

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP 2026 – GUIDELINES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Guidelines

- 1.0 This information applies to new undergraduate students taking up a place of study in 2026-2027 at the University of Reading who are eligible for consideration for one of the International Foundation Excellence Scholarships.
- 1.2 The International Foundation Excellence Scholarship (hereafter referred to as ‘the Scholarship’) is a competitive award funded by the University of Reading. The Scholarship provides a tuition fee reduction and may be held in conjunction with other funding, but note the ceiling on financial aid (clause 3.5).
- 1.3 The Scholarship is only available to students paying international fees and has an annual value of **£5000** and, subject to these terms and conditions, will be applied **to the year** the student is a registered student at the University on one of our International Foundation Programme/Pathways.
- 1.4 The Scholarship scheme does not award scholarships in order of application and the selection process will not commence until after the closing date. The closing dates are as follows:
 - 1.4.1 Round One – **2 March 2026**¹
 - 1.4.2 Round Two – **29 June 2026**
 - 1.4.3 Round Three – **16 November 2026 (for January entry)**
- 1.5 The allocation of funds is competitive and not all applications received may be successful. We will only contact successful scholarship applicants.
- 1.6 We will endeavour to notify successful applicants within 4 weeks of the closing date. However, if a student for any reason declines an awarded scholarship, we will then move on to a reserve list. Therefore, some students may be contacted beyond 4 weeks of the closing date. If a student has not been contacted by the University regarding a scholarship by the beginning of September, they should assume they have been unsuccessful at this time.

¹ Candidates unsuccessful in round one automatically go forward for consideration in round two, provided they still hold a valid offer of admission to an eligible course and have paid the deposit.

Eligibility Criteria

- 2.0 To be eligible for consideration for one of the scholarships candidates must:
- 2.1 Have applied and received a formal offer of admission on a University of Reading International Foundation Programme or International Foundation Year Programme for admission in the academic year 2026-27. **It is not necessary** to have accepted the offer of admission and be Firm at that scholarship application stage.
- 2.2 Not already be in receipt of a full tuition fee scholarship or sponsorship.
- 2.3 Not already be enrolled on an International Foundation programme in the UK.
- 2.4 Demonstrate to the University academic achievement.
- 2.5 Have applied to study on a full-time course.

Terms and Conditions

- 3.0 Scholarship applications will only be considered if candidates satisfy the Eligibility Criteria and the Terms and Conditions
- 3.1 Scholarship applications must be submitted using the form that eligible candidates will have access to via their me@reading applicant portal. No alternative method of application will be considered. The application form must be completed in full, including confirmation that the candidate understands and accepts the Terms and Conditions under which the scheme operates
- 3.3 Candidates will be assessed on the basis of their academic accomplishments (predicted or actual) to date. They will also be assessed on their achievements outside of the field of education, for example in extracurricular activities, voluntary work, or overcoming diversity. Please note there is a 1000-character limit for each question. Supplementary documents cannot be submitted although university staff reviewing scholarship applications will make reference to the information provided as part of the application process, including supporting information, such as transcripts or references.
- 3.4 All information in the scholarship application should be provided by the candidate themselves and be true and accurate.
- 3.5 Candidates in receipt of multiple tuition fee scholarships can combine the scholarships, provided that they do not amount to more than the total cost of tuition². We will not give a Scholarship to anyone who already has a full scholarship or sponsorship to pay for their tuition fees. Scholarship recipients

² In the event that multiple scholarships or other forms of financial aid when combined exceed the annual cost of tuition, the Scholarship will be reduced by an amount equivalent to the excess to arrive at a funding package equal in value to the annual cost of tuition

are required to advise us if their financial situation changes and they are subsequently granted a full scholarship from another source. The University reserves the right to withdraw all or part of the Scholarship and make no (or no further) payments, if the student obtains sufficient alternative funding from another source. A student will not be disadvantaged if they already hold a partial scholarship, provided it would not exceed the tuition fee, as stated above.

- 3.6 Each scholarship round will close at **11.59pm (GMT)** on the dates above and under no circumstances can scholarship applications be submitted after the final deadline.
- 3.7 Candidates selected for a scholarship will be notified by email and it is therefore essential that the University has up-to-date contact information. Upon being notified of an award, a candidate will be given a deadline they will need to have registered their acceptance of the scholarship. If the candidate has not accepted their offer of admission for their chosen course, they will also be required to do this. If the Scholarship and the offer of admission are not accepted by the deadline given in the e-mail notifying them of the award, it will be assumed the candidate does not wish to receive funding and the scholarship offer will be withdrawn.
- 3.8 If a scholarship is offered to a conditional offer holder, then the award of the scholarship will also be conditional on the student meeting these requirements for entry.
- 3.9 The University will only contact successful scholarship applicants and the University will endeavour to do so within 4 weeks of the deadline.
- 3.10 All scholarships are applied in the form of a tuition fee reduction. There is no cash alternative to the tuition fee reduction. Where students pay their tuition fees in instalments, the scholarship will be applied pro rata in proportion to the fee paid (e.g. in the event the annual tuition fee is paid in two equal instalments, each payment will be reduced by an amount equivalent to 50% of the scholarship). Scholarships cannot be deferred to future years and are valid for entry in the 2026-2027 academic year only.
- 3.11 The Scholarship is awarded each year the student remains a registered International Foundation student. In the event of a year of study being repeated, the Scholarship will not be paid for the repeat year of study. Completion of the course will mean the end of the Scholarship³.
- 3.12 The University's decision is final, and we are unable to receive requests for reconsideration. The University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship if students are subsequently found to be ineligible or if these Terms and Conditions are not adhered to.

³ For students on IFY programmes, they will need to apply again for scholarship funding for the degree part of their course the following year.

- 3.13 In making an application for the Scholarship candidates are deemed to have agreed to the above terms and conditions. Any queries should be addressed to scholarships@reading.ac.uk.

22 October 2025