

# Hong Kong Scholarship 2026-27

This scholarship scheme is offering two scholarships for students from Hong Kong studying as new students in academic year 2026-27, who are classified as international students for fees purposes. The scholarships have been made available thanks to the generous support of a group of Essex alumni based in Hong Kong. The awards offered are a discount of £5,000 per year for a maximum of three years of full-time undergraduate study, up to a maximum of £15,000. The scholarship will be automatically deducted from annual tuition fees invoice.

## Terms and conditions

### Eligibility

- These scholarships are restricted to students who are overseas fee payers and are entirely self-funded\*.
- Students must be ordinarily resident (see below for the definition of ordinary residence) in Hong Kong.
- Students must register for the first year (Year 1) of a full-time 3-year undergraduate degree at the University of Essex in October 2026-27.
- Applicants must meet our standard conditional offer.
- The award cannot be held in conjunction with any other University of Essex scholarships.
- This scholarship is available for each year of full-time undergraduate study for new students in academic year 2026-27, excluding any repeat years of study.
- Successful applicants should be available for promotional activities.

\*Students receiving a repayable loan to fund their studies will be considered as self-funded. This includes, but isn't restricted to tuition fee loans from the following bodies:

- Student Finance England/Wales/Northern Ireland
- Student Awards Agency Scotland
- US Federal Direct Loans

- Norwegian State Loan (Lanekassen),
- Swedish Board of Student Finance (CSN),
- Social Insurance Institution of Finland (KELA)
- Denmark State Educational Grant and Loan Scheme.

## **Students who are not eligible**

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

- Students who are taking a foundation year (year 0) in 2026-27.
- Students studying a degree with normal duration which is anything other than 3 years. For example, a 4-year degree including foundation year, placement year or Year abroad would not be an eligible course, nor is a 1- or 2-year top up course or foundation degree.
- Students undertaking a degree that is normally delivered wholly online.
- Students who are not ordinarily resident in Hong Kong.
- Students awarded the scholarship who defer entry to following academic years will be ineligible to receive the award and would need to re-apply to be considered in line with the terms and conditions that apply in the new proposed year of entry.
- Students transferring into the second and third year from another institution.
- 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 who are fully or partly sponsored by their government or other external agency and are not required to make any repayments (this does not include VISA sponsorship).
- Students who are assessed as paying home tuition fees.
- Current students whose first year of undergraduate study at the University of Essex, was prior to academic year 2026-27.

## **What is “Ordinary Residence”?**

For the purposes of assessing eligibility for the scholarship, you must have been ordinarily resident in Hong Kong, for the three-year period prior to commencing your course. Ordinarily resident means that you must have been habitually, normally and lawfully, residing in Hong Kong, from choice, for the specified period. The three-year period for courses starting in October 2026 is calculated as 1 September 2023 to 1 September 2026. Temporary absences during this three-year period may be permitted at the discretion of the relevant University officer. Students may be asked to provide

documentary evidence to determine ordinary residence and an assessment of whether a student meets the ordinary residence criteria will normally be made by the Head of Admissions or their nominee, and their decision will be final.

## How to apply

To be considered for these awards you must complete and submit the application form available on our website by the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026.

The successful awardees will be selected based on the responses to the questions on the application form as well as the academic achievements detailed in their course application.

## Payment arrangements

- These scholarships will only be made available as a reduction on the tuition fee that is payable on registration at the University. Payment cannot be offset against a tuition fee deposit if one is required.

## Intermission, repeat study and changes to your course:

- If you intermit from your course, you may, at the discretion of the University, be entitled to a pro-rata payment of the remainder of your award on your return to study. Please contact the [Funding Team](#) for further information.
- If you are repeating the whole or part of your year of study, you would not be eligible to receive the scholarship during that year of study and would be charged the full standard tuition fees.

## 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. Applicants should contact the [Undergraduate Admissions Team](#) in the first instance for guidance regarding this award. Registered students should contact the [Funding Team](#). 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 2026-27. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary.*