

University of Hull Undergraduate Scholarships Policy 2014-15 First year entrants in 2014

1. Background principles

This policy and procedural document aims to clarify the purpose, eligibility and conditions for undergraduate scholarship awards available to new entrants at the University of Hull (the University) in 2014/15.

The *University of Hull Scholarship* aims to provide financial support to entrants with high levels of academic achievement who come from backgrounds of low residual household income (RHI). This positions our scholarship as part of our commitment to fair access in line with the government's National Scholarship Programme.

A number of key national and institutional criteria make certain courses and individuals ineligible for these awards (see section 12 for further details).

The award of a *University of Hull Scholarship* nullifies any *University of Hull Bursary* award which would otherwise have been made.

Users of this document are invited to refer any unaddressed issue to access@hull.ac.uk in writing.

2. Eligibility for an Award

To receive a *University of Hull Scholarship*:

- Full and part time students must demonstrate a residual household income of less than £42,600 for the tax year ending April 2013, through assessment by Student Finance England. Section 12 gives further information.
- Students must have been assessed by the University as being required to pay tuition fees at the home student rate of £9,000 (part time pro rata). EU students who are required to pay fees at this £9,000 rate are eligible for consideration but international students (outside the EU) are ineligible.
- Students will have achieved AAB at A Level (or an equivalent qualification, as specified at www.hull.ac.uk). The University does not recognise General Studies A level grades for the purpose of the scholarship.
- Please note that for the purposes of scholarship eligibility and conditions, the University does not distinguish between clearing and adjustment applications and pre-clearing applications. Academic or learning excellence will be considered at matriculation levels, as defined by University Regulations:
 - UK equivalents – <http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/pdf/Student%20eligible%20for%20scholarship%20equivalence%20chart.pdf>
 - Via the UoH Scholarship page – www.hull.ac.uk/scholarship

- EU equivalents – [http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/pdf/EU%20AAB%20Equivalents%20\(post%20IMG\).pdf](http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/pdf/EU%20AAB%20Equivalents%20(post%20IMG).pdf)
- via the UoH EU Scholarship page – <http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/money/ugeu/scholarship.aspx>

The following groups of students are not eligible to be considered for a *University of Hull Scholarship*:

- Students undertaking a foundation year. However students who have completed a University of Hull foundation year may be considered for an award if they subsequently enrol on an eligible undergraduate degree programme.
- Students who have previously undertaken HE.
- Students who are fully or partially sponsored (see Appendix 1).
- Students entering courses funded by or supported through the NHS.
- Students entering courses funded by or supported through TDA post graduate funding arrangements, such as the Post Graduate Certificate in Education.
- International students (outside the EU).
- Students who do not complete applications with Student Finance England.

The accompanying tables at section 12 show full eligibility criteria for the *University of Hull Scholarship* and list those who would be ineligible.

3. Applications

University of Hull Scholarships will be automatically awarded and do not require a selection process as long as students consent to share their financial information through Student Finance England and evidence of qualifications is in place. Section 12 provides further information.

Consideration for the *University of Hull Scholarship* is automatically completed in late August for those who have met or exceeded the eligibility criteria and for whom RHI information is available. Further consideration for awards takes place throughout the year as information becomes available from the Student Loan Company.

4. Continuation of Award

2014/15 *University of Hull Scholarships* are awarded for three years of study and eligibility is determined based on qualifications and residual household income levels at the time of entry. However,

- Students will not receive any scholarship award for periods of study (e.g. repeated years) for which awards have already been made.
- Scholarships are not payable during any period where the University tuition fee is reduced (e.g. a year abroad or a year's placement in industry).
- Student withdrawal from study ends all scholarship awards (from the date of formal withdrawal). If an awardee undertakes only part of a programme of study (e.g. intercalation or withdrawal) they will be entitled to their scholarship

payments/elements of credit package only if they are actively engaged in their course on 1 December and 1 March (for payment in arrears following the relevant date).

- If an awardee intercalates, they will remain eligible for the remainder of the award upon return to full time study, providing they continue to satisfy eligibility and progression criteria.
- Scholarships are payable for a maximum of 3 years (including situations where an awardee changes to another eligible programme of study).

5. Appeals

Any new entrant who believes (s)he has been unfairly excluded from an award (or part of it) has the right to appeal. Full details are included at Appendix 2.

6. Number of awards

Please refer to section 12.

7. Scholarship package

The *University of Hull Scholarship* provides elements of fee waiver which are logged on the individual student record at Student Finance England in the autumn of the academic year.

7a. University of Hull Scholarships

The *University of Hull Scholarship* provides any combination of the following options to each scholarship awardee in 2014/15, to the value of £2,400:

- Fee waiver
- Cash
- Accommodation discount

Please note:

- Eligible EU and part time (pro-rata) students can only select the fee waiver option.
- Accommodation relates to 'University of Hull' and 'University of Hull Managed' accommodation only.
- Other arrangements may be made available in years 2 and 3.

8. Payment of Awards

University of Hull Scholarships provide the potential for payments of cash:

- As a general principle no award will be paid prior to registration.
- Cash payments are staggered through the academic year directly into the awardee's bank account.

- In order to receive the payment an awardee must sign the student's declaration section of the PN1 form (for each year of the course) which is available from www.gov.uk/studentfinance
- Bank details must have been supplied on the PN1 form so that the award can be paid directly into the awardee's bank account.

Please note a Scholarship award may be considered as income received for the purposes of any application to the University of Hull's Access to Learning Fund.

9. Publicity

The University will ensure that the Scholarship scheme mentioned above is publicised as widely as possible to potential applicants to the University, in line with the requirements of the National Scholarship Programme. This will include the University of Hull website (www.hull.ac.uk) and other printed promotional materials. Publicity will normally include full conditions/eligibility criteria relating to the scholarships and be updated by mid-September each year for the following September entry.

Relevant schemes may also be promoted by individual academic departments in their promotional literature and websites whilst ensuring content is appropriately referenced to the University website (www.hull.ac.uk) to ensure current information is always available.

All Access Agreements are published on the OFFA website (www.offa.org.uk).

10. Responsibilities

The University's Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Engagement) has overall responsibility within the University for the Implementation of this policy. The practical implementation of the policy is the responsibility of the Director of Student Recruitment, assisted by members of the Directorate.

Management of the various elements of the awarded scholarships, including the payment of any cash, resides with appropriate departments across the University.

11. Monitoring and Review of this Policy

This document refers explicitly to arrangements for scholarships awarded to those entering the University in 2014/15. The policy will be formally reviewed to meet the needs of 2015/16.

12. Individual scholarship arrangements

| 12a | Scholarship title | University of Hull Scholarship 2014-15 |
|-----|---------------------------|--|
| | Mode of attendance | Full or part time (including distance learning) |
| | Place of attendance | Hull or Scarborough campus |
| | Fee category | Home/EU with programme fees at £9,000 per annum (P/T pro rata) |
| | Level of study | Undergraduate honours |
| | Eligibility criteria | <p>Registered as a student at University of Hull</p> <p>Provided necessary financial information via Student Finance England</p> <p>Entrant offers AAB at 'A' level, or equivalent (excluding General Studies)</p> <p>For equivalences for Home students see http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/pdf/Student%20eligible%20for%20scholarship%20equivalence%20chart.pdf</p> <p>For equivalences for EU students see http://www2.hull.ac.uk/student/pdf/EU%20AAB%20Equivalents%20(post%20IMG).pdf</p> <p>RHI of less than £42,600 in 2012/2013 (note 1)</p> |
| | Ineligible entrants | <p>National regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those who fail to submit information to permit demonstration of calculation of RHI, or whose assessment gives RHI of £42,600 or above • Those on NHS funded programmes of study • Students directly continuing from one course to another (e.g. Foundation degree to 2nd/final year of honours degree) • Students transferring in from another institution • Students undertaking a postgraduate qualification • Students who have previously undertaken HE • Students ordinarily resident in Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Channel Islands or Isle of Man • Part time student studying at less than 25% intensity of the full time equivalent • Students whose fees are paid or part paid through a sponsorship arrangement (see Appendix 1) <p>University regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrants paying less than £9,000 per year tuition fee (pro rata for part time entrants) • Foundation year students (although University of Hull foundation year students can be considered on entering the 'first year' of their degree) • Entrants to Foundation degree |
| | Value of award | £2,400 p.a. (£7,200 in total available) – pro rata for part time students |
| | Year(s) award made | Years 1-3 of full honours degree (or years 1, 2 and 4 for students on 4 year degree programme) |
| | Continuation arrangements | Recipients must be actively involved in their programme of study and must meet the academic progression requirements for entry to the |

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|-------|----------------------------|---|
| | | subsequent level of the programme |
| | Deadline for applying | Not applicable |
| | Number of awards available | Unlimited |
| | Composition of award | Choice of credit package £2,400 (NB Pro rata for part time students with whole award to be taken as fee waiver) |
| Notes | Note 1 | For full time undergraduate 2014 entry Student Finance England will automatically use the tax year April 2012 to April 2013. If household income has dropped by at least 15% students/parents can give their most up-to-date financial information by completing a 'Current year income assessment form' (CYI form). Please note, if student/parent is intending to complete a CYI form they must also give the 2012-13 tax year information as part of the student's application. |

Appendix 1: Sponsorship

The impact of full or part sponsorship in the context of the University of Hull is that it reduces fees payable by the individual student entering full honours degrees to less than £9,000 per annum and results in students becoming ineligible for bursary or scholarships in line with NSP guidance.

The following examples illustrate this situation:

- **Corporate sponsorship** of an individual from an employing organisation, managed via a system of purchase order and invoice.
- Students entering ordinarily resident in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland who are required to personally pay reduced fees, the balance being covered by government/assembly funds (**Government sponsorship**).
- Where academic departments charge discounted fees (**University sponsorship**).

The following groups are excluded from the above definition of sponsorship:

- Students entering from a background of care who are assisted by their local council in line with the Children and Young Persons Act 2008 which requires local authorities to give a minimum bursary of £2,000 to care leavers starting a recognised higher education course in line with OFFA guidance. (**Corporate parenting**)
- Students entering from a background of care who are assisted with fees by local councils. (**Corporate parenting**)
- Self-financing students are also excluded from the definition of sponsorship, provided they have residual household income below £25,000 with evidence verified by Student Finance England and consent to share given.

Appendix 2: **Guidance on University of Hull Appeals Procedure relating to Scholarships and Bursaries**

Appeals Procedure - Guidance

University of Hull Scholarship

If you believe you were entitled to a *University of Hull Scholarship* but are unhappy with the assessment or amount awarded, you may have the right to appeal.

Before you appeal

Before appealing there are a few steps you can take:

- 1 Email hefunding@hull.ac.uk to address any initial queries before you go to appeal.
- 2 Check you fulfil the eligibility criteria for an award (see section 12 of the University of Hull Undergraduate Scholarships Policy 2014-15).
- 3 Check that you provided the appropriate information for Student Finance England (SFE) to be able to process your finance application and that all consents for SFE to share your information with the University have been provided.
- 4 Check your information has been processed by Student Finance England.

How do you know if you can appeal?

You can appeal when:

- you think you meet all the bursary/or scholarship eligibility criteria.
- you have provided evidence of your residual household income.
- all consents for SFE to share your information with the university were provided.

When you can't appeal

You can't appeal when:

- you don't meet the necessary eligibility criteria.
- you have not given your consent to SFE to share your information with the University.
- you have not provided evidence of your residual household income.
- you have appealed previously.

Who can appeal?

Appeals must be made by the student concerned, who is registered at the University of Hull. Someone else cannot appeal on your behalf.

Deadline for appeals

Appeals must be made during the academic year concerned. Appeals should be made no later than 8 weeks prior to the end of the academic year concerned.

How to appeal

The appeal should be made in writing after you have had confirmation from Student Finance England of your national student financial support eligibility.

Appeals should be made in writing to the Access, Funding and Support Officer.

Appeals should include your name, contact details, student number and course. You should say in your appeal what you think is wrong.

You will need to send your appeal to:
Access, Funding and Support Officer
Access, Funding and Support Office
The University of Hull
Hull
HU6 7RX

What happens next?

Your eligibility will be checked. All completed appeals are reviewed within 2-4 weeks. You will be notified of the outcome of your appeal via an email to your University email account.

The possible outcomes are:

- 1 You are not eligible for the *University of Hull Scholarship* and the decision will be explained to you.
- 2 If there is missing information or evidence which is required in order to assess your claim you will be asked to withdraw your appeal and ensure the required information is supplied.
- 3 You may be eligible for the *University of Hull Scholarship* and you will be notified regarding how it will be paid.
- 4 You may be directed to others sources of support.

If you are unhappy with the appeal decision the case will be reviewed by the Director of Student Recruitment, whose decision is final.

Withdrawing your appeal

You can withdraw your appeal at any time by writing to the Access, Funding and Support Office.