



**IRISH RESEARCH COUNCIL**  
An Chomhairle um Thaighde in Éirinn

**GOVERNMENT OF IRELAND POSTGRADUATE  
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2021**

**MET ÉIREANN POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS**

**THEME INFORMATION**



## 1. BACKGROUND

In partnership with the Irish Research Council, Met Éireann invites applications for Met Éireann Scholarships. A total of five Met Éireann Scholarships will be made to the top ranked Met Éireann applications recommended for funding. While applicants may apply for one scholarship theme only, those who choose to apply for a strategic funding partner scholarship will also be considered for a Government of Ireland Postgraduate Scholarship.

## 2. MET ÉIREANN

Met Éireann is the Irish National Meteorological Service as recognised by the World Meteorological Organisation under an international convention since 1950 and is a division of the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government. Met Éireann is responsible for the collection and production of high-quality meteorological data, the communication of authoritative weather and climate services to protect life and property and the promotion of wider societal and economic wellbeing. Met Éireann conducts research into weather and climate and develops weather and climate services for Irish society and to inform Government policy and decision-making. Met Éireann maintains mission critical 24/7 operational offices, systems and infrastructure needed for successful provision of weather forecasts, severe weather warnings and regulated services to citizens, decision-makers, emergency management and Irish aviation.

### Priorities

- Continue to provide an **effective authoritative voice on meteorology** in Ireland, supported by focused scientific research, underpinned by a strong ongoing commitment to excellent customer service standards and by exploiting the traditional, digital and social media communications platforms
- Continue to strengthen its **support for emergency management** during extreme weather events by focusing on users' needs and increasing the relevance of weather information to users' concerns. This effort includes development of impact-based forecast services, using stakeholder vulnerability and exposure datasets and Met Éireann's state-of-the-art meteorological information.
- Met Éireann is prioritising the **development of the Climate Services** it provides to support improved societal outcomes in relation to planning and preparing for climate change impacts, through the translation and transfer of climate knowledge to researchers and decision-makers in policy and business. Met Éireann has launched [TRANSLATE](#), a scientific research call for principal investigators to help standardise climate projections and future climate information to further support climate adaptation in Ireland, leveraging the considerable international research already underway.
- Met Éireann is **developing flood forecasting capacity** and targeting pre-operational trials of its Flood Forecasting Centre for fluvial and coastal flood events, commencing late 2021. Development of fluvial (river) models for all Irish catchments is underway as well the transfer of the OPW's Tide and Storm Surge Forecasting Service to Met Éireann. To ensure effective communication of flood alerts and advisories to the main stakeholders, a communications strategy has been put in place and its implementation will be aided through the procurement of an appropriate dissemination system.
- Met Éireann will continue to **develop a modern integrated meteorological infrastructure**. Increased high performance computing capacity, an improved observational dataset, robust business continuity management capability, modern weather radar network and resilient and agile ICT services are essential to provide better weather and climate services. Investing in meteorological and climate research will generate new products and new forms of industrial cooperation and support innovation, competitiveness, growth and job creation.

### 3. MET ÉIREANN POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

In partnership with the Irish Research Council, Met Éireann invites applications for Met Éireann Scholarships which will develop innovative research to provide evidence in support of specific thematic areas of strategic interest to Met Éireann. Please read [Met Éireann's Strategic Plan 2017 – 2027](#), entitled “**Making Ireland Weather and Climate Prepared - Helping Irish society to be ready for and responsive to weather and climate risks**”.

Possible thematic areas of strategic interest include:

- Climate services;
- Climate modelling;
- Specialised weather & climate research, e.g. impact, satellite, marine-, agri-meteorology;
- Applications of AI, Machine Learning, Data Analytics to weather & climate services;
- Weather & climate monitoring and observing systems and instrumentation;
- Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) modelling;
- General forecasting & flood forecasting;
- Dissemination & communication of weather & climate information;
- Perception & interpretation of weather & climate information;
- Decision making & emergency management in extreme weather events;
- Socio-economic impact of weather & climate information;
- Multi-hazard early warning system.