Postgraduate Research
Sanctuary Scholarship

Guidance Notes for Applicants
How to Apply

This is an open scheme and applications will be considered at any time. However, it may not be possible to commence study until a later point.

In order to apply for a scholarship, you must first complete a course application.

After submitting your course application, a Student ID number will be generated, you will need this to be able to access the scholarship system. Please be aware the Student ID numbers may take up to 48 hrs to be generated so you must allow time for this when completing your application.
## Scholarship details and eligibility

### Postgraduate Research Sanctuary Scholarship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of awards</th>
<th>Value/Length</th>
<th>Who can apply?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>o There are a limited numbers and not all applications will be successful</td>
<td>o Full payment of Overseas tuition fees</td>
<td>Applicants of any nationality who hold one of the following statuses as granted by the UK government:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o A maintenance stipend in line with UKRI rates (provisional £15,609* for full time holders in 2022/23) Pro-rata for part time.</td>
<td>o Refugee Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Length of funding: 4 years for new students</td>
<td>o Asylum Seeker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Research and Training Support Grant of £5,000</td>
<td>o Definite Leave to Remain as a result of an asylum seeker application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please note this is a UKRI provisional predicted figure and is subject to change*

**Please note: 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.
Scholarship competition timeline and process

How to apply

Navigating the Scholarship Application Form

To apply for the Postgraduate Research Sanctuary Scholarship you will need to click on the ‘Apply Now’ link on the scholarship page.

You will be taken to the scholarship application page where you complete and submit your application.
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 may verify your status with UKVI. They will contact you to seek your consent in doing so.

Documents must be converted to PDF before upload.

Request help
You may contact The Doctoral College by email if you require help at doctoralcollege@warwick.ac.uk.

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.

Here you will also need to select your immigration status.

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 300 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.

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.

4. Please provide any additional information of how the scholarship will assist your postgraduate study and details of your individual circumstances.
While your department may access your research proposal from your course application, the Faculty Assessors will use only your 500-word research proposal summary from your scholarship application. They will not have access to your full research proposal.

The 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 the Ranking Criteria.

Supporting documents

You will be required to upload supporting documents which evidence your immigration status. We will have access to your supporting documents uploaded with your course application and so you should not upload any additional documents. These will not be considered by the department.

What documents will be assessed with my application?

The department will have access to your supporting documents from your course application and will use these to make their recommendation.

Can I upload new documents after I have submitted my scholarship application?
You may upload new supporting documents to your course application however only the department can access these. The Doctoral College will not upload documents on your behalf.

What happens after your application is submitted?
Before you submit your application please review your application answers. The system will prevent you from submitting your application if you have not completed your application properly and will notify you of any issues.

You will not be able to amend your application once you have submitted. You can select to have a copy of your application emailed to you upon submission.
The Assessment Process

Competition for awards is 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.

Warwick operates a transparent ranking criteria that enables candidates to understand how their application will be assessed. Refer to Appendix 3 for the Ranking Criteria.

Selection and Assessment

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.

Decisions will be made by a panel of assessors selected across the Arts, Social Sciences, and Science, Engineering, and Medicine Faculties.

The Faculty Assessors will score independently then convene at the Faculty Graduate Awards Committee to discuss the ranked applications and approve the award allocations. It is the Faculty Graduate Awards Committee’s responsibility to ensure that university processes and policies are free, fair, and transparent.

Notification of scholarship results

We aim to inform all applicants of the result of their application within six weeks of submission.

Due to the volume of applications we receive each year, we are unable to provide any feedback to applicants.
Frequently Asked Questions

1. 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.*

2. 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.*

3. I’m updating my CV, where do I upload it?  
   *The scholarship assessors will not review CV’s as part of this competition.*

4. Can I apply now for entry in 2023/24?  
   *This is an open scheme and applications will be considered at any time. However, it may not be possible to commence study until a later point.*

5. My fee status is incorrect, how do I get this changed?  
   *You should contact the Postgraduate Admissions team regarding any course application decisions.*

6. Who do I contact if I have any queries not shown here?  
   *You can email the Doctoral College at doctoralcollege@warwick.ac.uk.*
## Appendix 1

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for ‘2+4 MRes/PhD Research Programme in Economics’ applicants and current students

### Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant Category</th>
<th>Eligible to apply for Postgraduate Research Sanctuary Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant for the ‘2+4’ MRes&gt;PhD course</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant for Year 2 (Masters Level) ‘2+4’ MRes&gt;PhD course</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student in year 1 (Masters Level) of the ‘2+4’</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student year 2 (Masters Level) of the ‘2+4’</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student in year 1 of the ‘+4’ (PhD Level)</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student in year 2 of the ‘+4’ (PhD Level)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student in year 3 of the ‘+4’ (PhD Level)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current student in year 4 of the ‘+4’ (PhD Level)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Appendix 2

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

### Eligibility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant Category</th>
<th>Eligible to apply for Postgraduate Research Sanctuary Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicant for 1+3 in a CDT</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant for PhD in a CDT</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student in year 1 (Masters Year) of the ‘1+3’</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student in year 1 of ‘+3’ (PhD)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student in year 2 of ‘+3’ (PhD)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student in year 3 of ‘+3’ (PhD)</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An applicant with an outstanding academic record, very well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</td>
<td>Excellent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a first class degree, or a distinction at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• excellent references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An applicant with a strong academic record, well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</td>
<td>Good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• an upper second class degree, or a merit at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• good references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An applicant that fulfils the academic requirements for entry to doctoral study but does not demonstrate that they are equipped to excel, usually evidenced by:</td>
<td>Acceptable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a lower second class degree, or a pass at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• acceptable references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An applicant with a weak academic record, ill-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</td>
<td>Poor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a third class degree or no degree level qualification</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• poor references</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 * An applicant with substantial and relevant professional experience may be judged to have an outstanding, strong or solid 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project and Place descriptors(^2)</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • 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 | 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 |

\(^2\) In disciplines where the project is recruited to rather than designed by the applicant, greater reliance will be given to the departmental statement demonstrating the expected characteristics.