

University of South Wales Postgraduate Scholarship 2017-18*

(August /September 17 Entry) Frequently Asked Questions

Should you have any enquiries about this document, please email: scholarships@southwales.ac.uk

Who is eligible to be considered for these scholarships?

You will need to be considered by the University to be a Home or EU student and therefore liable to pay the **full Home or EU rate of fee and also studying the full 180 credits**.

All prospective students who have achieved (or are expecting to achieve) a 2:1 or higher in their undergraduate degree, or have already passed a Postgraduate Masters course or PGCE, and intend to study an eligible course can apply. You must provide us with a clear copy of your degree certificate, which is acceptable, to the University Student Money Advice Team, as soon as you are able. Applications are dealt with on a first come first served basis. You are therefore advised to provide this evidence at the earliest opportunity as only those applications for which we have a fully completed application form and clear evidence of an eligible previous qualification will be considered for final approval.

I am a student from a country within the European Union (but not in the UK). Am I eligible?

Yes. You are eligible to apply for the postgraduate scholarship providing you are liable for the **full EU rate of fee and are studying the full 180 credits**. If your undergraduate degree is from a non-UK institution, the Enquiries and Admissions department at the University will assess your degree to determine if it equates to a UK grade of 2:1 or higher. Please note that their decision is final.

Which courses are eligible for these scholarships?

The scholarship applies to full-time, taught, postgraduate courses at the University of South Wales starting in the autumn of 2017. Students in receipt of public funds will not be eligible for this scholarship e.g. directly from any other Welsh Government / UK Government / EU initiative or scheme. This does not include any funding entitlement from the Student Loans Company for the Postgraduate Loan. **Students undertaking less than 180 credits on a full time postgraduate degree will not be eligible to be considered for the scholarship, this includes students who are exempt from one or more modules due to Accredited Prior Achievement (APA) or Advanced Prior Learning (APL).**

I am a Home/ EU student undertaking the double degree/ partnership agreement or only studying 120 credits and as such not being charged the full Home/EU rate of fee, will I still be eligible to receive the Postgraduate Scholarship?

No, it is a requirement that you must be charged the full Home/EU rate of fee and be studying the full 180 credits at the University of South Wales.

I will be starting a course in the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD) Cardiff, am I eligible to apply?

No. The Postgraduate Scholarship 2017/18 is only open to applicants who will be studying on a University of South Wales campus.

I am going to start a MChiro/MEng/MComp course; am I eligible for the postgraduate scholarship?

No. The MChiro, MEng and MComp courses are undergraduate courses, therefore, you may be eligible to apply for our undergraduate scholarships.

What happens if I transfer courses?

As long as you transfer to another eligible course of the same duration, then your entitlement to the postgraduate scholarship remains the same. If you transfer to another eligible course which has a different tuition fee and scholarship, then these cases will be dealt with on a case by case basis. Please note that you must complete the new course at the same time as you would have finished the original course.

I was going to apply to the University for 2017 entry but am now considering deferring until September 2018, will I still be eligible?

No. You must apply for any 2018/19 postgraduate scholarships if available.

How do I apply?

You will be sent instructions via email on how to apply after you have secured an offer on a full-time eligible postgraduate course. Please be aware this may take a couple of weeks to arrive. You should ensure emails from the University are not delivered into your spam/junk folder. Applicants must ensure that their application reaches the Student Money Advice Team by the advertised deadline. Applicants and not the University (or its staff) are entirely responsible for meeting this element of the criteria.

By what date do I need to apply to the scholarship to be eligible for consideration?

- For students starting their course in August / September 2016 we must receive an application to the scholarship package by no later than **4.30pm on Friday 15th September 2017**.

You should normally expect to receive email confirmation that your application has been received within 10 working days. Please note that all correspondence will be carried out via email.

I am unable to provide a copy of my undergraduate degree certificate as my university has not produced it yet. Can I prove the grade I achieved by other means?

If you have not received your degree certificate, you may provide us with a copy of results letter or transcript which bears the university's crest and clearly states the class of your award (e.g. First Class Honours). The Student Money Advice Team shall determine if this is acceptable as proof and their decision is final.

How much is the scholarship worth?

- University of South Wales graduates with a first class honours degree or an upper second class honours degree issued by the University of Glamorgan, Polytechnic of Wales, University of Wales Newport or University of South Wales may apply for a scholarship of £2,000.
- Non-University of South Wales graduates with a first class honours degree or an upper second class honours degree from other Universities may apply for a scholarship of £1,500.

How is the scholarship paid?

1-year full time masters courses

The scholarship will be paid in **two** instalments:

- Following successful enrolment on your course in October 2017 the first payment of £1,000 (£1,500 for University of South Wales graduates) will be allocated towards tuition fees. **However, entitlement to retain the first payment of the scholarship is dependent on satisfactory attendance and continuation of fulfilling the scholarship criteria in February 2018, which includes being considered in good financial standing with the University, for example tuition fees do not remain outstanding without a payment plan.** The Scholarships Team will confirm eligibility for the first payment in February 2018 by email to your student email address.
- Following successful completion of your course, within the standard time allowed, the remaining payment of £500 will be paid directly to your bank account by BACS, providing you are still considered in good financial standing with the University.
- The Scholarships Team will request your bank details by instructions sent to your student email address by the end of October 2017.

2-year full time masters courses – MSc Play Therapy only.

The Scholarship will be paid in **three** instalments:

- Following successful enrolment on your course in October 2017 the first payment of £500 (£750 for University of South Wales graduates) will be allocated towards tuition fees. **However, entitlement to retain the first payment of the scholarship is dependent on satisfactory attendance and continuation of fulfilling the scholarship criteria in February 2018, which includes being considered in good financial standing with the University, for example tuition fees do not remain outstanding without a payment plan.** The Scholarships Team will confirm eligibility for the first payment in February 2018 by email to your student email address.
- Following successful enrolment on to the second year of your course in October 2018 the second payment of £500 (£750 for University of South Wales graduates) will be allocated towards tuition fees. **However, entitlement to retain the second payment of the scholarship is dependent on satisfactory attendance and continuation of fulfilling the scholarship criteria in February 2019, which includes being considered in good financial standing with the University, for example tuition fees do not remain outstanding without a payment plan.** The Scholarships Team will confirm eligibility for the first payment in February 2019 by email to your student email address.

- Following successful completion of your course, within the standard time allowed, the remaining payment of £500 will be paid directly to your bank account by BACS, providing you are still considered in good financial standing with the University.
- The Scholarships Team will request your bank details by instructions sent to your student email address by the end of October 2017.

I need to change my bank details that I originally submitted in October 2017 prior to the final payment being made, how can I change these?

If you have changed your bank details then please inform The Scholarships Team by emailing scholarships@southwales.ac.uk. The Scholarships Team will respond to your email with further instruction. Please do not send any bank details by email, as this is not secure.

I am enrolled on a full time eligible course but am exempt from one or more modules due to Accredited Prior Achievement (APA) or Advanced Prior Learning (APL), will I still be eligible to receive the Postgraduate Scholarship?

No, it is a requirement that you must be charged the full Home/EU rate of fee and be studying the full 180 credits. Students undertaking less than 180 credits on a full time postgraduate degree will not be eligible to be considered for the scholarship, this includes students who are exempt from one or more modules due to Accredited Prior Achievement (APA) or Advanced Prior Learning (APL).

I am a part time student: am I eligible to apply?

No, unless your disability prevents you from studying full-time. Please contact the [Student Money Advice Team](#) if you feel this applies to you.

I am an existing postgraduate student; will I be entitled to apply for a scholarship for my current course?

No. The scholarship scheme applies only to students who will be starting a new, eligible, postgraduate Masters course in August/September 2017.

I have previously received a postgraduate scholarship, and obtained my Masters Degree. Am I able to apply to the scholarship package again?

No. Students who have previously received any or all of their payment from their postgraduate scholarship, and completed and obtained their Masters Degree at the University of South Wales, University of Glamorgan or the University of Wales, Newport, will not be eligible to apply for another scholarship to study a different eligible course.

I have previously received a postgraduate scholarship, but did not obtain my degree. Am I able to apply to the scholarship package again?

No. Students who have previously received any payment from a postgraduate scholarship at the University of South Wales, University of Glamorgan or the University of Wales, Newport but did not obtain a Masters Degree, will not be eligible to apply for another scholarship to study a different eligible course.

If I need to repeat my course/any number of postgraduate credits at any point, what happens to any scholarship entitlement I may have?

Students repeating a postgraduate course/a number of postgraduate credits at the University of South Wales will not be eligible for a scholarship, as students must complete their course within the standard time allowed. (Students granted extenuating circumstances by the University will be considered on an a case by case basis).

If I suspend or withdraw from my studies at any point, what happens to any scholarship entitlement I may have?

If you suspend or withdraw from your studies prior to payment you will not receive your scholarship. If you suspend or withdraw from your studies after eligibility for payment has been confirmed by email you will not have to repay this scholarship payment, as long as your tuition fees have been paid in full and you are not a debtor to the University. If your tuition fees have not been paid in full and are not a debtor then you will only receive a Scholarship payment that is no greater than the fee amount you are liable to pay at the point of withdrawal. Also, you will not be eligible to receive any future payments or scholarships from the University, including the final £500 payment.

What happens if I exit my course with a Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma?

If you exit with a Postgraduate Certificate or Diploma, you will not be eligible for the final £500 payment. Students with extenuating circumstances that prevent them from gaining a Master's degree within the standard time allowed will be dealt with on a case by case basis after they alert the [Student Money Advice Team](#).

I have previously received an undergraduate scholarship from the University of South Wales/University of Glamorgan/University of Wales, Newport, am I eligible to apply for a postgraduate scholarship?

Yes, provided that you have not previously received a payment from one of our postgraduate scholarships.

I am a member of staff at the University, am I eligible to apply for the scholarship if I am studying as a full-time student?

Yes you can apply if you meet the criteria. However, please note that you must be paying at least 50% of the full tuition fee yourself.

Can I appeal against any decisions regarding my eligibility?

All applicants/students have the right to appeal decisions made by the Student Money Advice Team regarding their eligibility for the Progression Bursary.

Full details regarding the Scholarship / Bursary Appeal process are available here:

<http://money.southwales.ac.uk/scholarship-bursary-appeal-process/>

*University of South Wales scholarships and bursaries are offered on the basis that they are potentially subject to change in the event of changes to the fee and student support regime applicable in Wales. Scholarships are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. The University also reserves the right to limit the number of scholarships and bursaries available.