



Helping Researchers fulfil their potential



## Taking the MRS Advanced Certificate? Need help with the fees?

### Maybe MRBA can help

The Market Research Benevolent Association (MRBA) has been helping UK researchers in financial need for over 40 years. Now we are expanding our remit to help younger researchers and those new to our industry by introducing *MRBA Skills*.

### What is MRBA Skills?

It's a bursary scheme to assist UK researchers improve their skills and career prospects so they are less likely to need our help in the future. Initially *MRBA Skills* includes up to 20 annual bursaries for researchers who want to enrol in the **MRS' Advanced Certificate in Market and Social Research**.

### Who should consider the MRS Advanced Certificate?

This is an ideal qualification for young researchers, those new to our industry, or those who have been working in market research for several years who want to brush up on their skills, increase their knowledge and improve their career prospects. It's a single-unit qualification comprising 3 elements which follow the research process from problem definition to reporting on results. To find out more about the course syllabus and the various training options, please visit the **MRS** website's Training/CPD section.

If you would like to hear from others about the course and why it is such a valuable addition to your CV, why not check out our short video on our website [www.mrba.org.uk/skills](http://www.mrba.org.uk/skills)

### Are you eligible for an MRBA Skills bursary?

Have you worked for at least 3 months continuously in the UK market or social research sector within the past 3 years? Unfortunately, if you have not, you cannot apply.

Before moving onto the next step does **ONE** of the below statements best describe you? If not, we are sorry but you will **NOT** be eligible to apply:

1. I'm currently employed as a researcher, fieldworker, or intern in a UK market or social research agency/supplier which has an annual turnover of **less than £2m** and I am earning **less than £35K annually**.
2. I'm currently employed as a researcher, fieldworker, or intern in a UK client-side research team/buyer with an annual research/insight spend of **less than £200K** and I am earning **less than £35K annually**.
3. I'm currently a UK freelancer or research contractor with an annual income of **less than £50K**.
4. I'm currently an **unemployed UK researcher** seeking a new role in UK market and social research.

### How can I apply?

1. Visit our website [www.mrba.org.uk/skills](http://www.mrba.org.uk/skills) to view our video and read through the basic information.
2. Then email [skills@mrba.org.uk](mailto:skills@mrba.org.uk). Someone from the *MRBA Skills* team will get back to you to discuss your individual requirements and review the eligibility criteria **BEFORE** you spend time on the application.
3. Read our **How to Apply document** on our website.
4. You can apply at any time throughout the year but it's good to check the timetable on the **MRS** website's Training/CPD section.
5. Review the various learning providers and study options on the **MRS** website depending on how you like to learn, how much time you have for studying, where you live, and your budget.
6. Applications must be made online in **ONE** go as you cannot save and return to the application form later.

### What are the application dates?

Applications for *MRBA Skills* can be made at any time throughout the year. But application reviews and decisions will follow the following cycle:

Application Period	Application Reviews	Response to Applicants
16 March - 18 Oct	19 Oct - 16 Nov	17 - 23 Nov
19 Oct - 15 March	16 March - 5 April	6 - 30 April

### What happens next?

All applications will be acknowledged by a confirmation email in line with the application date cycle above. Your application will be reviewed **in confidence** by the MRBA Trustees, and you will receive their decision by email during the above timeframe.

If successful, the bursary amount agreed will be paid to your chosen course provider.

### Interested but still have questions?

If you have any questions, or need more information, please email [skills@mrba.org.uk](mailto:skills@mrba.org.uk), or visit our website [www.mrba.org.uk/skills](http://www.mrba.org.uk/skills)

MRBA Helpline: 0845 652 0303  
Email: [skills@mrba.org.uk](mailto:skills@mrba.org.uk)  
[www.mrba.org.uk](http://www.mrba.org.uk)

