



INTERGOVERNMENTAL OCEANOGRAPHIC COMMISSION  
COMMISSION OCÉANOGRAPHIQUE INTERGOUVERNEMENTALE  
COMISIÓN OCEANOGRÁFICA INTERGUBERNAMENTAL  
МЕЖПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВЕННАЯ ОКЕАНОГРАФИЧЕСКАЯ КОМИССИЯ

اللجنة الدولية الحكومية لعلوم المحيطات

政府间海洋学委员会

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**IOC Circular Letter No 2834**  
(Available in English only)

IOC/VR/JB/TC  
15 March 2021

- To : IOC Member States (Official National Coordinating Body for liaison with the IOC)  
Permanent Delegates/Observers Missions to UNESCO of IOC Member States  
National Commissions for UNESCO of IOC Member States
- cc. : The Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Commission  
Officers of Major IOC Subsidiary Bodies (Scientific, Technical and Regional)

**Subject: Nippon Foundation / GEBCO (General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans)  
Training Program Year 18 (2021–2022)**

Under the joint auspices of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, GEBCO's aim is to provide the most authoritative publicly-available bathymetry of the world's oceans. As part of this centennial project, GEBCO has been funded by the Nippon Foundation to train a new generation of scientists and hydrographers in ocean bathymetry through a twelve-month course, leading to a Postgraduate Certificate in Ocean Bathymetry (PCOB) at the University of New Hampshire, USA.

By this letter, I am pleased to advise that nominations are being sought for the 18th class of the IOC-IHO-Nippon Foundation / GEBCO Training Program that will begin in late August 2021.

Students will undertake an intensive 12-month training of lectures, practical laboratory and on-the-water projects, including secondments to relevant laboratories and cruises on research or survey ships. Students will experience and benefit from the teaching staff from the university and from external experts specially invited to deliver specialist lectures.

The course syllabus covers integrated seabed mapping systems and the fundamentals of ocean mapping, acoustics, positioning, survey design, uncertainty management, geological and physical oceanography, seafloor characteristics, structure of ocean basins, data analysis and integration, and surface interpolation. Students may also select additional courses from a range of electives.

The language of instruction is English, and candidates must demonstrate capability to undertake graduate level instruction in English to the satisfaction of the University of New Hampshire. Candidates must be aware that this is an intensive course, even for students whose first language is English.

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The minimum standard for admission is a relevant four-year degree in a related field. A description of the course, eligibility for entry, financial details, schedule, course content, contact information and a downloadable application form are available at:

[https://www.gebco.net/training/training\\_project/](https://www.gebco.net/training/training_project/)

Applications should be sent directly to the course organizers by 30th April 2021.

Yours sincerely,

*[signed]*

Vladimir Ryabinin  
Executive Secretary