

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME TERMS & CONDITIONS: JANUARY 2024 INTAKE

1. Purpose and Scope

- 1.1. This document outlines the eligibility and assessment criteria for full-time International fee paying Postgraduate Taught students to receive scholarships from Aston University. This policy is correct at the time of publishing (August 2023) but may be subject to change.
- 1.2. Applicants who are classed as Home for tuition fee purposes should consult <http://www.aston.ac.uk/scholarships/> and navigate to the UK student scholarship pages of the Aston website for details of available scholarships and terms and conditions.
- 1.3. This policy applies to applicants who are classed as Overseas for tuition fee purposes. The relevant scholarship awards and their application criteria can be found at <https://www2.aston.ac.uk/scholarships/international.>
- 1.4. The International Scholarship Scheme is subject to the terms and conditions set out in this document. The University reserves the right to terminate a scholarship where a student is in breach of any of these terms and conditions, or, if any information provided to the University as part of a scholarship application is found to be false or misleading. In such circumstances, the student will be liable for any tuition fees incurred.

2. General Provisions

- 2.1. A student may be eligible for an Aston International Scholarship if:
 - 2.1.1. They are classed as an Overseas student for tuition fee purposes;
 - 2.1.2. They are holding an offer for a full-time Postgraduate Taught programme at Aston University which will start in the Spring Term commencing January 2024;
 - 2.1.3. They are entering into the first year of study on a degree programme taught by Aston University;
 - 2.1.4. They meet all of the conditions set out in their offer letter;
 - 2.1.5. They pay their programme deposit (if applicable) by the deadline stipulated in their offer letter;
 - 2.1.6. They complete any application requirements and meet any additional criteria required for the scholarship schemes being offered, as set out on our website.
- 2.2. A student who has all or part of their fees paid by a sponsor will not be eligible for an Aston Scholarship unless that sponsor has an official agreement confirming eligibility with Aston University.
- 2.3. Sponsors include, but are not limited to, His Majesty's UK Government, overseas governments or another national body, the British Council or any international organisation, any international company, or any other university.
- 2.4. Any student considered to be in debt to Aston University will not be eligible to receive a scholarship award in full or in part.
- 2.5. For the purposes of this policy, a student will be considered to be in debt to the University if they have received the third notice that a payment is overdue.
- 2.6. A student may only receive one Aston scholarship/discount per programme studied.
- 2.7. Where a student is eligible for more than one scholarship/discount the student will be awarded the one of the highest value to the student.

- 2.7.1. An exception to this rule is an Early Bird Discount Scheme for January 2024. Students who are eligible for the Early Bird Discount Scheme for January 2024 can also be eligible for one additional scholarship scheme for the same intake.
- 2.8. Successful scholarship applicants will be awarded a scholarship in the form of a discount on their tuition fees for the first year of study only, unless otherwise advertised. Applicants will be informed by the Scholarship Panel the level of scholarship which has been awarded to them.
- 2.9. Scholarships advertised for multiple years of study will be reconfirmed at the start of each academic year; subject to maintenance of an average grade equivalent to an upper second class degree grade at Aston University and passing all modules of study.
- 2.10. At Aston's discretion, clauses 2.2-2.9 may be waived under specific conditions or for specific scholarships schemes or campaigns. Details of any waiver will be set out on our website.

3. Applying for a Scholarship

- 3.1. Applications for International Scholarships must be made by following the instructions set out on our website. Failure to follow these instructions fully may render an application void.
- 3.2. There are a number of different categories of scholarship. Under some categories, student eligibility will be assessed automatically by the University's Admissions Office based on the information provided in the application to study on an Aston University degree programme. Students who are eligible for scholarship categories which automatically apply, will receive an offer of a scholarship from Aston's Admissions Office.
- 3.3. Other categories of scholarship require an additional scholarship application to be submitted, usually in the form of a short personal statement or a video, or an interview to be conducted. Please consult our website for more information on how to apply for each scholarship scheme. Students are required to confirm that any material submitted as part of their application is their own work and does not infringe the intellectual property rights of a third party. Scholarship interviews must be conducted by the student who has applied for the scholarship.
 - 3.3.1. Any scholarship applications with materials not accessible to Aston University staff to review and assess will not be considered and not be eligible for later reconsideration.
 - 3.3.2. Aston University has the right to re-use scholarship application material in future marketing campaigns.
- 3.4. In order to be awarded a scholarship, a student must meet the scholarship application deadline of the particular scholarship award. For automatic scholarships, this means accepting the course place before the acceptance deadline, outlined in the offer letter. For application or interview-based scholarships, this means completing the scholarship application form through our website by the deadline stated for that particular scholarship award which will be advertised on our website.
- 3.5. Scholarship applicants should read in full the scholarship application and eligibility criteria prior to applying for a scholarship, as set out on our website.
- 3.6. Students are entitled to apply for more than one scholarship award; however, students will only be awarded one scholarship, of the highest value (see 2.2-2.7).
- 3.7. Applications will only be considered for international students holding an offer to study a full-time postgraduate taught programme at Aston's Birmingham campus in the UK.

- 3.8. Students studying online, via blended learning, part time or any other method of learning are not eligible for scholarships covered by these terms and conditions.
- 3.9. Some scholarship awards come with additional benefits or responsibilities, for example, working as an ambassador for Aston. Any additional benefits or responsibilities will be listed on Aston's website.

4. Approving and Awarding

- 4.1. Scholarships are a discount made against the tuition fee applicable to the specific programme of study that the student is seeking to enrol upon. No cash or cost of living alternative is available.
- 4.2. Scholarship entitlement will normally be approved before the commencement of the degree programme. It is not possible to consider a student for a new scholarship award once the degree programme has commenced.
- 4.3. If a Scholarship has been awarded, the fee discount will be applied to the student's tuition fee liability. Aston Scholarships will normally be available only to students who have been in attendance, as defined by the University throughout term one and term two and are still in attendance at the start of term three. Students who withdraw from Aston University part way through an academic year will not be eligible to receive a scholarship in respect of that year. Any tuition fee discount applied to the student for that academic year as the result of an Aston Scholarship will be withdrawn and the full cost for that period will be applied. The student will be liable to repay any underpayment that may result from this.
- 4.4. Students who are repeating any modules within the programme are not eligible for scholarships regardless of whether they are repeating with attendance, without attendance, or with partial attendance.
- 4.5. Where a student suspends their studies and takes a Leave of Absence for a complete academic year (i.e. October to October) no tuition fee is charged and, therefore, the student will not be eligible to receive a scholarship.
- 4.6. Students who suspend their studies part way through an academic year and take a Leave of Absence will be eligible to receive a scholarship for the academic terms they have completed in full. The amount of the scholarship will be calculated on a pro rata basis and in line with Aston University's Tuition Fees Charging Policy.
- 4.7. Scholarships are valid for study on a Postgraduate Taught programme at Aston University and are not transferable to another University.
- 4.8. The scholarships are valid for programmes of study commencing in the academic year 2023/24 only and cannot be carried forward to another academic year.
- 4.9. Scholarships are valid for the specified programme of study at Aston University and may not normally be transferred to a different programme.
- 4.10. Any evidence submitted after the final decision on the student's eligibility has been made will not be considered, unless the student can demonstrate there was a good reason why the information could not be made available at the time of application.
- 4.11. The decision of the awarding panel is final. Applicants may appeal against the decision only if they can show that there has been a procedural error. Appeals should be addressed to the Director of Student and Academic Services.

Terms & Conditions validity: January 2024 intake only

Further Information: Contact Aston's International Office (international@aston.ac.uk)

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