

International Baccalaureate Excellence Scholarship 2026-27

The University is awarding scholarships of £2,000 to students entering the University for the first time in October 2026 who achieve academic excellence in their International Baccalaureate. The scholarship is available for the first year of undergraduate degree study only.

Terms and conditions

Eligibility

- Students must have obtained 34 points or above in the International Baccalaureate.
- These scholarships are available to both Home and Overseas fee payers with any funding status.
- Students must register for the first year (Year 1) of a full-time undergraduate degree** at the University of Essex in October 2026-27.
- Students must have received an offer of admission for entry to the University of Essex for 2026-27 and must actively make Essex their firm choice.
- The award can be held in conjunction with any other University of Essex scholarships.
- Students studying University of Essex Online courses, delivered by the University of Essex.
- Students must register for a full-time undergraduate degree* at the University of Essex with first enrolment at the University of Essex in 2026-27.
- This scholarship is available for the first year of study (Year 1) at undergraduate level in 2026-27 only.
- Successful students should be available for promotional activities.

*Courses leading to the award of a Diploma of Higher Education, Bachelors Degree, Integrated Masters (four years)

Students who are not eligible

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

- University of Essex International College (UEIC) Pathway students.
- Students on Higher/Degree Apprenticeship courses.
- Students studying University of Essex Online courses, delivered in partnership with Kaplan Open Learning.
- Students whose tuition fees are already subject to a course related discount e.g., LLB Licence English and French Law.
- Students awarded the scholarship who defer entry to following academic years will be ineligible to receive the award and will 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).
- Current students whose first year of undergraduate study at the University of Essex, was prior to academic year 2026-27.

How to apply

If you meet all the eligibility criteria, you will automatically be considered for this award. You don't need to complete an application form. If you are eligible, you will be notified via email following Admissions assessing your eligibility.

Payment arrangements

- The scholarship is worth £2,000 for the first year of study in 2026-27 only. Payment will be made in two instalments, usually in February and May via the [Essex Aspire Platform](#) - You will receive an email from student.info@essex-aspire.co.uk with details on how to register an [Essex Aspire Account](#) (if you're not already registered) and how to access your award. Once registered, your award will be available immediately and you will be able to withdraw the award to a UK bank account. Students are required to open a UK bank account to receive payment. Alternatively, if this payment method isn't available, we will contact all successful students by email before the payment date to request that UK bank account details are entered into My Essex to ensure that payment can be made. Students are required to open a UK bank account to receive payment.
- Students must be registered and meet the above conditions to receive payment.

- Please note that if our records show that debt is owed to the University when an award payment is due, the payment will be offset against the student account in the first instance, and any balance remaining will be paid.
- Bursaries not claimed by the 23 July 2027, by withdrawing the funds into your bank account or providing your bank details (depending on the method of payment listed above), will no longer be accessible and will be returned to the University. After this deadline, you will no longer be eligible for the scholarship, and you will not receive payment for the 2026-27 academic year.
- 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.

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.