



**Strathclyde University Law School**

**The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

**Academic session 2025-26:**

**Applications must be submitted before noon (BST) Friday 29th August 2025**

**About John Fitzsimons**

John Fitzsimons was one of Strathclyde University Law School’s first and most inspirational Lecturers. He taught Criminal Law and Jurisprudence for twenty years before becoming a highly-respected judge (Sheriff). To achieve this, he and his family made considerable sacrifices – not least when he became a mature student at the age of 25.

John Fitzsimons believed that talented individuals should have proper access to education on the basis of academic, rather than financial, merit. Through his teaching, encouragement, and his own actions, he inspired generations of Strathclyde students to achieve their potential. He was well aware of the particular barriers which mature students can face. Applicants are encouraged to read about the life and values of John Fitzsimons at: [**https://bit.ly/2qCroYo**](https://bit.ly/2qCroYo)

**General Purposes of the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund**

The general purposes of the Memorial Fund are: to hold an occasional public lecture in memory of John Fitzsimons; and secondly, to provide bursary support for academically talented mature students studying for an undergraduate or postgraduate degree or diploma taught in the Law School, and who are in acute financial need.

**Amount**

The level of any award will be between £500 and £3000, depending on circumstances and the merits of each case. Awards will be made for one academic session at a time.

**Eligibility for a John Fitzsimons Memorial Scholarship Fund Award**

1. Mature students (full-time or part-time) currently undertaking a taught court in the Law School at Strathclyde University, or, prospective mature students applying to study (full-time or part-time) on a taught course in the Law School at Strathclyde University. For the avoidance of doubt, taught courses can be at under-graduate or post-graduate include (e.g. LLB, an LLM/MSc, Diploma etc).
2. Current or prospective students at Strathclyde University Law School must be 25 years or older at the time of the deadline for submitting an application to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund.
3. UK and non-UK residents are eligible to apply.
4. Awards will be made to assist with the costs associated with study on an instructional (i.e. taught) programme taught in the Law School at either under-graduate or post-graduate level (eg LLM, MSc, LLB etc), whether by full- or part-time study. For a full list of under-graduate and post- courses provided by the Law School see [www.strath.ac.uk/law](http://www.strath.ac.uk/law)
5. Current or prospective research students (e.g. PhD or MPhil) will *not* be eligible to apply. Current or prospective students pursuing a joint course with the Law School and another School/Department will not be eligible to apply. (Current or prospective post-graduate research students are encouraged to apply to the wide range of funding opportunities offered for study in the Law School. See [www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/))
6. Current registered Strathclyde University UK/Home students who are experiencing financial difficulty during the course of their studies at Strathclyde should apply to a number of different resources depending on their circumstances, namely: [The Discretionary Fund,The Childcare Fund and The Emergency Aid Fund](http://www.strath.ac.uk/studentfinancialsupport/financialassistance/). <http://www.strath.ac.uk/studentfinancialsupport/financialassistance/>

Please apply to these funds if you fit those criteria. Nonetheless, such students are eligible also to apply to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund.

1. The Selection Committee shall have regard to:
2. academic merit
3. financial need in the context of personal circumstances
4. evidence of strong interest in the areas of John Fitzsimons’ work namely: Criminal Law and / or Jurisprudence, and/or cognate areas
5. the availability of other awards to assist with living costs and/or tuition fees
6. Successful applicants to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund are expected to take up the offer of a place in the next academic session commencing in September of the same calendar year.
7. Unsuccessful applicants can reapply to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund in the following academic year. Unfortunately, we are unable to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications.

**The John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund** <https://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/lawschool/centreforlawcrimeandjustice/thejohnfitzsimonsmemorialfund/>

**Scholarship Application Form**

**Scholarship application form for study during academic session 2025-6**

**Applications must be submitted before noon (BST) Friday 29th August 2025**

*All information provided on this form, and on any supporting documentation, will be treated in the strictest confidence. Answer all questions fully and frankly. Your answers must be completely honest and transparent. Incomplete applications may be discarded.*

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| **SECTION 1: PERSONAL DETAILS** | | | | |
| Surname | |  | | |
| Forename | |  | | |
| Title Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss, Dr, etc) | |  | | |
| Address (incl postcode) | |  | | |
| Telephone number | |  | | |
| Email address | |  | | |
| \*Strathclyde Student Registration Number  *(current students only):* | |  | | |
| \*Strathclyde Student Application Number  *(applicants only):* | |  | | |
| Date of birth  *(you must be 25 years or older at the time of submitting your application)* | |  | | |
| ***\*If you are a current Strathclyde student and are also applying for a new course at Strathclyde Law School, (eg completing the LLB and applying for post-graduate Law School course), please provide both your registration and application numbers.*** | | | | |
| **SECTION 2: COURSE** | | | | |
| Academic course/intended course of study at Strathclyde University Law School  *(you must be either a current student at Strathclyde Law School or be a prospective student on one of the Law School programmes):* | | | | |
| **SECTION 2A: CURRENT STRATHCLYDE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**  *(Current Strathclyde students include those in voluntary or academic suspension)* | | | | |
| Strathclyde student registration number: | | | | |
| What course are you currently studying? | | | | |
| Will you study the course by Distance Learning? | | | | |
| Are you applying to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund for assistance in respect of your current course, or, in respect of a new course for which you wish to commence study at the Law School in the new academic session: | | | | |
| **SECTION 2B: INCOMING STRATHCLYDE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS** | | | | |
| Are you applying for a new Strathclyde University Law School course:  *(please provide the title of the course – if more than one, you must state your preference)* | | | | |
| What is your Application Number?  *(To be eligible for an award, prospective students must be in possession of a Strathclyde application number. We will then link up your application number with this form)* | | | | |
| **SECTION 3: MOTIVATION AND RATIONALE** | | | | |
| Why are you applying to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund? Further information about the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund can be found <https://bit.ly/2qCroYo>  In making decisions about criteria for the assessment of applications the Selection Committee shall have regard to:   1. Academic merit 2. Financial need in the context of personal circumstances 3. Evidence of strong interest in Criminal Law and/or Jurisprudence, or, cognate areas 4. The availability of other awards to assist with living costs and/or tuition fees   Your answer should be between 800-1000 words in length. | | | | |
| **SECTION 4: YOUR COMMITMENT** | | | | |
| Commitment to assistance with the promotion and maintenance of the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund.  ***It is vitally important that those who benefit from John Fitzsimons Memorial Scholarship funding assist in every way possible to promote and, in due course, themselves financially support the Fund.*** | | | | |
| **SECTION 4A:** | | | | |
| If you are granted John Fitzsimons Memorial scholarship funding, do you undertake to ensure that you will make every reasonable effort to assist with the promotion of the Fund to prospective benefactors (including, for example, the writing a short report about what difference the funding has made to you given your personal circumstances; speaking to an audience of benefactors; attending dinner with benefactors etc, as may be required)?  Do not agree unless you are wholly willing to make this commitment.  **Please tick/highlight your response.**  YES NO  Comment (100 words maximum): | | | | |
| **SECTION 4B:** | | | | |
| If you are granted John Fitzsimons Memorial scholarship funding, do you undertake to make all reasonable efforts, in the future and as soon as you are in a position to do so, to contribute financially to the John Fitzsimons Memorial Fund so that future generations of students will also benefit?Please tick/highlight your response.  YES NO  Comment (100 words maximum): | | | | |
| **SECTION 5: PERSONAL STATUS** | | | | |
| Sharing home with other occupants who contribute to the running costs  YES NO | | | | |
| Your occupation:  *Please state your main occupation and give a concise occupational history (100 words maximum)* | | | | |
| Occupation of parents/guardians and brief occupational histories:  *Please provide brief details of main occupation/s (100 words maximum)* | | | | |
| Occupation of partner/spouse and brief occupational history:  *(100 words maximum)* | | | | |
| Number of dependents:  *Please list anyone who is financially dependent upon you, specifying ages of any children and their address, if different from your own, and any other dependents. Please briefly explain the nature of the relationship/s* | | | | |
| **SECTION 6: OTHER FUNDING APPLIED FOR** | | | | |
| What other scholarships/funding awards have you applied for or intend to apply for?  Applicants are expected to take advantage of other funding award opportunities. See also the Strathclyde University Scholarship page [www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/](http://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/scholarships/)  Current registered Strathclyde University UK/Home students who are experiencing financial difficulty during the course of their studies at Strathclyde can access a number of different resources depending on their circumstances, namely: [The Discretionary Fund,The Childcare Fund and The Emergency Aid Fund](http://www.strath.ac.uk/studentfinancialsupport/financialassistance/).  Please apply to these funds if you fit those criteria and state below whether you have done so or intend to do so <http://www.strath.ac.uk/studentfinancialsupport/financialassistance/> | | | | |
| **Name of funding body and type of award applied for** | **Date applied or when you apply** | | **Amount applied for** | **Result or date expected** |
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| **SECTION 7: REFERENCES**  Please provide one reference with your application from a referee who knows you and *who has agreed to provide a reference about you*. The referee must be able to comment on your *academic* performance/potential (e.g an academic referee). Do not include family friends or relations or others who are intimately personally connected to you. References should, wherever possible, be on letter-headed paper (except where it is a Strathclyde Law School member of staff) and include full contact details, so that s/he may be contacted if necessary. Please inform your referee in advance that she or he may be contacted for further information during August or September.  *It is your responsibility to ensure that you include a reference with your application, submitted before the deadline. Make sure you allow sufficient time leave approaching a prospective referee - and bear in mind that s/he may be unavailable and is entitled to decline – in which case you will need to approach someone else.*  References should be between 100 and 600 words. In writing their references, you are encouraged to advise your referee to keep in mind the information about the purpose of the John Fitzsimons Memorial Scholarship Fund and the specific criteria – all of which is provided at pp1-3 of this application form and also available with further information via the John Fitzsimons website <https://bit.ly/2qCroYo> |
| **SECTION 8:** |
| You must reveal fully, frankly and honestly all information which could be relevant to your application, whether or not you have been asked a specific question about it on this form.   * ***I confirm that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information given on this form, and any accompanying documentation in support of this application, is correct and complete. I will tell you immediately should my circumstances change in any way that might affect any amount I receive/d from you*** * ***I understand that if I am successful, information will be held for one year\****   ***Signed:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***  *(\*Unsuccessful applications and all supporting documentation will be deleted immediately)* |

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| **CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:** |
| Applications must be submitted **before noon (BST) Friday 29th August 2025** and should be submitted to: [hass-courses-law@strath.ac.uk](https://nemo.strath.ac.uk/owa/redir.aspx?C=Ja0BTUuF0ky_4WR2u4sTxMUvjsoxE9EIsc6n1uwD2Fn8sD3V8b0rA-0PIOkaClyKKX1QMBFAXso.&URL=mailto%3ahass-courses-law%40strath.ac.uk)  Electronic signature is acceptable. Please remember to attach your completed form as a Microsoft Word document.  Successful applicants will be notified by Friday 5th September 2025 and are required to accept, without equivocation, the offer of a John Fitzsimons award before noon (BST) Monday 8th September 2025. Failure to do so may mean that the offer will lapse and another candidate will instead be offered an award.  **As is normal where there is a high volume of applications for a highly competitive publicly-advertised scholarship, due to the high volume of applications we are unable to provide feedback on unsuccessful applications. Unsuccessful applicants can, however, apply again the following year.** |
| **AS A FINAL CHECK PLEASE ENSURE AND INDICATE THAT YOU HAVE:**   * Signed and dated your application form * Enclosed all supporting documentation (including references)   **Please email your completed form and supporting documentation to:** [**hass-courses-law@strath.ac.uk**](mailto:hass-courses-law@strath.ac.uk) |

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| **FOR OFFICE USE ONLY** |
| Date application received:  Decision:  Signed: Date:  Date student notified:  Finance Office notified:  Signed: |