

UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholarship

Terms and Conditions

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These Terms and Conditions are important, and you should take the time to read them once you have been awarded the UWE Bristol Sanctuary scholarship.

If you have any questions about the Sanctuary Scholarship, please contact ediprojects@uwe.ac.uk

1. What is the UWE University of Sanctuary Scholarship?

- 1.1 The UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholarship is open to new undergraduate students taking up a place of study at UWE Bristol, who have UK Asylum status or Discretionary/Limited Leave to Remain as a result of an Asylum application, and those with Humanitarian Protection (as a result of an asylum application) who do not meet the residency requirements to access UK loans for their studies.
- 1.2 If you have refugee status, humanitarian protection or have been granted leave under the Ukraine Schemes, and are eligible for UK student finance, you are not eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship. You will be offered the same means-tested support we offer to other financially vulnerable groups through [UWE Cares](#), including the [UWE Cares Enhanced Bursary](#).

2. What the UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholarship offers

- 2.1 UWE will offer two Sanctuary Scholarships each year, for new applicants to Undergraduate Degree programmes. The Scholarship will include:
 - Full tuition fee waiver for the duration of the course (maximum four years for full-time study or six years for part-time study) for students who are not eligible for UK government student finance.
 - £5,000 annual bursary for the duration of the course, as a contribution towards study costs (maximum four years for full-time study or six years for part-time study).
 - Access to support from UWE Cares.
- 2.2 The allocation of the scholarship is competitive and so not all applications received may be successful.

3. Eligibility criteria

- 3.1 To apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship, you must hold a conditional or unconditional offer of undergraduate study from UWE Bristol.
- 3.2 You must meet all the conditions of the offer of a place (e.g. academic and English language qualifications) to be able start your studies.
- 3.3 You must be unable to access UK government student financial support for higher education because of your immigration status.
- 3.4 You must be able to provide evidence to the satisfaction of the University that your asylum application is under consideration by the UK Home Office or evidence that you meet one of the other immigration status requirements detailed below.
- 3.5 The scholarships offer a maximum of four years of funding for full-time study, or six years for part-time study. During this time, you should be a registered student and progressing your university course.
- 3.6 You are eligible to apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship if you fall into one of the following immigration status groups:
 1. You have submitted a claim for asylum within the UK and are awaiting a response (this includes submission of a fresh claim).
 2. You have been granted Limited Leave to Remain (formerly Discretionary Leave to Remain) on the grounds of seeking protection in the UK and are not eligible for funding via Student Finance England.
 3. You have been awarded 'Humanitarian Protection' or Refugee status in the UK but are not eligible for funding via Student Finance England.
 4. You have left care in the UK and are assessed as international for tuition fee purposes and are not eligible for funding via Student Finance England.
 5. You are a family member or dependent of any of the above status groups, and your application is dependent on theirs or your leave has been granted in line with theirs.
- 3.7 You do not have a 'no study' immigration bail condition, as confirmed by the Home Office.
- 3.8 You live within easy commutable distance to the University of the West of England. We will give priority to applicants already residing in the Bristol area.
- 3.9 The University will also need to check/verify your immigration status with the Home Office, and if required to do so, we will contact you about this. You will need to consent to this and assist us in this respect. We will ask to see one or more documents from the following list:
 - Application Registration Card (ARC)
 - Section 120 One Stop Notice
 - BAIL 201
 - Biometric Residence Permit (BRP) showing refugee status, limited leave to remain etc.

- Home Office Travel Document (e.g. 1951 convention document)
- Documents from UKVI showing the progress of the application or appeal
- Passport used to travel to the UK.

4. Eligible courses

- 4.1 To be eligible to apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship you must hold an offer to study on a UWE Bristol Undergraduate course (including Foundation years). This can be any full-time course of up to four years duration, or part-time course of up to six years duration.
- 4.2 Full-time courses of greater than four years standard duration, or part-time courses of greater than six years standard duration, are not eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship. The Sanctuary Scholarship is not accepting applications for study on Postgraduate courses.

5. Payments

- 5.1 The Sanctuary Scholarship is only open to you if you are not eligible for UK Government student loans or other significant sponsorship funding towards your fees and living costs. The University reserves the right to vary this policy in particular individual circumstances, where the additional funding received may be limited. The University reserves the right not to allocate, or to withdraw and seek repayment of your fee waiver and bursary, if you already have, or are later awarded a scholarship or sponsorship package.
- 5.2 All Sanctuary Scholars will receive a £5,000 annual bursary as a contribution towards study costs. We will agree with the scholarship recipient the most appropriate way to pay the bursary. It may be paid in instalments and could include provision of vouchers or other in-kind support (eg. provision of equipment).
- 5.3 A Sanctuary Fee Waiver will cover the full cost of your tuition fees for the normal duration of your undergraduate course (up to a maximum of four years for a full-time undergraduate course, or six years for a part-time undergraduate course). Students will be funded for one additional year of Sanctuary Scholarship payments should you need to repeat a year. Should students withdraw or suspend their studies any future payments will be suspended.

6. Right to Study

- 6.1 Please note: if you apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship, UWE Bristol will be required to conduct a Right to Study check with the UK Home Office.
- If you do not have the right to study confirmed by the UK Home Office, you will not be permitted to start your programme of study.
 - Any decision will be final and cannot be appealed.

- If you are awarded a Sanctuary Scholarship, and you are someone who is subject to immigration control, then by accepting the Scholarship you have consented for UWE Bristol to conduct a Right to Study check at the start of each term. UWE Bristol will seek your consent for any additional check that is required.

7. Renewal of the Scholarship

7.1 The Sanctuary Scholarship award covers the ordinary duration of your studies, up to a maximum of four years for full-time study or six years for part-time study. The Sanctuary Scholarship award is renewable each year provided that all the following conditions continue to be met:

- You must continue to be registered on your course at the time of each payment.
- You must continue to provide satisfactory evidence of your immigration and/or asylum status each academic year or whenever requested.
- You must continue to have a Right to Study in the UK.

8. Changes of Circumstances or Course of Study

Withdrawal:

- 8.1 After you have withdrawn from your studies, you will not be eligible for any further Sanctuary Scholarship payments.
- 8.2 You will not have to repay any Sanctuary Scholarship instalments previously paid to you whilst you were registered and in attendance on the date of the payment.
- 8.3 If you withdraw, and your Sanctuary Scholarship was covering your tuition fees, your Sanctuary Scholarship tuition fee award will be adjusted to meet any adjusted tuition fee liability.

Internal Transfers:

- 8.4 Your Sanctuary Scholarship only covers your original chosen course.
- 8.5 A student who transfers course within UWE Bristol will normally be entitled to the Sanctuary Scholarship award equivalent to the duration of their original degree, less any years' worth of support already paid.
- 8.6 If you are considering transferring course, you must inform the Student Money Service **before** any change is finalised with your School to discuss the implication on your Sanctuary Scholarship funding.
- 8.7 If you transfer **after** the Scholarship has been awarded, then any additional funding that may be needed to cover additional tuition fees, as a result of any course change, will only be paid at the discretion of the Student Money Service and is not guaranteed.

- 8.8 Any undergraduate student who, after having been notified of their Sanctuary Scholarship award, transfers to a course that is longer in duration than their original course (e.g. transfer from a BSc to an MSci, or transfer to a course with a year in industry), is not guaranteed funding for their additional year.
- 8.9 A student who transfers to a programme with a tuition fee that is greater than the tuition fee for their original programme, may themselves be liable to pay the difference between the two tuition fee levels.
- 8.10 A student who transfers to a University affiliated college will no longer continue to be eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship.

External Transfers:

- 8.11 The UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholarship is non-transferable.
- 8.12 If you transfer to a different University, your Sanctuary Scholarship payments will cease when your UWE Bristol course registration ends.

Repeating Studies:

- 8.13 Sanctuary Scholarship funding may not be available for any period of repeat study.
- 8.14 You may need to be able to self-fund any period of repeat study, including tuition fees and living costs.
- 8.15 If during the period of repeat study your Scholarship entitlement is put on hold, this will restart once you have successfully completed the period of repeat study and satisfactorily progressed on your studies.

Suspending studies:

- 8.16 If you are considering suspending your studies, you must inform the Student Money Service before any change is finalised with your School.
- 8.17 If you have agreement from your School to temporarily suspend your studies, you may not be entitled to receive Sanctuary Scholarship award payments during the suspension period.
- 8.18 Your Scholarship entitlement during any suspension period is at the discretion of the Student Money Service.

Changing from studying full-time to part-time:

- 8.19 If you are considering changing from full-time study to part-time study during your studies, you must inform the Student Money Service before any change is finalised with your School.
- 8.20 If you have agreement from your School to temporarily change from a full-time to a part-time mode of attendance, you may not be entitled to receive Sanctuary Scholarship award payments during your extended study period.

8.21 Your Scholarship entitlement during any period of extended study is at the discretion of the Student Money Service.

9. Change in immigration status during studies

9.1 If you receive any change to your immigration status you must inform the Immigration Advice Service immediately.

- This would include any response from the Home Office regarding an application made, whether in the positive or negative, as well as any further immigration applications submitted, notification of changes to status or the terms associated with your granted status.
- Any communication from or to the Home Office regarding your status and its terms should be brought to the attention of the Immigration Advice Service so your continued Right to Study can be confirmed.

9.2 If you have a change in your immigration status, which means that you become eligible for UK Government student financial support, you must apply for this support without delay. Once the Immigration Advice Service has been informed by you of this change to your immigration status, a Student Money Service Advisor will assist you in applying for this support. You would then be expected to re-apply for UK Government student financial support in each subsequent year, should you remain eligible.

9.3 Once your UK Government student financial support has been assessed and awarded, you will have your Sanctuary Scholarship entitlement reassessed to take into account any Government student funding which you may be eligible to receive.

9.4 If your change in immigration status means that you become eligible for UK student finance, then we reserve the right to withdraw any funding offered via this scheme. If a change in status is after the start of the academic year, then we reserve the right to calculate your fee waiver on a pro rata basis and it will only be payable up until the end of the year in which your immigration status changed.

9.5 If you lose your entitlement to the Sanctuary Scholarship because you become eligible for UK student finance, you may still be entitled to support from UWE Cares as a refugee student, including the UWE Cares Enhanced Bursary. However, this support will not include a fee waiver.

Change in Nationality Status:

9.6 You must inform the Student Money Service if your nationality status changes at any point during your application or studies.

9.7 Your fee status and student support may be affected by any change in Nationality.

10. Support during the scholarship

- 10.1 UWE Bristol is committed to helping you succeed, so UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholars will be offered ongoing pastoral support through [UWE Cares](#). UWE Cares aims to help you settle in, make the most of the many opportunities that UWE Bristol has to offer, and provide you with information and support to help overcome challenges or worries you might face.
- 10.2 Successful Sanctuary Scholars will have:
- A named contact for queries and concerns,
 - 1-to-1 student appointments, and
 - extra events and opportunities to help you meet people and develop your skills and confidence for the future.
- 10.3 You will receive a regular newsletter to help you access information, guidance and employment and social opportunities.
- 10.4 UWE Cares will also provide you with a named Careers Coach to help you reach your goals and support you to access specialist services across the university, including Wellbeing Services, Disability Services, academic advice through Student Support Advisors, Study Skills through Library Services and financial education and support through Student Money Services.
- 10.5 If you are a successful UWE Bristol Sanctuary Scholar, UWE Cares will contact you after you register for your course. We look forward to meeting you and learning more about how we can help you reach your goals and enjoy your time studying with us at UWE Bristol.

11. Commitments for UWE Bristol Sanctuary scholars

- 11.1 As UWE Bristol Sanctuary scholar, you will be expected to attend an annual event.
- 11.2 As UWE Bristol Sanctuary scholar, you are required to promote the UWE Sanctuary scholarship.
- 11.3 Following graduation, you will be expected to be an active member of the UWE Alumni Community by helping the University to promote its programmes to prospective students.