

# Helmholtz Research School on Earth System Science



Alfred Wegener Institute  
for Polar and Marine Research  
Bremerhaven, Germany

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLYING TO THE EARTH SYSTEM SCIENCE RESEARCH SCHOOL (ESSRES)

**Dear Applicant,**

Thank you for your interest in the Earth System Science Research School Programme.

ESSRES is a joint initiative between the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, the Institute for Environmental Physics at the University of Bremen, and the Jacobs University, Bremen. Admission to ESSRES is coordinated by the Alfred Wegener Institute. The official start of the Research School is 01 June, 2008.

### **What We Are Looking For:**

ESSRES seeks PhD students who have strong records of academic performance as graduate students in one of the fields related to Earth System Science and Biology. An important aspect of ESSRES is to couple observations with numerical models and simulations to better understand past and present environments.

Besides your completion of your disciplinary graduate degree we especially seek for students, who are keen to work at the border between disciplines and face the challenge of a highly interdisciplinary education and scientific career.

### **Your Benefits:**

ESSRES provides an excellent research infrastructure and supportive environment for PhD students. Integration in internationally high-rated research groups will give you a broad experience in research to develop and improve your own skills. Opportunities of participation in expeditions on board research vessels or at research stations are only one of the multifaceted options within ESSRES. A structured research training and supervision within the PhD programme together with a PhD committee guarantees a clearly focussed education and research plan. The broad range of 'transferable skill' courses prepares PhD students for successful careers in academia and industry.

### **What To Do:**

Follow the instructions below, complete the application and submit it, with all required supporting material, before the **deadline on 31 January, 2008**.

We do not accept any hardcopies/paper copies send by ordinary post or fax (excluding the copy of the signed main application form).

You may obtain your application form by going to the admission page on the ESSRES website <http://www.earth-system-science.org>

**When You Will Be Hearing From Us:**

A decision on your application will be made within eight weeks after the deadline by which you have to submit your completed application. Please note that regardless of the outcome of your application we are unable to return any documents you send to us.

**Admission Interview:**

During the admission process the key faculty members in the academic field for which you are applying may contact you for a telephone interview.

**Financial Assistance**

During the PhD studies, ESSRES will provide candidates with a stipend that is limited to maximum 3 years.

If you have questions concerning your application, please contact:

**Earth System Science Research School**

**Email: [info@earth-system-science.org](mailto:info@earth-system-science.org)**

**Phone: + 49 471 4831 1765**

**Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research**

**Bussestraße 24**

**27570 Bremerhaven**

**Germany**

# Application for Admission to ESSRES

An **Application for a PhD position** at ESSRES consists of the following files, which have to be send electronically to [admission@earth-system-science.org](mailto:admission@earth-system-science.org):

## 1) **applic-form\_***familyname*.pdf

- The completed **ESSRES Application Form** including
- an **essay** (*Please write an essay of about 350 words, specifying why you are applying at ESSRES and what are your special interest and expertises in the specified research project. In addition you should also detail what you want to accomplish during the PhD programme and, if possible, what your career plans are.*)

## 2) **certificates\_***familyname*.pdf

- Your **official university transcript(s)** showing the date(s) you received any prior degrees.
- A **certified copy of your Bachelors / Masters /Diploma degree** or equivalent, if you have already completed a degree.

*Copies of your degree / diploma and transcripts should be included with your application. All academic records must be translated into English or German with a seal affixed by the translator stating the translation is a true copy of the academic record.*

- An **English language proficiency certificate/proof** such as the TOEFL or similar, if English is not your first language.

*Students who have received a prior degree from an English-language university are exempt from this requirement. For more information about TOEFL, please visit their website at [www.toefl.org](http://www.toefl.org).*

## 3) **publications\_***familyname*.pdf

- **Examples of scholarly work** (e.g. publications or theses), if available.

A minimum of the thesis abstract and the table of contents should be included

## 4) **to be filled and sent by the reviewers**

- **Two personal recommendations** from professors and/or an employment supervisor.

A prepared recommendation form can be downloaded. Please ensure that these letters contain your full name and address, and the name, title, and address of the referee. The recommendations should be sent by the referee by email to the ESSRES coordinator:

Dr. Klaus Grosfeld ([admission@earth-system-science.org](mailto:admission@earth-system-science.org)).

**Application Closing Date is 31 January, 2008!**