National Scholarship Programme 2013-14

The National Scholarship Programme (NSP) is a Government initiative which gives financial help to students in higher education in England. The University of Essex’s participation in the NSP enables self-supporting students or those from low income families to attend the University. For students who meet the national and University criteria, we are offering a subsidy of £3,000 for University accommodation in the first year of study to 370 full-time undergraduate students at the Colchester Campus and for up to three years of study to 20 full-time undergraduate students at the Southend Campus. Awards under the NSP are given in addition to any other loans, grants or financial awards you might receive.

Terms and conditions

The terms and conditions of the University of Essex National Scholarship Programme offered in the academic year 2013-14 are as follows:

1. Eligibility

To be eligible for the National Scholarship Programme you must meet all of the following conditions:

- Be eligible for UK home fees and ordinarily resident in England (overseas and EU students are not eligible)\(^1\);
- Have an annual household income of up to £25,000 as assessed by Student Finance England;
- Register for a full-time undergraduate course\(^2\) at the University of Essex with first enrolment in 2013-14;
- Be in your first year of study at the University at the start of the award;
- If you are a Southend Campus student, you must successfully progress to the second and third year of study and remain in University accommodation in order to receive the accommodation subsidy in the second and third years;
- Have applied to the University of Essex through UCAS for 2013 entry by 30 June 2013\(^3\) and have received an offer of admission for entry in 2013;
- Have made a means-tested application to Student Finance England with the University of Essex as your chosen institution and have given your consent to the sharing of financial details by 23 August 2013;
- Have applied for accommodation at the University by our accommodation application deadline of 23 August 2013.

Under the national eligibility criteria of the NSP, the following students are not eligible

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\(^1\) As defined under The Education (Fees & Awards) Regulations 2007

\(^2\) Courses leading to the award of a Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, Foundation Degree, Bachelors Degree, Integrated Masters (four years).

\(^3\) Students admitted directly through the Record of Prior Acceptance process for Therapeutic Communication & Therapeutic Organisations (Child & Adolescent) (LX51 FdA) or Therapeutic Communication & Therapeutic Organisations (Adult) (L951 FdA) do not need to have applied by 30 June 2013 in order to meet the eligibility criteria.
for the award, regardless of meeting the above criteria:

- Students funded by the NHS;
- Students undertaking a postgraduate initial teacher training course leading to qualified teacher status;
- Students directly continuing from one course to another (for example from foundation degree or HND on to the final year of an honours degree);
- Students transferring in from another UK higher education institution;
- Students undertaking a postgraduate qualification;
- Part-time students studying at less than 25 per cent intensity of the full-time equivalent;
- Any other students whose fees are paid or part-paid through a sponsorship arrangement.

2. How do students apply?

If you meet all the eligibility criteria above, you will be considered for the NSP accommodation discount for 2013-14. You do not need to complete an application form. As the number of scholarships is limited to 370 for the Colchester Campus and 20 for the Southend Campus, we cannot guarantee that you will receive the award, even if your household income is below the threshold. NSPs will be awarded to those with the lowest incomes first, up to the maximum household income threshold of £25,000.

Please note, in order to be considered, you must have:

- Applied for University accommodation by the published accommodation application deadline of 23 August 2013, [www.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/apply](http://www.essex.ac.uk/accommodation/apply);
- Applied through UCAS by 30 June 2013 to study a full-time undergraduate course at the University of Essex with first enrolment in 2013-14; [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk)
- Made a means-tested application to Student Finance England with the University of Essex as your choice of institution by 23 August 2013, [www.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.gov.uk/studentfinance)

3. Can I also receive the Academic Excellence Scholarship?

The NSP may be held in conjunction with other University awards.

4. Can I receive the NSP if I apply through the Adjustment or Clearing process?

The eligibility criteria require students to have applied through the UCAS system by 30 June 2013. The NSP is therefore not available to students admitted through the Adjustment or Clearing process. Students admitted through these processes may be eligible for other financial awards, including the Academic Excellence Scholarship.
5. When will I be notified?
If you have been awarded the NSP accommodation subsidy, you will be notified by the end of August 2013.

6. Payment arrangements

The scholarship will be given as a discount on one year’s accommodation costs at the Colchester Campus and up to three years’ accommodation costs at the Southend Campus. If the cost of your accommodation is greater than the award you will need to pay the difference. If it is less than the award we will give you the additional amount as a cash payment during the relevant academic year. If you opt for the two year accommodation deal at our Southend campus, you will still be eligible for the NSP but your accommodation contract will show the second year at full cost; your payment arrangements in your second year will be amended once you have been re-assessed for the NSP to include the subsidy.

7. I am applying for direct entry to the second year – am I still eligible?

Students applying for direct entry to the second year will be considered for the NSP, subject to the eligibility criteria above.

8. What if I withdraw from my course?

Your NSP accommodation subsidy is allocated on a nightly basis over your full period of allocation (set out in your offer and allocation letters). If you withdraw from your course, you will not be entitled to any remaining payment under this scheme.

Note: These terms and conditions apply to the academic year 2013-14. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary in subsequent years.