

UNIVERSITY OF READING EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP (MASTER'S STUDY) - GUIDELINES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Guidelines

- 1.0 This information applies to new master's students taking up a place of study in 2026-2027 at the University of Reading (Whiteknights and London Road (UK) campuses) who are eligible for consideration for the *University of Reading Excellence Scholarship - Master's*. (hereafter referred to as 'the Scholarship'). The information covers all eligible master's courses with the exception of those offered by Henley Business School, for which separate guidelines and terms and conditions apply.
- 1.1 The Scholarship is funded by the University of Reading and recognises academic achievement as evidenced in the student's master's degree application. The Scholarship provides a tuition fee reduction and may be held in conjunction with other partial funding (note clause 3.5).
- 1.2 The Scholarship has a value of between £2,000 and £7,000, with awards allocated on the following basis:

UK degree classification (or international equivalent) ¹	Scholarship Amount
High First	£7,000
Low First	£6,000
2:1	£5,000
2:2	£2,000

If a student is still undertaking their undergraduate degree studies and offered conditional admission they will be assessed for the Scholarship based on the grades in their provisional transcript, supplied as part of the degree course application process. If the final degree result confirms a classification at a higher level than indicated in the provisional transcript, the value of the Scholarship will be revised upwards to the appropriate level. The value of the Scholarship will not be revised downwards in the event the student performs less well in their final degree classification.

- 1.3 The Scholarship is for students assessed as 'International' for tuition fees purposes only. The tuition fee payable is confirmed in the degree course offer of admission.²

¹ The University has equivalences for qualifications obtained outside the UK and graded using different systems. The University's decision as to the standing / classification of a degree obtained overseas is final.

² On occasion, additional information received by the University after the offer of admission has been made may necessitate a change in fee status. This will be notified to the offer holder. In the event a student who is

- 1.4 There are other scholarships schemes available with separate eligibility criteria, such as those supported through the generosity of external sponsors, for example the Commonwealth Shared Scholarships Scheme or Chevening Awards. This information relates only to the *University of Reading Excellence Scholarship – Master’s*.
- 1.5 No scholarship application form is required – all eligible students made an offer of admission to a University of Reading master’s degree course are considered automatically. The closing date for consideration is the date on which the course a student has applied for closes for applications.³
- 1.6 To be selected for the scholarship the student must:
- Be offered admission to an eligible University of Reading degree course;
 - Have international tuition fee status; and
 - Hold or be expected to achieve an undergraduate degree with a minimum UK Lower Second Class (or equivalent) standing⁴.
- 1.7 If the Scholarship is offered, the details will be communicated within the offer of admission letter. If the offer of admission does not contain the offer of a scholarship, the applicant should assume that funding cannot be offered. Students offered admission prior to the launch of the 2026/27 scheme in December 2025 will be considered for the Scholarship retrospectively and successful candidates will be notified of their award by 31 January 2026 in the case of September 2026 enrolments.
- 1.8 Upon being offered the Scholarship, recipients will have 8 weeks from the date of the scholarship offer to accept the Scholarship and these Terms and Conditions. Failure to accept the Scholarship within the deadline may result in the funding being withdrawn.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration for the Scholarship, candidates must:

- 2.0 Not already be in receipt of a full tuition fee scholarship or sponsorship.
- 2.1 Be of international tuition fee status.

initially offered admission on an International fee basis is reclassified as a Home fee student any offer of the Scholarship will be withdrawn.

³ Closing dates vary and the University application portal will state when applications may no longer be submitted.

⁴ In the event a student with a qualification lower than a UK 2:2 (or equivalent) in standing is offered admission they will not be eligible for the Scholarship.

- 2.2 Have applied for entry to an eligible University of Reading master's course⁵ for admission in the academic year 2026-2027,⁶ using the University's online postgraduate application form.
- 2.3 Have applied to study on a full-time or part-time basis. Dual and Flexible / part-time modular master's courses are excluded.
- 2.4 Have received a formal offer of admission.

Terms and Conditions

- 3.0 Candidates for the Scholarship must satisfy the Eligibility Criteria and accept the Terms and Conditions.
- 3.1 If the Scholarship is awarded, it is a requirement of the process that the student reads and accepts these Terms and Conditions under which the scheme operates. Accepting the Scholarship shall be taken as confirmation the Terms and Conditions are accepted.
- 3.2 Scholarship candidates will be assessed based on their academic accomplishments to date as recorded in the master's degree application. Supplementary documents cannot be submitted, although the University reserves the right to request additional information from a student being considered for the Scholarship where it believes it will help facilitate a final decision.
- 3.3 The Scholarship is not means assessed and the evaluation process does not seek to make any judgement on a student's financial situation beyond the requirements noted in clause 3.5.
- 3.4 All information provided in the degree course application must be true and accurate.
- 3.5 Candidates in receipt of partial tuition fee scholarships⁷ from other sources can combine these monies with the Scholarship if the combined value does not amount to more than the total annual cost of tuition. A *University of Reading Excellence Scholarship – Master's* will not be awarded to anyone who already has a scholarship or sponsorship that pays in full for their tuition fees. Scholarship recipients are required to advise the Scholarship Manager if their financial situation changes and they are subsequently granted full funding 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 does not breach the threshold as stated above.
- 3.6 Candidates selected for the Scholarship will be notified of the scholarship amount, a deadline for notifying the University of their intention to accept the funding, and where

⁵ MA, MA by Research, MSc, MRes and LLM are all eligible. M level undergraduate degrees, such as MSci, are not considered postgraduate courses and sources of undergraduate funding are applicable.

⁶ Applications for entry in September 2026 or February 2027. September 2027 entry falls under the 2027/28 academic year and details of any scholarship schemes in operation in that year will be announced in due course.

⁷ This may include the [Alumni Discount](#) offered to University of Reading graduates returning for further degree study.

they may obtain further information in their offer of admission. The deadline for accepting the scholarship may differ from the deadline for accepting an offer of admission (a requirement of which may also be payment of a deposit). The Scholarship cannot be used as payment of a deposit

- 3.7 If the Scholarship is offered to a student holding a conditional offer of admission to the University, then the award of the Scholarship will also be conditional on the student meeting these requirements for entry. The Scholarship offer is withdrawn in the event the student does not enroll at the University.
- 3.8 The Scholarship is applied only in the form of a tuition fee reduction. There is no cash or other alternative to this. 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).
- 3.9 Scholarships cannot be deferred to future years and are valid for entry in the 2026-2027 academic year only. In the event a student defers their admission to the following academic year they will be eligible for consideration for any appropriate funding schemes in operation at that time.
- 3.10 The Scholarship is awarded for one year. In the event a student receiving the Scholarship is studying a full-time master's lasting more than one year or studying on a part-time basis, the tuition fee reduction will be applied in full against the first year of tuition fees and not split over two years. Students studying dual and flexible / part-time modular master's courses are ineligible for the Scholarship.
- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 Any queries about the University of Reading Excellence Scholarship - Master's scheme should be addressed to scholarships@reading.ac.uk

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