

# University of Sanctuary Scholarship for Afghan Refugees 2022-23

The University of Sanctuary Scholarship is available to new undergraduate or postgraduate taught students taking up a place to study in 2022-23, who are refugees from Afghanistan and have been granted UK Asylum status or Discretionary/Limited Leave to Remain as a result of an asylum application, and those with Humanitarian Protection, as result of an asylum application or through a dependants claim.

The scholarship includes:

- A full fee waiver on a three year undergraduate course or a one-year Postgraduate Taught Masters programme
- University accommodation
- £5,000 bursary to support living and study costs

## Terms and Conditions

The scholarship will be offered to up to five students in the academic year 2022-23, therefore the application process is a selective one based on the criteria below.

The following document outlines the full terms and conditions of this scholarship, please ensure you read them in full before you complete and submit an application form.

### 1. Eligibility

#### *Immigration Status*

Eligibility will be based on the following permissions being granted by the Home Office and alignment with UNHCR guidelines:

- a refugee (subject to obtaining an appropriate permissions), or
- granted Refugee or Humanitarian Protection status, or
- discretionary Leave to Remain, or
- Limited Leave to Remain following an asylum application, individually or through a dependent's claim, or
- be seeking asylum within the UK
- Leave to remain must cover the duration of your studies

#### *Application for study*

All applicants must have received a conditional or unconditional offer to study an eligible UG or PGT programme at the University of Essex before you can apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship.

## 2. How to apply

To be considered for this scholarship you need to:

- Meet the eligibility in relation to your immigration status
- Have received an offer to study on a UG or PGT programme
- Have submitted your application for the Sanctuary Scholarship before the published deadline

Apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship using the application form provided on the information page and send to [funding@essex.ac.uk](mailto:funding@essex.ac.uk).

The deadline for applications will close on Sunday 5 June 2022 at midnight (GMT) for October 2022 start and Sunday 20 November 2021 at midnight (GMT) for January 2023 start.

## 3. Selection process

Selection will be based on your eligibility as well as the information and supporting statements that you provide as part of the scholarship application process.

An initial review will take place to ensure applications meet the criteria listed. All applications that meet the criteria will be passed to the selection panel, chaired by the Dean of Postgraduate Research and Education.

The selection panel will meet to consider all applications in a fair and transparent manner.

The selection panel will select and rank applicants on behalf of the University. Applicants will be ranked on the following four dimensions, in order of importance:

1. *Rationale for Higher Education*: future goals and ambitions, and the necessity of the chosen course in achieving these
2. *Interruptions to Prior Education*: applicants who have previously met with barriers in entering and completing higher education will be prioritised for scholarships
3. *Immigration status*: applicants whose immigration status makes them ineligible for home student fee status will be prioritised for scholarships
4. *Student financial alternatives*: Priority will be given to applicants who are unable to access mainstream funding through student finance

## 4. When will I be notified of the award?

The University will let successful applicants know the outcome by the end of July for October starts and the end of November for January starts.

## **5. How will I be paid**

The tuition fee waiver will take place automatically at the point of registration.

The University of Sanctuary Scholarship includes a bursary of £5,000. We will work with the successful applicant to determine the best format of payment, with the possibility for in-kind transfers or alternative sources of support, subject to Deputy Vice Chancellor approval.

Payments will be made in three instalments for those that start in October. The first will be in October, one in January and one in April. Students that start in January will receive their payments in two instalments, one in January and one in April. Students must continue to be registered for full-time study in order to receive each payment.

## **6. Am I eligible for other University financial support?**

This scholarship cannot be held in conjunction with another University award.

## **7. Intermission**

All payments will be suspended during a period of approved leave of absence (intermission) where this period covers a whole or part of an academic year, and may be reinstated on your return to full-time study subject to the conditions above. On your return to study, you will be entitled to the balance of the bursary for the stage.

The scholarship cannot be continued for repeat periods of study in any circumstances.

## **8. Scholarship termination**

If you withdraw from your studies, or are required to withdraw, no further payments will be made. Further bursary payments will be terminated if you cease to be registered as a student with the University.

## **9. Dispute Resolution**

Acceptance of this award constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Registered students should contact the Funding Team ([funding@essex.ac.uk](mailto:funding@essex.ac.uk)) in the first instance for guidance regarding this award. In cases not covered by the above terms and conditions, or where a student claims exceptional circumstances, final appeals on decisions regarding eligibility must be made via the [Student Complaints process](#). The Academic Registrar or his/her nominee will review the case and his/her decision will be final.

*These terms and conditions apply to the academic year 2022-23. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary.*