Doctoral Access Scholarships - Sanctuary

Guidance Notes for Applicants

2023/24 Entry

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

October 2022

Award Details

Awards made for entry in Autumn 2023 will include the following:

- The full payment of tuition fees
- A maintenance stipend paid at the prevailing UKRI rate
- A Research, Training and Supporting Grant (RTSG) of £5,000
- Length of funding: 4 years

Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be of any nationality and hold one of the following statuses as granted by the UK government and/or be supported by the Council for At-Risk Academics (CARA):
  - Refugee Status
  - Asylum Seeker
  - Definite Leave to Remain as a result of an asylum seeker application
  - Limited Leave to Remain as a result of an asylum seeker application
  - Humanitarian protection as a result of an asylum seeker application
  - Included as a dependent (spouse/child) on an application for asylum. *Spouses/civil partners must have been the spouse/civil partner on the date on which the asylum application was made. Children/step-children must have been aged under 18 on the date on which the asylum application was made.*
- Have applied to study a full-time or part-time Postgraduate Research course at the University. There is often flexibility to negotiate your start date.
- Scholarships cannot be deferred to the next academic year.

Deadlines

Date	Event
13th January 2023	• Scholarship Applications Open
24th February 2023 (23:59 GMT)	• Course Application Deadline
27th February 2023 (23:59 GMT)	• Scholarship Application Deadline
3rd March 2023 (23:59 GMT)	• All references, transcripts and eligibility documents must be uploaded by this deadline in order to be considered.
27th February- 12th April 2023	• Assessment of Applications
By 12th April 2023	• All Applicants notified of results

How to apply

Preparation

Contact your potential supervisor/academic department in the first instance to discuss your research application.

Read these guidance notes in full and make a note of the relevant deadlines.

Course Application

Submit your course application via the Universal Admissions System. You do not need to have received an offer of study by the scholarship application deadline.

Note: Your scholarship application takes information from your study application to save you from entering various details a second time, such as your previous qualifications.

Once you have submitted your admissions application you will then receive an automated e-mail giving you your 7-digit student ID number and instructions on registering your ITS applicant account, which you must complete. **The automated email with your 7-digit student number can take up to 48 hours to come through.**

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Please note that 24 February is the latest date you can submit your course application. Should you choose to submit your course application on this date you may not be able to create a scholarship application before the scholarship application deadline of 23:59 (GMT) 27 December 2023. We would therefore strongly recommend submitting your course application in advance of 24 February 2023 to allow sufficient time to complete a strong scholarship application. Extensions will not be granted for late applicants.

When completing your application, you will be asked for contact details for your scholarship/funder, please enter Doctoral College (Doctoralcollege@warwick.ac.uk)

Creating an IT Account
Register an ITS Account. The username and password provided by IT can then be used to apply for the scholarships.

Note: The Doctoral College cannot help with registering ITS accounts.

Staring Your Scholarship Application

To apply for the 'Warwick Doctoral Access Scholarship- Sanctuary' you will need to follow the Submit your scholarship application link on the [scholarship webpage](#).

You will be taken to the 'Select Scholarship' page where you can review your details and qualifications. The information here has been taken from your course application.

You will need to select the course you are applying with for your scholarship application.

Course

Life Sciences (PhD) (applying) ▼

Note: If you are applying for more than one course you will need to complete a scholarship application for each course application.

Click on the Start Application icon to begin your application.

At the top of the form, you will see a progress bar. You can switch between sections before submitting your application.

Select scholarship » ⬛ Your application » ⬜ Referees » Review and submit

At the bottom of the form, you have the option to:

1. Save your application and return to it later.
2. Withdraw your application.
3. Submit your application.

⬅ Back   🗁 Save for later   Withdraw application   ⬆ Submit application

Note: If you choose to withdraw your application, you will not be able to create or submit a second for the same course.

Application Questions

There are four mandatory questions you will need to complete before submitting your application. Question one and two respond to the Postgraduate Research Ranking Criteria.

See Appendix 3 for Ranking Criteria.

1. In 300 words or less, describe how best you meet the person and preparedness descriptors. You may wish to consider your academic history, skills and expertise, professional experience, and awards or publications.

2. In 500 words or less, describe how best you meet the project and place descriptors. You may wish to consider the significance of your project, engagement with relevant literature, and the project's fit with your proposed supervisor and department. How will you and/or your project contribute to Warwick's commitment to excellence in research and education through advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion?

3. In 500 words or less, provide a summary of your research proposal as appropriate to your discipline and your ability to complete it. For very technical disciplines where advanced detailed might be beyond the current research of an undergraduate or postgraduate taught degree, candidates are encouraged to describe the general area and fundamental open problems that motivate you to pursue the topic, as well as commenting on your academic background and suitability to conduct the research. You are not required to provide a full bibliography.

4. Please provide any additional information of how the scholarship will assist your postgraduate study and details of your individual circumstances (200 words max.)

Note: While your department may access your research proposal from your course application, the Faculty Assessors will only use your 500-word summary from your scholarship application. **They will not have access to your research proposal.**

Supporting documents

We will have access to your transcripts and references uploaded with your course application.

All applications require transcripts and two references.

Note: Changes cannot be made to references that have been uploaded in support of your course application, nor can additional references be requested in support of your scholarship application for new applicants.

In the 'Supporting documents' tab you will be asked to upload documents which evidence your immigration status.

Select scholarship »	▭ Your application »	▭ Supporting documents »	▭ Referees »	Review and submit

If you are an asylum seeker or hold refugee status you will need to provide the following documents to support your application:

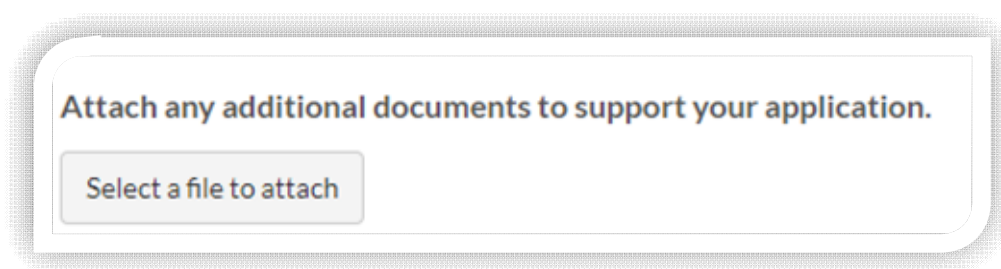➢ Scanned copy of your ARC (Application Registration Card)
➢ A copy of your most recent Bail 201 letter

If you hold Humanitarian Protection status, Discretionary Leave to Remain, or Limited Leave to Remain, you will need to provide the following documents to support your application:

➢ Scanned copy of your current visa
➢ A copy of the Home Office decision of your asylum application (or evidence that your current visa is a result of an asylum application)

Please be aware that we will pass your documents onto the Immigration & Compliance team who will look to verify your status with UKVI to determine eligibility for the scholarship. The Immigration & Compliance team may contact you to request further documentation if required.

Documents must be converted to PDF before upload.

> **Attach any additional documents to support your application.**
>
> Select a file to attach

Ranking Criteria

Departments and Faculty Assessors responsible for the assessment of your application will follow the Postgraduate Research Ranking Criteria in their evaluation.

The Ranking Criteria consists of two descriptors:

▪ Person and Preparedness
▪ Project and Place

See Appendix 3 for Ranking Criteria.

The Assessment Process

What happens after your application is submitted?

You will be able to review your application before submitting. The system will prevent you from submitting your application if you have not completed your application properly and will notify you of any issues.

Note: You will not be able to amend your application once you have submitted.

You will be sent a confirmation of submission email containing a URL which will take you directly to your application. We would recommend that you bookmark this page so you can visit it directly.

Selection and Assessment

Warwick operates transparent ranking criteria that enables candidates to understand how their application will be assessed. **Refer to Appendix 3**.

Competition for awards is very high and scholarship offers will be made to those who are able to demonstrate academic excellence and the potential to be an outstanding research student, up to the specified number of awards available.

Departments are asked to nominate their strongest applications and provide a nomination statement. The nomination statement will contextualise your application and references and will outline your strengths and fit within the department. Due to the limited number of awards available, departments are allocated a specific number of nominations.

The Graduate Awards Committee will discuss all nominated applications and approve the award allocations. It is the Graduate Awards Committee's responsibility to ensure that university processes and policies are free, fair, and transparent.

Notification of Scholarship Results

All applicants will be informed of the results by email by 12 April 2023.

The Doctoral College is unable to provide any feedback to applicants.

Please be aware that an application must have been submitted by the scholarship deadline to receive a notification of results, and any late applications will not be considered for a scholarship.

Frequently Asked Questions

Once I have submitted my application, can I make any changes?

No, once you have submitted your application you will not be able to make any changes. Therefore, you must double check your application in its entirety before submitting. The Doctoral College cannot make any changes to your application.

Can I receive a scholarship offer if I haven't received an admission offer?

No, you must have an offer of admission in place to receive a scholarship offer.

I'm updating my CV, where do I upload it?

The scholarship assessors will not review CVs as part of this competition.

Can I apply now for entry in 2024/25

No, the application process is specifically for funding starting in October 2023, and subsequent competitions may be subject to change.

My fee status is incorrect, how do I get this changed?

You should contact the Postgraduate Admissions team to challenge the decision on your fee status. They will ask you to complete a form and submit supporting evidence for them to make a decision. Any changes to your fee status should be reported to the Doctoral College before the department's nomination deadline.

Who do I contact if I have any queries not shown here?

You can message the Doctoral College through the Scholarship Application Portal, or email us at doctoralcollege@warwick.ac.uk.

I deferred my course application from 2022/23 how do I apply for a scholarship?

You should complete the scholarship application as a new applicant. All your transcripts and references will still be visible with your original course application.

I am a first-year applicant, can I apply?

No, this scholarship scheme is open to those applying to start their PhD in 2023/24 only.

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Appendix 1

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for '2+4 MRES/PhD Research Programme in Economics' applicants and 2+3 MRES Business School and current students

Applicant Category	Eligible to apply for Chancellor's International Scholarship
Applicant for the '2+4' MRes/PhD course or 2+3 MRes	✖
Current student in year 1 (Masters Level) of the '2+4' or '2+3'	✖
Current student year 2 (Masters Level) of the '2+4' or '2+3'	✔
Current student in year 1 of the '+4' (PhD Level) '2+3'	✖
Current student in year 2 of the '+4' (PhD Level) '2+3'	✖
Current student in year 3 of the '+4' (PhD Level) '2+3'	✖
Current student in year 4 of the '+4' (PhD Level)	✖

Appendix 2

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for International applicants and current students in a Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT)

Applicant Category	Eligible to apply for Chancellor's International Scholarship
Applicant for 1+3 in a CDT	✖
Applicant for PhD in a CDT	✔
Student in year 1 (Masters Year) of the '1+3'	✔
Student in year 1 of '+3' (PhD)	✖
Student in year 2 of '+3' (PhD)	✖
Student in year 3 of '+3' (PhD)	✖

Appendix 3

Ranking Criteria for competition applications

Applications are ranked in order of preference – 1 being the most highly ranked application.

Judgment is made under two broad categories: Person and Preparedness and Project and Place. The following descriptors indicate the characteristics considered under each heading. It is important to note that the descriptors below should be used to guide assessors, but the University has consciously moved away from a defined scoring criteria in order to recognize areas such as professional experience.

Person and Preparedness Descriptors*	Assessment
An applicant with an outstanding academic record, very well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by: ■ A first-class degree*, or a distinction at Masters level*, or equivalent professional experience or other markers of excellence ■ Excellent references ■ An awareness of Warwick's commitment to excellence in research and education through advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion.	Excellent
An applicant with a strong academic record, well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by: ■ An upper second-class degree*, or a merit at Masters level*, or equivalent professional experience ■ Good references	Good
An applicant who fulfils the academic requirements for entry to doctoral study but does not demonstrate that they are equipped to excel, usually evidenced by: ■ A lower second-class degree*, or a pass at Masters level*, or equivalent professional experience ■ Acceptable references	Acceptable
An applicant with a weak academic record, ill-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by: ■ A third-class degree* or no degree level qualification* ■ Poor references	Poor

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* An applicant with substantial and relevant professional experience may be judged to have an excellent, good or acceptable academic record without having achieved the degree classification associated with that category. Applicants in some disciplines are often established and successful practitioners undertaking applied research in professional contexts. They typically have significant professional knowledge and experience that bears directly on their ability to undertake doctoral research. Furthermore, in light of recent grade inflation, the degree classifications of applicants who graduated many years ago may not be directly comparable with the degree classifications of recent graduates. Reviewers are also encouraged to take into account protected characteristics of applicants and consider how this may have impacted academic performance (for example attainment gaps for Black students).

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Project and Place Descriptors	Assessment
- A project with the potential to make a significant contribution to the field - A clearly articulated and robustly justified research question - Sophisticated critical engagement with relevant literature - An appropriate and well-developed research design - An excellent fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, an excellent fit between the candidate's prior knowledge/experience and the project. - An excellent fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department/University. - A project that has impact in more than one discipline.	Excellent
- A project with the potential to make a strong impact within the student's field - A clearly articulated and justified research question - Critical engagement with relevant literature - An appropriate and partially developed research design - A good fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, a good fit between the candidate's prior knowledge/experience and the project. - A good fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department	Good
- A project with the potential to make an original contribution to the field - A clearly articulated research question - Engagement with relevant literature - An appropriate indicative research design - An acceptable fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, an acceptable fit between the candidate's prior knowledge/experience and the project. - An acceptable fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department	Acceptable
- A project without the potential to make an original contribution to the field - An unclear research question - Little or no engagement with relevant literature - An inappropriate research design - A poor fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, a poor fit between the candidate's prior knowledge/experience and the project. - A poor fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department	Poor

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