



INFORMATION SHEET

The Mount Everest Foundation is a registered charity, set up following the first ascent of Everest in 1953, and initially financed from the surplus funds and subsequent royalties resulting from that expedition.

The aims of the Foundation are to encourage and support expeditions exploring mountain regions, and both education and research pertaining to a wide range of subjects in mountain areas including geography, glaciology and the effects of altitude. Affairs are controlled by a Committee of Management, of which half is appointed by the Alpine Club and half by the Royal Geographical Society.

Unless an expedition has research as its primary objective, it must have a strong exploratory element to be deemed eligible for support. Expeditions planning geographical exploration, first ascents of, or major new routes on high or remote mountains are likely to qualify. Applications from expeditions proposing to visit little-explored or formerly inaccessible areas are particularly encouraged, as are those pursuing worthwhile research. Normally, the MEF will only support expeditions where the majority of members come from Great Britain or New Zealand.

Since its inception, over £900,000 has been dispensed in grants. All administration work is carried out by volunteer officers, thus keeping expenses to a minimum and allowing a very high proportion of income to be distributed as grants. Many major expeditions have been supported, including first ascents of some of the highest mountains on earth. The majority of grants are now given to small expeditions organised by adventurous climbers planning first ascents or new routes in the Greater Ranges outside central Europe, but in other mountain regions research activities have also been funded. Particular attention is given to the exploratory or innovative nature of each expedition.

Any expedition wishing to apply for MEF support needs to complete an 'Application for Grant' form. This can be obtained either from the MEF website, or by writing to the Hon Secretary - whose name and address is given below - giving details of the intended objective, and requesting an 'Application for Grant' Form. Since 1991 the Foundation has also awarded the Alison Chadwick Memorial Grant to deserving female climbers (or expeditions) applying for MEF support.

The knowledge acquired during an expedition must be made publicly available. In return for support or approval, the MEF requires a Summary Report (forms available on MEF website) to be submitted within six weeks of returning home, and a Final Report as soon as possible thereafter. Four copies of this Report should be sent to the MEF Secretary, as well as one to each of your referees. If this is not done, the leader is likely to be refused future support.

The Screening Committee only meets to consider applications twice a year - in November and March - and the closing dates for receipt of completed forms are 31st August and 31st December respectively, to allow time for references to be obtained and other administration work to be carried out. These dates are strictly observed, and no application can be considered unless it is received by 31st December of the year prior to the expedition.

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The Mount Everest Foundation is a company limited by Guarantee (No. 543894)
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Registered Address: c/o the Royal Geographical Society, 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AR