



THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT ATHENS

ΑΥΣΤΡΑΛΙΑΝΟ ΑΡΧΑΙΟΛΟΓΙΚΟ ΙΝΣΤΙΤΟΥΤΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

Research Permits

According to the policy of The Hellenic Ministry of Culture and Sports, scholars who are members of the AAIA who wish to study or perform scientific analysis of objects in Greek museums, storerooms and sites should request that appropriate application for permission be made to the Greek Archaeological Service on their behalf by the AAIA. Requests are submitted to the AAIA Executive Officer in Athens all year.

Research permits can take a variable amount of time to be issued, ranging from a few weeks to several months. Applicants must submit their requests to the AAIA at least six months prior to the dates of their proposed work.

Permissions to study/publish unpublished material can take up to one year.

Research permits fall under the following categories:

1. Permits to study and/or publish objects

Requests to **study** objects in museum collections or storerooms are submitted by the AAIA to the relevant Ephoreia of Antiquities or Museum for approval. When applying for a permit please provide information according to the following topics and questions:

- Wider framework/ purpose of study: Briefly describe your research project and the purpose of the proposed study.
- Material: Attach a catalogue of objects with inventory numbers, as well as the display/storage location of the objects. If you are not able to find inventory numbers then please attach photographs of each object. If the material has been published, please provide a bibliographic reference (please note that preliminary reports of excavations, such as those published in the *Archaeologiko Deltio* or the *Praktika* of the Archaeological Society, are NOT considered publications).
- If you want to study **unpublished** material, please make sure your request is accompanied by the written permission of the excavator. When material comes from a project of another foreign school in Athens, the application should be accompanied by a letter from that school giving permission to the applicant to study and/or publish the material.

- Proposed Work: Be specific about what it is that you want to do with the objects (study, photograph, measure, draw, make a squeeze etc) and what equipment you will be using.
- Dates of proposed work: Give specific dates, e.g. 2-17 October, January 2025.

Please bear in mind that having a study permit does not give you permission to publish material. If you also wish to publish the results of your study, please provide the following information:

- Title of publication
- Print run
- Publisher
- Language(s) of Publication

University research theses that are publicly accessible via institutional online repositories are considered e-publications under Greek Law and must comply with the same permission requirements and conditions governing digital publications. This includes the obligation to obtain appropriate image permissions for any material reproduced, regardless of whether the thesis is classified as a non-commercial academic work.

- To obtain image permissions, please complete the appropriate form from the list below. Note that all images—including photographs, drawings, and reproductions (such as line drawings based on photographs)—are subject to copyright, and the necessary permissions must be secured. **As of 2025 associated fees may apply and are typically determined on a case-by-case basis following the submission of your application.**

[Application form for permission to photograph in museums and archaeological sites](#)

[Application form for permission to use images in printed publications](#)

[Application form for permission to use images in e-publications](#) (also applies to research theses accessible via institutional online repositories)

[Application form for permission to use images on the internet](#)

2. Permits for analysis of archaeological material

A new circular on permissions to sample and analyse archaeological material came into effect in June 2017. This updated policy of the Ministry of Culture and Sports distinguishes the following categories of requests:

- Requests for analysis that require sampling.
- Requests for analysis that do not require sampling, but involve intervention or

cause damage to the material.

c) Requests for analysis with non-invasive methods.

d) Requests of all categories that involve modern movable or immovable monuments.

Please consult the **circular** ([Greek Version](#)) - ([English Version](#)) before submitting your request.

In all cases the request must include the following information:

- the wider framework/ context of the request and the purpose of the analysis of the material, the research institution where the analysis is going to take place, the laboratory and the person in charge of the analysis.
- The written permission of the person who holds exclusive publication rights to the material.
- Description of the analytical techniques to be applied. In cases of sampling, mention whether the technique is destructive or non-destructive. In cases of *in situ* analysis, mention whether the technique is intrusive or non- intrusive.
- For all requests: a detailed catalogue of the movable or immovable monuments that are going to be sampled or examined *in situ*, accompanied by photographic documentation (indicating, if possible, the part from where the sample will be retrieved).
- Specifically for sampling requests: the total number, dimensions, quantity and form of samples – as well as the method of their preparation, if required, and a description of the sampling method. The dimensions and number of samples must be the minimum required for the analysis. Requests that include a large number of samples must be sufficiently documented and must depend on the total quantity of the material.
- Specifically for requests for *in situ* analysis using intrusive techniques or techniques that damage the material: a description of the type and extent of the intrusion or damage to be caused to the material.
- Requests submitted by undergraduate/postgraduate students must be accompanied by a letter from their supervising professor.
- Transporting samples does not require a separate permit, but transporting archaeological objects does require a transport permit.