

# MGS Photography Bursary: Open Access Licences and Photographer Contracts

This document explains how bursary recipients can fulfil the following requirements of the MGS photography bursary:

1. You will secure consent from the photographer for the commissioned material to be shared under the CC BY-SA 4.0 open access licence. In order to demonstrate that your photographer has consented to sharing their material under this licence, you must submit a copy of the agreement you make with them to [marketing@museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk](mailto:marketing@museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk).
2. You will make available to Museums Galleries Scotland all final edits of the photography and videography which were commissioned with this award. MGS will be granted permission to use this media for general marketing and promotional purposes, and to share this media with third parties.

## Open Access Licences

One of our requirements for this bursary is that some of the photos you commission will be shared with the public under an open access licence. This licence will allow others to freely share, reuse, and adapt the photos, even for commercial purposes, as long as they attribute the original creator and distribute their work under the same licence.

To ensure that your photographs can be designated as open access, all bursary recipients are required to secure consent from their photographer for their photographs to be shared under the [Creative Commons BY-SA 4.0 licence](#). Advice on how to secure this consent is provided under the 'Photographer Contracts' heading below.

### Why is this a requirement?

We believe it's important for high quality photographs of Scotland's museums to be accessible to the general public. This makes it easier for others to feature museums in print and digital media, which increases the visibility of the museum sector.

### How will the photographs be shared?

Once you have submitted your commissioned photography to MGS, we will select some and upload them to [Wikimedia Commons](#), a popular open-access file sharing site.

In order for us to do this, we require you to submit evidence of an agreement between you and the photographer for their photos to be shared under the CC BY-SA 4.0 licence. A copy of the agreement must be submitted to MGS by 01/03/26.

**Note:** Not all photos can or should be shared as open access images. We won't upload any photos which include copyrighted works of art, or photos which feature people under the age of 18.

## Photographer Contracts

You must ensure that an appropriate agreement is in place with your chosen photographer. The agreement must ensure that:

1. You have the necessary Copyright permissions to use the photography.
2. MGS has permission to use the commissioned photography for marketing and promotional purposes, and to share these photographs with third parties.
3. Commissioned photography can be shared under the CC BY-SA 4.0 open access licence.

Some suggested wording for agreements with photographers is as follows:

All Intellectual Property Rights pertaining to material produced by [name of photographer] as part of the commission shall vest in [name of photographer]. This includes Copyright in all photographs, videos, and other material collected or prepared by [name of photographer] in connection with any aspect of the commission.

By accepting this Agreement, [name of photographer] permits [name of museum organisation] to share all material produced by them as part of this commission as required for marketing and promotional purposes, including but not limited to our own promotion purposes as well as the promotion of Scottish museums and art galleries, Scottish tourism, and local communities generally, under a Creative Commons Licence BY-SA 4.0. All material created as part of this commission will be credited to [name of photographer].

## Crediting Photographers

When using an image or video, please ensure you credit the photographer by adding the following to your caption, description, or text:

© [name of photographer]

## **Further Information**

If you have any questions about the information or would like to know more, please contact us at [marketing@museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk](mailto:marketing@museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk).