

RDS Library

Advancing Agriculture, Arts, Industry, and Science



Guest Reader Guide

Who can apply?

Members of the public requiring access for research purposes, or with genuine scholarly needs, can apply to use the Library as a Guest Reader. Each application is judged on its merits. A Guest Reader has access to the Library for reference (consulting resources in the Library only) but not for borrowing.

Please note that RDS Membership conveys borrowing rights for many items. Special rates apply for 16-25 year olds and for students. This information is available from the Membership Administrator on 01 240 7296. Membership applications will be sent out with all requests to access the RDS Library.

Second-level, third level undergraduate and postgraduate students (doctoral, masters and diploma) **and staff** at third level institutions in the Republic of Ireland and abroad who wish to use the Library should request a letter of introduction from their school or university library which should be provided with their application.

Personal researchers should send a personal letter of introduction outlining their area of interest and the Library material of interest.

How much does it cost?

€30 per annum, paid by cheque or credit card, effective from the date of approval of the application. The fee will be refunded if the application is not successful.

How to apply

Please complete the Guest Reader application form and return it to Reader Applications, RDS Library, Merrion Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. You will be informed by post of the outcome of your application. If you have any queries about your application please phone 01 240 7254.

Applications take approximately one week to process. Applications may be processed immediately if all the paperwork is in order. Please make an appointment with a Librarian before arriving by phone on 01 240 7254 to ensure that you can be granted immediate admission to the Library.

Please note that access to the RDS Library may be withdrawn at any time at the discretion of the Library Director.