

Postgraduate Masters (PGT)

International Health Bursary 2025-26

The University is offering a bursary of £776 for Masters (PGT) international students starting at Essex in October 2025 or January 2026, who have paid an Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) as part of their immigration application.

The PGT International Health Bursary 2025-26, will be awarded to the student on the relevant payment date, upon successful completion of the application form and providing they meet the eligibility criteria below:

Students may also be eligible to a range of generous [scholarships](#).

Terms and conditions

Eligibility

- These awards are restricted to students who are overseas fee payers.

International students who hold a student visa are required to have enough funds to pay for their course and support themselves with living costs and visas costs, while they are studying in the UK. This is a requirement of the student visa and is outlined in the [Student Immigration Rules](#).

- Students must register at the University of Essex in October 2025 or January 2026 for the first year of a full-time Masters course in academic year 2025-26 only.

Masters course, in this context, includes all taught master's courses: MA, MSc, LLM, MRes, MPP, MBM, MBA. Masters by Dissertation courses (MAD/ MSD) are not included.

- The maximum bursary award available for academic year 2025-26 is £776.
- Students must still be a registered student when the bursary is payable.
- Students must have paid both instalments of their tuition fee for academic year 2025-26, or their fees must be being paid by a sponsor where a payment plan has been agreed in advance. Where students are being partially funded by a sponsor, the student must have paid all the fees that they are responsible for.
- Students must not be in debt to the University when the bursary is payable.

- Students are only able to apply for the bursary once and to a maximum value of £776 regardless of course duration.
- Students may be asked to provide proof of their current visa permission (e.g. a copy of their Biometric Residence Permit or digital immigration permission) and their Immigration Health Surcharge (IHS) reference number (this can be found on the IHS payment confirmation email/receipt or the visa application confirmation email).
- Pre-Sessional English language students, and Pre-masters students at the University of Essex International College (UEIC) will become eligible once registered on their main programme of study at the University of Essex, in line with the terms and conditions outlined above. Where they are holding a visa which covers both pre-sessional English and their main course of study, the bursary will apply to the period of the visa relating to their main course of study.
- This bursary may be held in conjunction with other University of Essex awards.
- Successful applicants should be available for promotional activities.

Students who are not eligible

The following students are NOT eligible for this scholarship regardless of meeting the above criteria:

- Students studying a course that is normally delivered wholly online.
- Students studying a Masters by Dissertation (MAD/ MSD) course.
- Courses below Masters level: including, but not limited to, Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas, Postgraduate Certificates (PGCerts), and Postgraduate Diplomas (PGDips).
- Students studying on undergraduate or postgraduate research courses/programmes.
- This scholarship bursary award does not apply to deferred entry. Where a bursary has been awarded to a student who subsequently defers entry to the following academic year, the award will be withdrawn, and the applicant will be considered again in line with the terms and conditions that apply in the new proposed year of entry.
- Students who are no longer a registered student at Essex, at the point of the application deadlines (noted above).
- Current students whose first year of Postgraduate study at the University of Essex, was prior to academic year 2025-26.
- Students transferring from another higher education institution.
- Students on a part-time University of Essex degree starting in autumn term for 2025-26.
- Students who have not paid both instalments of their tuition fee.

- Students who are in debt to the University at the time the bursary payment is due.
- Students at partner colleges, including University of Essex International college students.

How to apply

For courses starting in September/October of the autumn term of the academic year 2025-26:

- You will be contacted to your Essex email w/c 2 February 2026 with instructions on how to apply for the bursary.
- The deadline to apply is **Thursday 30 April 2026 (23:59pm)**.
- You will be notified of your eligibility for the bursary to your Essex email in May 2026 and you will be asked to enter your bank account details securely into MyEssex.
- The deadline to pay any outstanding university debt* is Sunday 31 May 2026 (23:59pm). You will not be eligible for the International Health Bursary if you pay your outstanding university debt after this date.
- We will check if you are still a registered student and if you have any outstanding university debt* (education or non-education debt) on Monday 1 June 2026.

For courses starting in January of the spring term of academic year 2025-26

- You will be contacted to your Essex email in May 2026 with instructions on how to apply for the bursary.
- The deadline to apply is **Wednesday 30 September 2026 (23:59pm)**.
- You will be notified of your eligibility for the bursary to your Essex email in October 2026 and you will be asked to enter your bank account details securely into MyEssex.
- The deadline to pay any outstanding university debt* is Sunday 1 November 2026 (23:59pm). You will not be eligible for the International Health Bursary if you pay your outstanding university debt after this date.
- We will check if you are still a registered student and if you have any outstanding university debt* (education or non-education debt) on Monday 2 November 2026.

***University debt** includes both education and non-education debt. It **does not include** any payments where the initial payment deadline has not yet been reached (e.g. accommodation payments scheduled in the future).

Payment arrangements

- The bursary is worth a maximum of £776.00 for the first year of study in 2025-26 only.
- If you started your course in September / October 2025, payment will be made in **June 2026**.
- If you started your course in January 2026, payment will be made in **November 2026**.

- Payment will be made by bank transfer to a UK bank account.
- Please note that if our records show that you are in debt to the University when an award payment is due, the payment will not be made.

Bursary suspension – for cash payments

The bursary 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 may be entitled to the balance of the bursary for the stage. There will be no payment for repeat periods of study in any circumstances.

Data Privacy Statement

The University of Essex takes confidentiality very seriously, your application form will only be seen by members of staff involved in processing your application. Information is kept in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) as it applies in the UK, tailored by the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data will be used solely for statistical purposes and electronic record keeping and may be made available to authorised University staff to allow statistical information to be analysed.

This data will not be passed to any other third party without your consent, except when the University is required to do so by law. Any formal enquiries concerning the use of data noted here should be addressed to the Head of Student Services.

Resolution of disputes

Acceptance of this award constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Registered students should contact the [Funding Team](#) 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, or disputes a decision not to make payments due under an award, final appeals on decisions regarding eligibility must be made via the [Student Complaints process](#). The Academic Registrar or their nominee will review the case, and his/her decision will be final.

These terms and conditions apply to the academic year 2025-26. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary.