



Office of Utility Regulation

OUR Bursary Scheme

Information Notice

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Office of Utility Regulation
Suites B1 & B2, Hirzel Court, St Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 2NH
Tel: (0)1481 711120, Fax: (0)1481 711140, Web: www.regutil.gg

OUR Bursary Scheme

The Office of Utility Regulation was established in 2001 to regulate the three utilities of post, telecommunications and electricity in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The Director General is now seeking to develop regulatory experience and skills within the Bailiwick and is offering a bursary scheme to contribute towards the costs of university education for a Guernsey student interested in studying a subject that would help advance a career in the field of economic regulation.

The primary role of the OUR is to protect the interests of Guernsey consumers and the economy. It does this by ensuring that customers receive the best in price, choice and quality services in the three regulated sectors, while at the same time ensuring that those sectors are vibrant and robust so that they can positively contribute to and underpin a successful Guernsey economy.

The OUR licenses and regulates telecommunications, electricity and postal sectors. Wherever possible, the OUR promotes the introduction of competition by ensuring that there is fair play and a level playing field between the operators. Where competition is not yet effective or where it is not feasible, the OUR regulates prices and quality of services to customers.

Working with the OUR

The OUR has a small team of experienced staff with specific skills in developing and implementing regulation of the utility sectors. The role and nature of the work is attractive to highly motivated, articulate individuals who thrive on a challenge. The nature of the work is diverse as it covers three very different utility sectors and so the nature of the issues dealt with at the OUR is varied.

In 2005 the Office announced its first bursary to a Guernsey student and awarded a bursary to Pui Jee Lai, a former Ladies' College student who was studying Management and Chinese at the University of Nottingham. Miss Lai is now starting her final year at university and the OUR is looking to award the Office's second bursary.

This is an opportunity for a local student to gain entry into a career that is in demand both locally and internationally and provides diverse career opportunities and personal satisfaction. Individuals with experience and skills in the design and implementation of regulatory systems are highly sought after with sector specific regulatory bodies now in most countries around the world. The nature of regulation and the areas it covers opens up a wide range of careers. At the same time the nature and scope of the work provides an exciting opportunity to contribute to the development and success of the Guernsey economy.

The successful student will also gain work experience across the three utility sectors which will further assist them in their future career. Because of the way the Office

works, it is necessary to have a full understanding of the commercial realities of the three sectors and the student will work closely on a day-to-day basis with the rest of the OUR team.

Details of OUR Bursary Scheme

The OUR will offer the successful student an annual grant of £1,500 per annum towards their studies for a qualification in a relevant degree course. That course would ideally be in an area such as economics, accounting, business studies or a quantitative subject such as statistics or mathematics.

In addition the successful student will undertake paid employment with the OUR for a minimum of ten weeks each year during their vacation time. All work will be based at the OUR office in St Peter Port.

At the end of the degree course the successful student will be expected to work as a full time employee for a minimum period of 12 months. The full details of the terms and conditions of the Bursary are available from the OUR's office at the contact details below.

Deadline for Applications

Applications for the OUR Bursary for the 2008/09 academic year should be submitted to the OUR by **Friday 9th November 2007**.

Applications should include:

- a CV detailing academic achievements, previous work experience and interests;
- a covering letter with details of intended university degree course and two references; and
- a short essay. Applicants are required to choose a news topic reported in the press, radio or television over the past year in which the OUR has had a role and set out the views of different parties and your assessment of the issue from each parties' perspective. This should be in the form of a short report of no more than 700 words.

All applications will be acknowledged in writing. Applicants may be invited to attend a short interview at the OUR's office in St Peter Port and all applicants will be informed of the status of their application in writing by the 30th November 2007.

Applications should be sent directly to Rosie Allsopp at: Office of Utility Regulation, Suites B1& B2, Hirzel Court, St Peter Port, Guernsey, GY1 2NH and/or by email to rosie.allsopp@regutil.gg.

For further information please contact the OUR on 711120.

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