



University of Strathclyde Asylum Seeker Scholarship

The University has worked closely with the University of Strathclyde Students' Association, the Scottish Refugee Council and the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland in developing this Scholarship which is intended to help Asylum Seekers and those staying in the UK on humanitarian grounds to overcome barriers in progressing to higher education.

The scholarship is open to prospective undergraduate and taught postgraduate students of the University of Strathclyde.

Successful Undergraduate applicants will be supported through a partnership arrangement with the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland.

Applicants should complete the appropriate form and provide the information requested including documentation to confirm their current immigration status.

The scholarship will be confirmed when the successful candidates have met all the academic conditions of their offer of study before the date of enrolment for their chosen course.

Application Criteria

Applicants will be considered from potential students who:

- hold a conditional or unconditional offer for study at the University of Strathclyde for the coming academic year; and
- have submitted, or are the dependant of someone who has submitted, an application to the Home Office for recognition as a Refugee under the 1951 UN Convention on the Status of Refugees (hereafter "The Convention") and not yet received a decision from the Home Office on that application or the outcome of an appeal on that application; or
- have been offered leave to remain in the UK on the grounds of Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights provided that the student has not become eligible for Student Support from the relevant student funding body in Scotland, England, Wales or Northern Ireland.
- Applicants must live within the Glasgow area at the point of application as housing costs are not covered by the scholarship. Applications will only be accepted from prospective students outwith the Glasgow area if they submit written evidence of appropriate accommodation arrangements at the point of application.

Applications will also be considered from students who have already started their course of study but have subsequently applied for asylum and can no longer access their original funding. In these cases it will be necessary to establish that the original funding for study is no longer available and applicants will be required to provide supporting evidence.



Decision making criteria

The awards will be made on the basis of a balance of academic potential and individual need. Applications will be prioritised by the University based on:

1. Current level of academic performance and attainment- school examination results, UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) application information and previous study in further and higher education. Priority will be given to those who have not previously attended a course of higher education at the level of the proposed studies.
2. Level of financial need within the applicant's household.
3. The extent to which their status has become a barrier to pursuing their educational goals.
4. Likelihood of the applicant to take up and successfully pursue their proposed studies at the University of Strathclyde.
5. The importance of studies at Strathclyde to the applicant's proposed career and integration within the UK and contribution to the wider community.

Applications will be considered by the University's Refugee and Asylum Seeker Working Group. This group consists of University staff, a representative of the University of Strathclyde Students' Association and a representative of The Carnegie Trust.

The Award

Successful applicants will receive the following financial support.

1. Academic Fees. The University will provide scholarship funding to cover the full cost of the tuition fees for the student's course until such time as the student is eligible to receive support from the Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) or Student Finance England, Wales or Northern Ireland. Undergraduate students will receive support in partnership with the Carnegie Trust. In order to administer this award the University will share data essential to the administration of the award with the Trust.
2. Study Allowance. The award will include a study allowance which will be used to reimburse essential study-related expenditure. This will include payments for books, equipment and travel to and from the University. Students will apply to the University Student Financial Support team for release of these funds and provide receipts for books, equipment and travel tickets purchased.

Conditions of the Award

The award will continue to be made for the normal duration of studies for the student's course unless/until:

1. The student withdraws from the course
2. The student completes the course
3. The student is prohibited from studying in the UK, for example as a condition of Immigration Bail.
4. The student reaches the end of the asylum and immigration appeals process and can no longer remain lawfully in the UK



5. The student obtains a Home Office status which entitles them to support from SAAS, Student Finance England, Wales or Northern Ireland. In this case the student's fee waiver will end when government funding for fees commences.

Successful applicants will be required to provide documentation confirming that they are not subject to a prohibition on studying in the UK and will need from time to time to provide updates about their status to the University's UKVI Compliance Team to ensure they continue to have a right to study in the UK. Students may also be asked from time to time to report on how the award has assisted them and to contribute to positive promotions of the award either for the University or the Carnegie Trust. Such reporting and promotion will be undertaken in such a way as to protect the identity of the student.

Support with making an application for asylum

The University is not in a position to assist a student or scholarship applicant with an asylum application or issues relating to asylum support. Advice on these matters and referrals for legal advice are available from the Scottish Refugee Council and/ or appropriate UK agencies.