEARCH GRANT SPECIMEN





Disclaimer

This BESF Specimen for Tuition and Research Grants is for demonstration purposes only. The content should be used solely as a guide for submitting applications to the BESF Call for Proposals. Personal identifiers in this specimen are used fictitiously. This document should not be altered or distributed without the prior written consent of the BESF.

Applicants should follow the instructions outlined in the Call for Proposals specifications document when submitting applications.

Last updated: **September 2024**

Contents

Tuition Grant Application Specimen	1
Research Grant Application Specimen	4

Tuition Grant Application Specimen

Student Application

— Tuition and Research Grants

Jane Doe

Email: J.Doe@@cavehill.com

Application ID: A6DJ71XX

Custom Ref.:

Application Start Date: 2024-08-28 20:14:47

Application Completed Date: 2024-08-29 16:49:57

Eligibility screening

- 1 Are you a Barbadian student enrolled in a local, post-secondary academic institution, applying for a tuition grant or research grant of up to \$10,000 BBD? To be eligible, you must:
- Be enrolled in an academic programme that is relevant to one or more of the BESF strategic thematic areas.
 - Have completed the first year of your programme.
 - Be able to provide a letter of endorsement from the institution's Principal/Dean/Programme Coordinator, or a research proposal signed by the Academic Advisor.
 - Be able to provide a copy of your most recent academic transcript.
 - Be able to provide a copy the institution's tuition fee quotation for the intended academic period (for tuition grant requests, only).

Tip: You must answer "yes" and provide evidence of these requirements to be eligible.

yes

Section 1: Applicant Information

- 2 Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)
12/21/2004
- 3 Gender
Woman
- 4 Nationality
Barbadian
- 5 Address
Long Pond, St. John
- 6 Phone Number
246-555-5555
- 7 Personal Statement:
(Express who you are, why you chose to apply for a BESF grant, and why you are the best candidate to receive the grant)

I am a second-year student at the University of the West Indies pursuing a BSc. in Environmental Science (Major). From a very young age I have had a great appreciation and love for the natural world, be it the rugged landscape of my home parish, St. John, or the calmer waters and sandy beaches of the west coast. With that said, I have personally seen the environmental challenges that Barbados faces, including coastal erosion, diminishing marine species, and water scarcity. These experiences have intensified my passion to contribute to sustainable solutions that safeguard our ecosystems and bolster our communities.

As an ardent environmental advocate and aspiring environmental scientist, I was elected president of my secondary school's Environmental Club and have been involved in over 20 beach clean-up events. Already through my studies I have gained a deeper understanding of conservation and sustainability techniques, which have been employed at my internship (Summer 2022 and 2023) at a local non-governmental organisation where I supported awareness raising activities and promoted the use of rainwater harvesting (RWH) systems at both the household level and at small farm holdings.

I am applying for the BESF tuition grant to support my higher education path in the environmental field. Obtaining this grant will significantly aid my academic progress, enabling me to concentrate on my studies. I view higher education as a steppingstone to becoming a well-rounded and informed professional who can guide my country into a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future. With this assistance, I am certain that I will excel in my studies and, eventually, play a crucial part in protecting our island's natural legacy for future generations.

Section 2: Applicant's Academic Information

8 Academic information

Academic institution (full official name)	University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus
Address of academic institution	St. Michael, Barbados
Current Degree/Programme	Environmental Science (Major)
Year enrolled	2022
Year expected to graduate	2026
Latest grade point average (GPA)	3.25
Head of Department, Dean, or Academic/Research Advisor Name	Dr. Cassiopeia Smith, Research Advisor
Academic/Research Advisor Title/Position	Senior Lecturer
Academic/Research Advisor Phone Number	246-555-5556
Academic/Research Advisor Email	C.Smith@cavehill.com

9 Which are you are applying for:

Tuition grant

Section 3A: Tuition Grant

9.1	Grant amount requested (in BBD): <i>(Awards are restricted to tuition and mandatory fees)</i>
	6988
9.2	Academic Year(s) that the grant would be applied to:
	AY 2024/2025 and AY2025/2026
9.3	How will the grant support environmental conservation and sustainability in Barbados?
	By awarding me with the tuition grant, the BESF would be helping to foster a new environmental professional who is dedicated to environmental conservation and sustainable development in Barbados; particularly in the area of water resources management which is a key concern for the island.

Section 4: Supporting Documentation

10	Upload the following supporting documentation (where applicable), along with other documents/files to support your application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copy of applicant’s National ID • Applicant’s Letter of Endorsement from current Academic Institution • Full research proposal, signed by the Research Advisor) (for research grant requests, only) • Applicant’s Academic transcript • Institution tuition fee quotation (for tuition grant requests, only) • Other (include appropriate file description)
----	--



JD National ID.pdf



Letter of
Endorsement - JD.pdf



JD Academic
Transcript-2023.pdf



Tuition Costs -
university.pdf

11	How did you learn about the BESF Call for Proposals? <i>Select all that apply.</i>
	Social Media

Tip: If you encounter any challenges submitting your application using the online Grant Management Platform, please email your queries to technicalofficer@besf.bb copied to info@besf.bb.

Research Grant Application Specimen

Student Application

— Tuition and Research Grants

Jane Doe

Email: J.Doe@@cavehill.com

Application ID: A6DJ71XX

Custom Ref.:

Application Start Date: 2024-08-28 20:14:47

Application Completed Date: 2024-08-29 16:49:57

Eligibility screening

- 1 Are you a Barbadian student enrolled in a local, post-secondary academic institution, applying for a tuition grant or research grant of up to \$10,000 BBD? To be eligible, you must:
- Be enrolled in an academic programme that is relevant to one or more of the BESF strategic thematic areas.
 - Have completed the first year of your programme.
 - Be able to provide a letter of endorsement from the institution's Principal/Dean/Programme Coordinator, or a research proposal signed by the Academic Advisor.
 - Be able to provide a copy of your most recent academic transcript.
 - Be able to provide a copy the institution's tuition fee quotation for the intended academic period (for tuition grant requests, only).

Tip: You must answer "yes" and provide evidence of these requirements to be eligible.

yes

Section 1: Applicant Information

2 Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

12/21/2004

3 Gender

Woman

4 Nationality

Barbadian

5 Address

Long Pond, St. John

6 Phone Number

246-555-5555

7 Personal Statement:

(Express who you are, why you chose to apply for a BESF grant, and why you are the best candidate to receive the grant)

I am a second-year student at the University of the West Indies pursuing a BSc. in Environmental Science (Major). From a very young age I have had a great appreciation

and love for the natural world, be it the rugged landscape of my home parish, St. John, or the calmer waters and sandy beaches of the west coast. With that said, I have personally seen the environmental challenges that Barbados faces, including coastal erosion, diminishing marine species, and water scarcity. These experiences have intensified my passion to contribute to sustainable solutions that safeguard our ecosystems and bolster our communities.

As an ardent environmental advocate and aspiring environmental scientist, I was elected president of my secondary school’s Environmental Club and have been involved in over 20 beach clean-up events. Already through my studies I have gained a deeper understanding of conservation and sustainability techniques, which have been employed at my internship (Summer 2022 and 2023) at a local non-governmental organisation where I supported awareness raising activities and promoted the use of sustainable fishing practices.

I am applying for the BESF tuition grant to support my higher education path in the environmental field. Obtaining this grant will significantly aid my academic progress, enabling me to concentrate on my studies. I view higher education as a steppingstone to becoming a well-rounded and informed professional who can guide my country into a more sustainable and environmentally conscious future. With this assistance, I am certain that I will excel in my studies and, eventually, play a crucial part in protecting our island's natural legacy for future generations.

Section 2: Applicant’s Academic Information

8 Academic information

Academic institution (full official name)	University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus
Address of academic institution	St. Michael, Barbados
Current Degree/Programme	Environmental Science (Major)
Year enrolled	2022
Year expected to graduate	2026
Latest grade point average (GPA)	3.25
Head of Department, Dean, or Academic/Research Advisor Name	Dr. Cassiopeia Smith, Research Advisor
Academic/Research Advisor Title/Position	Senior Lecturer
Academic/Research Advisor Phone Number	246-555-5556
Academic/Research Advisor Email	C.Smith@cavehill.com

9 Which are you are applying for:

Research Grant

9.1 Research Title:

The Effects of Mariculture on the Marine Environment in Oistins, Barbados

9.2 Geographical Scope / Location:
(indicate the geographic location and if it involves a Protected Area or another Conservation Division)

Oistins, Christ Church, is the study site of this project.

Oistins Bay offers relatively calm waters and a sheltered environment, making it ideal for fish farming and the cultivation of shellfish. The area's proximity to fishing communities and existing infrastructure also supports the operational and logistical needs of mariculture. Additionally, the southern coast's water quality and temperature conditions are favourable for fish-farming.

9.3 Indicate which of the BESF's thematic areas will be supported by the project:
(select all that apply)

Biodiversity conservation and management

Renewable and non-renewable natural resource management, including fisheries

Ocean and coastal research

Green and blue economy initiatives

9.4 Indicate which of the cross-cutting themes will be supported by the project:
(select all that apply)

Research

Knowledge management

9.5 Summary of Research Proposal:
(Describe the research project rationale, objectives, expected outcomes, and approach)

This research project explores the potential ecological impacts of mariculture on Barbados' nearshore marine environment. The Oistins bay area, a significant area for local fisheries and tourism, will be used as the study site. Wu (1995) noted that while marine fish-farming can contribute to sustainable development and food security, if not properly managed (e.g. improper site selection, inadequate control of stock density, substandard feed formulation, and poor husbandry practices), it can result in high pollution loadings. Indeed, poorly planned mariculture can lead to a reduction in benthic diversity.

With growing interest in mariculture as a sustainable means to enhance food security and economic development, it is crucial to understand the potential impacts of these activities on the marine environment. This research will add to the body of knowledge on mariculture in a small island context and ensures that any expansion into mariculture practices locally is informed by science.

To undertake this research, the project team will collaborate with Dee's Fish Farm, a small-scale mariculture company operating in Oistins Bay for the past five (5) years, to serve as the study site.

The goal of the study is to assess the impacts of a small-scale mariculture system on water quality and benthic biodiversity in the Oistins bay area.

Specific project objectives include:

1. To compare baseline and current conditions of water quality in a 1 km radius from Dee's Fish Farm.
2. To compare baseline and current benthic biodiversity in a 1 km radius from Dee's Fish Farm.
3. To recommend best practices for mariculture systems in a small island state.

Tip:

Your objectives are more detailed statements describing how the project goal will be achieved. Objectives should be S.M.A.R.T, and include action verbs (e.g. Compare, Increase, Demonstrate, Conduct). While you can include more or less, it is recommended to limit the number of objectives to between 3-5. They should be logically ordered.

The study should result in improved knowledge of the potential impacts of mariculture on Barbados' marine environment.

Water quality and biodiversity data provided by the Coastal Zone Management Unit will be used as the baseline. Water quality test and benthic surveys will be undertaken by the project team to gather current data. Water quality testing will be performed at the university's science department laboratory. A literature review will be undertaken to determine mariculture best-practices. Results from this desk review will be used to evaluate operational practices employed by Dee's Fish Farm. A research paper and a best practice guideline for mariculture in Barbados will be produced and published.

9.6 Project Impact:

(Explain the scientific and societal significance of the project, particularly as it relates to supporting Barbados' environmental conservation and sustainability strategies and goals)

The research project has substantial scientific and social significance, as it directly contributes to Barbados' efforts in environmental conservation and sustainability measures. It offers valuable scientific insights into the environmental effects of mariculture, namely its influence on water quality and marine biodiversity, and ecosystem health in a socially and economically significant coastal region. The study also provides evidence-based recommendations for sustainable mariculture practices.

In addition, this research can support some of the targets of Barbados' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP, 2020), specifically:

- by 2030, the Government of Barbados, businesses and stakeholders at all levels will have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits;
- by 2030, areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity; and
- by 2030, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

9.7 Describe the Student's and Research Supervisor's roles in the proposed project:

The student will lead on the literature review, operational assessment, in-water data collection, and preparation of the research paper and mariculture best practice guide.

The Research supervisor will provide technical support in the previously listed activities; but will provide greater oversight with the water quality testing and publications.

9.8 Project Duration (in months):

18

9.9 Implementation Schedule:

(Download, complete, and upload the attached Word file with the project implementation schedule. The upload must be a .doc(x) file. Provide file with an appropriate name.)



JD-Implementation
Schedule.docx

9.10 Describe how you will adhere to the academic institution's policies and procedures related to research ethics and plagiarism:

The Academic Integrity resources provided by the University will be reviewed in full and adhered to. The Research Advisor will also review all research produced and check against plagiarism.

9.11 Will Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval be required for this research?

(e.g. if human subjects are the source of data and/or the focus of the research)

no

9.12 Will the research lead to publications and/or other knowledge products?

(e.g. technical papers, guidance materials, case studies, journal articles, policy briefs, conference proceedings)

yes

9.13 What is the total amount being requested from the BESF?

(in BBD)

5128

Section 3C: Indicative Budget

9.14 Complete the below budget, adding budget items to the appropriate budget categories. If you have access to cofinancing, the amount and source should be indicated.

Budget Category	Budget Item	Total (in BBD)	Details and comments
Equipment	Water quality testing kit	2500	
Supplies	Snorkeling/Diving Gear	598	
	Tank rental (5 trips)	780	

Travel	Boat rentals (5 trips)	1250	
Other			
Total		5128	
Cofinancing	Project oversight (Research Advisor LOE)	12000	
Cofinancing sources	University		

Section 3D: Compliance and Risks Register

- 9.15 Environmental and Social Compliance:
Access the BESF Environmental and Social Policy and Exclusion List [here](#).

Do you confirm that you have read in detail and will comply with the BESF Environmental and Social Policy and Exclusion List	yes
Based on the nine environmental and social safeguards outlined in the BESF Environmental and Social Policy and Exclusion List, would the proposed project be classified as Category A (High Risk)?	no

- 9.16 Risk Register:
(Complete the below matrix by identifying and listing potential risks that could impact project implementation and/or lead to the non-achievement of expected results. Risks can include both internal factors (e.g. technological risks, operational risks) and external factors (e.g. weather-related risks, supplier-related risks). Risks should be classified as either Low, Medium, or High. Risk responses must be provided to address Medium and High potential risks. Provide a comprehensive list of between 1 to 10 potential risks.)

Description of Risk and Potential Project Impact (brief explanation of the risk and its impacts)	Risk Level (Low/Medium/High)	Risk Responses/Mitigation Measures (brief explanation of how the implementing recipient will mitigate the effects on the project)
Dee's Fish Farm no longer wishes to participate in the study	Medium	The management has indicated a keen interest in this assessment. A letter of commitment will also be obtained, which outlines the specifics of the research project.

Sea conditions not conducive for water testing or benthic surveys	Medium	Schedule fieldwork outside of months likely to have rough sea conditions
Unavailability of water quality test kit	Low	
Cost overrun	Low	Obtain at least three quotes for procurements and, where viable, select the most cost-effective option.

Section 3E: Innovation, Sustainability, and/or Replicability

9.17

Describe how the project (e.g. the approach, outcomes, and/or outputs) is original or innovative, how the impacts of the project can be sustained after closure, and the feasibility of replicating or scaling up the project. If the project cannot demonstrate any of these features (i.e. innovation, sustainability, or replicability), please explain why not:

There is a paucity of literature on mariculture in Barbados and therefore this research will add to that body of knowledge. As the focus of this research is a small-scale mariculture system, the methodologies employed can be scaled-up for larger systems.

Section 3F: Experience

9.18

Provide a summarised description of the Research Supervisor's and/or Student's experience implementing grant-funded projects. On the next page, you can submit documents or add links that support your explanation:

The Research Supervisor has successfully implemented two (2) grant funded research projects, both valued at over \$50,000 BBD.

Section 4: Supporting Documentation

10

Upload the following supporting documentation (where applicable), along with other documents/files to support your application:

- Copy of applicant's National ID
- Applicant's Letter of Endorsement from current Academic Institution
- Full research proposal, signed by the Research Advisor) (for research grant requests, only)
- Applicant's Academic transcript
- Institution tuition fee quotation (for tuition grant requests, only)
- Other (include appropriate file description)



JD National ID.pdf



Letter of
Endorsement - JD.pdf



Full Proposal_Effects



JD Academic
Transcript-2023.pdf

Tip: Your full research proposal should be a detailed document that elaborates on the summary provided at Q9.5, and if available, include a more detailed budget than Q9.14. It must also be approved and signed by the Research Advisor.

11 How did you learn about the BESF Call for Proposals?
Select all that apply.

Social Media

Tip: If you encounter any challenges submitting your application using the online Grant Management Platform, please email your queries to technicalofficer@besf.bb copied to info@besf.bb.

SPECIMEN