

International Undergraduate Scholarship 2026-2027

This scholarship scheme is for international students from specified countries (please see specific table below) seeking to join our University as an undergraduate student.

The award is offered as a £5,000 discount on your tuition fees for the first year of study in 2026-27 only.

Region	Country
Africa	All member states of the African Union
Asia (West, Central and North)	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan
Asia - East	China, Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, South Korea
Asia - South	Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; Maldives; Pakistan, Nepal; Sri Lanka
Asia - Southeast	Brunei; Cambodia; East Timor; Laos; Malaysia; Myanmar; the Philippines; Singapore; Taiwan; Thailand, Indonesia; Vietnam
Non-European Union countries in Europe	Albania, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Iceland, Kosovo, Liechtenstein, North Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Turkey, Ukraine and Switzerland

The Americas and the Caribbean	Canada, USA, Colombia, Argentina, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Boliva, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Suriname, Trinidad, Uruguay, US Virgin Islands, or Venezuela
Middle east	Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

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 one of the countries specified above
- Students ordinarily resident (see below for the definition of ordinary residence) in one of the countries specified above must register for the first year of a full-time undergraduate degree** at the University of Essex in October 2026-27. If entering directly through APEL, this can be stage 2 or 3 provided it is your first year of study at the University of Essex.
- The award may be held in conjunction with the Early Bird Discount and cannot be held in conjunction with any other University of Essex scholarships.
- This scholarship is available for the first year of study at undergraduate level in 2026-27 only.
- Students studying University of Essex Online courses, delivered by the University of Essex.
- Successful applicants should be available for promotional activities.

*Students receiving a repayable loan to fund their studies will be considered as self-funded.

**Courses leading to the award of a Diploma of Higher Education, Foundation Degree, 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 studying University of Essex Online courses, delivered in partnership with Kaplan Open Learning.
- Students joining the University of Essex from one of the schools and colleges included in the University Transfer Link Scholarship or UG Global Transfer Scholarship.
- 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 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 one of the countries listed above, for the three-year period prior to commencing your course. Ordinarily resident means that you must have been habitually, normally and lawfully residing in one of the countries listed above, 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

If you meet all the eligibility criteria, you will automatically be considered for this award. You don't need to complete an application form. The University will assess your eligibility based on your country of domicile and fee status that you submit on your application for your place at Essex.

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.
- 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.