



1. INTRODUCTION

The Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI) headquartered at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia is seeking recent Ph.D. graduates for a unique Post-Doctoral appointment in ocean studies focused on the North Atlantic. The term of the award is two years; successful candidates will spend 12 months at Dalhousie and 12 months at one of our Partner Institutions in Europe or the United States. Applications will be received until 31 January, 2018.

OFI Research Vision

The OFI brings together researchers and institutes from both sides of the North Atlantic to understand our changing ocean and create safe, sustainable solutions for development. OFI research will improve prediction and projection of the atmosphere and ocean, help better manage the ocean's living resources, improve aquaculture's potential to meet global seafood demand, strengthen marine transportation policy and risk reduction, and transform how we monitor the ocean with new data capture and IT tools.

OFI research focuses on the Northwest Atlantic (NWA) and the Canadian Arctic Gateway (CAG). The unique physical, chemical, and biological processes that characterize the NWA and CAG motivate the geographic focus of the OFI Research Program. The deep overturning circulation results in the most intense carbon sequestration on the planet, a highly productive marine ecosystem and air-sea interactions that modulate the weather and climate of both North America and Europe. Access to the environmentally sensitive Canadian Arctic occurs through this region, raising key sovereignty and security issues, which are compounded by increased shipping associated with diminishing ice cover. For these and other reasons, this sentinel area for change in the global ocean requires better observation and understanding of change, whether physical, geochemical, biological, or even human.

OFI currently has two overarching research themes to address our mandate of the safe and sustainable development of the ocean frontier, namely: 1) "Ocean Frontier Changes" addressing the ocean's changing environment, and 2) "Ocean Frontier Solutions" exploring safe and sustainable adaptations and solutions for growing human use. Within these two themes are six areas of research focus:

- 1) Ocean Frontier Changes
 - a. Changes in Atmosphere-Ocean Interactions
 - b. Shifting Ecosystems
- 2) Ocean Frontier Solutions
 - a. Sustainable Fisheries
 - b. Sustainable Aquaculture
 - c. Ocean Data & Technology
 - d. Marine Safety

2. WHAT IS THE PROGRAM

The Ocean Frontier Institute International Postdoctoral Program is a transnational program offering an opportunity to be a part of leading teams of expert researchers on innovative research projects related to OFI's research themes.

Postdoctoral fellowships are for 2-year terms, and applicants are expected to spend half of the award period at Dalhousie and the other half at one of OFI's formal international partner institutions. The program will involve research collaboration among principal investigators. It will enable post-doctoral fellows to spend periods of time at both institutions and enable them to benefit from increased exposure to diverse research approaches.

Candidates have a choice of 8 international partner institutions. Eligible international partners are:

- 1.) Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
- 2.) Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory (Columbia University)
- 3.) GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel
- 4.) Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel
- 5.) Alfred Wegener Institute
- 6.) Norwegian Institute of Marine Research
- 7.) LabexMER, France
- 8.) Marine Institute of Ireland

3. WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Scholars who will have completed all of the requirements of their PhD degree program by the program start date and within the last four years (all courses, thesis, defence, and final submission of thesis copies to the university) are eligible to begin an OFI Postdoctoral Fellowship. Those who have not yet defended their theses are not eligible.

4. FUNDING AND DURATION

Terms

The awards are for two years and are non-renewable. The award provides for CAD\$55,000/year in salary, and up to CAD\$20,000 for benefits (including health), travel and living costs.

Number of Awards

There will be a maximum of 10 fellowships active at any time.

Field

Research areas must align with OFI research themes outlined above.

5. APPOINTMENT PROCESS/APPLICATION SUBMISSION (Deadline: 31 January, 2018)

Step 1 – Identify research supervisors at both institutions

A necessary first step is to contact researchers at both Dalhousie and at an OFI partner institution who will be willing to serve as mentors. The researchers must have demonstrated expertise in the research area and experience to serve as a faculty supervisor or research mentor.

Step 2 – Prepare and submit an application

An application will consist of the following:

1. Proposed research program – maximum of 2 pages, including names and affiliations for each of your proposed supervisors and mentors;
2. Plan and timelines for the award period -maximum of 1 page; should detail dates for proposed time periods at each institution and the major research activities to be performed in each location.
3. Curriculum vitae outlining educational background, publication record, and work experiences
4. A one-page summary of doctoral dissertation and a copy of transcripts from your Ph.D. program.
5. Three Reference Letters submitted directly by the letter writers under separate cover
6. One-page statements from each proposed supervisor detailing their interest in and support of the research project as well as your fit for the research program, submitted under separate cover by the proposed supervisors.
7. Submit your application and supporting documents to ofi@dal.ca

6. SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Excellence of the proposed research program, especially the fit to OFI research program.
2. Excellence of the candidate
3. Excellence of the mentor at the partner institution
4. Excellence of the faculty member at Dalhousie

Once the review committee makes a decision, successful applicants will be notified with necessary next steps. Decisions will be made by 15 March, 2018, and the earliest start date would be the 1st of April, 2018. Please note that Dalhousie University is committed to fostering a collegial culture grounded in diversity and inclusiveness. The university encourages applications from Aboriginal people, persons with a disability, racially visible persons, women, persons of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, and all candidates who would contribute to the diversity of our community.

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information please contact Dr. Marlon Lewis, OFI Scientific Director at ofi@dal.ca.