

ACCESS RGU

Scholarships



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Introduction

The Widening Access Department is offering Access RGU Scholarship opportunities to those who are highly motivated and keen to succeed both academically and professionally.

As part of the University's strategic commitment to widening participation, students who are successful in securing an Access RGU Scholarship will be awarded funding for the duration of their undergraduate degree, typically within the region of £1,000 to £3,000 annually, paid in two instalments in October and February.

The scholarship package includes the provision of tailored, 1-1 study skills support, guidance and information from a designated staff member of the Widening Access Department. This includes supporting students to engage in reflective learning during their studies as well as signposting students to other support services as required. Where applicable, Access RGU Scholars may also have the opportunity to benefit from mentoring and training provided by Scholarship donors.

More information about the Access RGU Scholarships can be found by visiting:

www.rgu.ac.uk/access-rgu-scholarships

Eligibility

Access RGU Scholarships are available to applicants who are traditionally under-represented in higher education and meet **ALL** of the following criteria:

- Meet the scholarship specific eligibility criteria (**Please refer Appendix 1**)
- Enrol **full time** in your chosen undergraduate degree programme at RGU
- Be Scottish domiciled and classed as a 'home fees student'
- Have not already obtained a first degree

In addition, depending on the Scholarship, applicants must meet **AT LEAST ONE OR TWO** of the following criteria at the point of applying to RGU:

- Reside in a low-income household (in receipt of Educational Maintenance Allowance or eligible to claim SAAS bursary i.e. household income below £34,000)
- Reside in a postcode area which is regarded by the Scottish Government as being within the 40% (Quintiles 1 and 2) most deprived regions of the country as categorised by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD).

Find out if you are eligible by visiting: <https://simd.scot/>

- Have spent time as a Looked After Child or Looked After and Accommodated Child, be that at home, in residential, foster or kinship care
- Are currently caring, unpaid, for a friend or a family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction, cannot cope without your support
- Are an estranged student, studying without the support and approval of a family network
- Have completed an *Access To* programme

Verification of Eligibility

Data from UCAS application forms will be used to verify, where applicable:

- Postcode (to verify the residency within the 40% most deprived regions of the country as categorised by Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD))
- Participation in an *Access To* programme

In order to meet the 'low income household' criteria, you must provide the following supporting documentation:

- SAAS Award letter OR
- SAAS application for a bursary or loan including supporting documentation OR
- Evidence of receipt of Educational Maintenance Allowance.

Privacy Policy

Access RGU is committed to ensuring your privacy is protected in relation to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Information provided will be treated in the strictest of confidence and only necessary parties will have access to information provided in the application.

The RGU Foundation, in association with Access RGU, carries out charitable work on behalf of the university. This may involve contacting local businesses and Alumni of the university in order to generate revenue for philanthropic purposes.

From time to time we may wish to use the information provided on your application form in order to generate revenue for future endeavours such as providing further funding for underrepresented groups. Where your information is used, RGU will do its utmost to ensure this information remains anonymous and in keeping with GDPR.

Students who are successful in securing an Access RGU scholarship may be invited to share their experiences at events either on or off campus, and via university marketing platforms.

Submitting the Application

- Application forms and supporting documents should be completed by **29th September 2023** and submitted to access@rgu.ac.uk. Paper copies or incomplete applications will not be accepted.
- Please provide as many **supporting documents** as possible:
 - The reference provided in your UCAS application may be considered as part of your scholarship application. You can provide one further reference in support of your application using the Reference Form in the application form.

Please ask your referee to email the reference to access@rgu.ac.uk by **6th October 2023**

- SAAS letters may take the form of your SAAS award letter **or** SAAS application form **with** accompanying documents. Please scan and save in the following format <<namesaas.doc>>, for example, <<johnsmithsaas.doc>>
- EMA letters may take the form of correspondence confirming your award of EMA. Please scan and save in the following format <<nameema.doc>>, for example, <<johnsmithema.doc>>

Application Process

Stage 1: Applications will be checked to ensure applicants meet the criteria stated on the application form and guidance note.

Stage 2: Applicants will be considered and shortlisted based on the factual information provided and the quality of their application together with their reference.

Stage 3: Shortlisted applications will be presented to a panel. Members of the panel will include academic and professional support staff. The opinion of the donor may be taken into consideration at this stage. The final decision rests with the panel.

Applications will be considered on an individual basis and applicants will be informed of the outcome of the process in October/November, but may be contacted before this date for further information.

Contact Details

For more information about ACCESS RGU Scholarships or other Widening Access offers, please visit <http://www.rgu.ac.uk/Access-rgu>. Or, alternatively, contact us at:

Name: Connor Anderson

Email: access@rgu.ac.uk

Notes

- ACCESS RGU Scholarships are only available to full-time students and vary in length depending on the awarded scholarship or bursary. Scholarships are usually awarded to students entering stage 1 of their studies, but consideration will be given to advanced entry students who demonstrate significant financial hardship or significant achievement in overcoming barriers.
- Scholarships are not available to those studying for a qualification that is the equivalent level, or lower than one already attained.
- Scholars must fully commit to participate in the support process provided by the Widening Access Department.
- Scholarship payments will be made in two instalments annually, in October and February.
- Only one scholarship can be paid to any one student in any one year.
- Scholarships will only be paid once for each stage of study, subject to meeting progression requirements
- RGU reserves the right to withdraw a scholarship from anyone who is found to have misled the University about any aspect of their eligibility and to seek repayment of any scholarship payment already made by appropriate means.
- If a student changes to a different programme of study, their eligibility for a scholarship will be reviewed and the scholarship may be withdrawn.
- A student in receipt of a scholarship award who withdraws from their programme prior to completion will not normally be requested to repay scholarship payments made up to the point of withdrawal. Entitlement to all remaining future scholarship payments and/or adjustments, however, will cease with immediate effect.
- A student who takes a period of temporary withdrawal (abeyance), and who is in receipt of a scholarship award, would cease to receive scholarship payments whilst temporarily withdrawn. Scholarship payments made prior to temporarily withdrawing will not generally be requested to be repaid, and remaining payments would generally be paid should the student return to complete their study within a reasonable time period.
- Periods of temporary withdrawal that result in repeat or extended periods of study are not supported by additional scholarship payments. Scholarship entitlement is for the maximum duration of each award and entitlement is not extended if overall course duration alters.
- Should a student be suspended for any reason, scholarship payments would be withdrawn and consideration of reinstatement will be dependent on the disciplinary outcome.

Appendix 1: Access RGU Scholarships 2023/24

SCHOLARSHIP	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	ANNUAL STIPEND
Baker-Hughes Access Scholarship	<p>Four-year scholarship to one full-time, undergraduate offer-holder, meeting the scholarship criteria and widening access criteria. Eligible courses are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEng (Hons) Engineering Design • BEng (Hons) Mechanical Design • BSc (Eng) Mechanical Engineering • BEng (Hons) Electronic and Electrical Engineering • BEng (Hons) Mechanical and Electrical Engineering • BEng (Hons) Mechanical and Offshore Engineering • BSc (Eng) Electronic and Electrical Engineering 	£2,500 per annum for the duration of 4 years.
CNOOC Petroleum Europe Limited Scholarship	<p>Four-year scholarship to one new full-time undergraduate until graduation, who meets the scholarship criteria and widening access criteria. Eligible courses are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEng Mechanical Engineering • MEng Electrical Engineering 	£2,000 per annum for the duration of 4 years.
CNR International: Barbara Rae Access Scholarship	<p>Four-year scholarship to one new full-time undergraduate who meets the scholarship criteria and the widening access criteria. Eligible courses are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business and Management courses • Law courses • Engineering courses 	£3,000 per annum for the duration of 4 years.
Smith Family Bursary	<p>One bursary available of £1,250 for one year, to a new full-time undergraduate student in any course, who meets the scholarship criteria and widening access criteria.</p>	£1,250 for 1 year only.

Appendix 2: Access RGU Scholarship Application Form 2023/24

Please read the Information and Guidance Note before completing this form.

Please indicate which Access RGU Scholarship(s) you are applying for by placing an x in the appropriate box, you may tick more than one box:

- Baker-Hughes Access Scholarship** ☐
CNOOC Petroleum Europe Limited Access Scholarship ☐
CNR International Barbara Rae Access Scholarship ☐
Smith Family Bursary ☐

Section 1: Personal Details

						Office use only
Name:						
Phone Number:	Mobile:		Home:			
Home Address:						
How long have you lived at this address?						
If less than three years, please provide details of all addresses lived at for the past three years:						
Email Address:						
UCAS Application Number:						
Have you received an offer of a place at RGU?	Yes	No	Have you accepted the offer?	Yes	No	
Your chosen degree course of study commencing September 2023:						
What stage will you commence your degree? E.g. Year 1, Year 2, Year 3.						
Have you previously studied for an undergraduate degree or other higher education qualification?	Yes	No	If yes Please give details:			
Do you qualify under the low-income criteria (see guidance note)	Yes	No				
Have you applied to SAAS for a bursary or loan?	Yes	No	<i>If yes, please email your award letter as instructed</i>			
If not, why?						

Have you applied for any additional funding e.g. another scholarship or trust fund?	Yes	No	If yes please give details:		
Are you, or have you been, in receipt of Educational Maintenance Allowance?	Yes	No	<i>If yes, please email your award letter as instructed</i>		
Have you spent time as a Looked After Child or Looked After and Accommodated Child, be that at home, in residential, foster or kinship care?			Yes	No	
Are currently caring, unpaid, for a friend or a family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction, cannot cope without your support?			Yes	No	
Are an estranged student, studying without the support and approval of a family network?			Yes	No	
Have you completed an RGU <u>Access To</u> Programme?	Yes	No	If yes, which programme did you complete?		

Section 2: Education

Please give full details of your education and qualifications:

School/College	Subject	Grade achieved	Date

Section 3: Employment details

Please give details of any periods of employment you have had to date including part time/summer jobs or voluntary positions held:

Name of employer	Nature of work	Full time or part time?	Dates From	To

Section 4: Other achievements

Please give details of any achievements or positions of responsibility e.g. school prefect, committee member etc.:

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Section 5: About You

Access RGU Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic merit, personal characteristics, deprivation or financial hardship. Please tell us, in no more than 1,000 words, why you should be considered for the scholarship and what difference it would make. Please make full use of the 1,000 word limit.

Please do not enclose a copy of your UCAS personal statement in lieu of completing these sections.

Section 6: Declaration

I confirm that the information given on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. Any false statement may be sufficient cause for rejection or the bursary being removed at a later stage.

Signed:	Date:

Please type your name in the space provided above. You are not required to print the form.

In order to qualify under the 'low income criteria' we may need to contact SAAS in order to confirm that you meet this condition. Please print your name below to confirm that you consent with this information being shared with RGU.

Signed:	Date:

Please type your name in the spaces provided above. You are not required to print the form.

Please submit your application and supporting documents to access@rgu.ac.uk by the 29th of September 2023.

Supporting documents:

- SAAS Award letter **OR**
- SAAS application for a bursary or loan including supporting documentation **OR**
- Evidence of receipt of Educational Maintenance Allowance or free school meals.

Contact Us

For more information about ACCESS RGU Scholarships or other Widening Access offers, please visit <http://www.rgu.ac.uk/Access-rgu>.

Alternatively, you can contact us at:

Name: Connor Anderson

Email: access@rgu.ac.uk