

# Snowdon Trust Masters Scholarships

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

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### Eligibility

- Am I eligible to apply if I live (and study) in Scotland?
  - o Yes. You must be eligible to study in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). If you are an international student, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have the appropriate student or other relevant visa in place for the duration of your studies.
  - o You must be applying to a university or institution in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
  
- Can I apply for funding if my course has already started? My master’s programme started in September 2022/ October 2022, am I eligible?
  - o No. Your course must begin in the academic year 2023/2024 to qualify for the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship funding (i.e. your course must start after July 2023 and before September 2024). We cannot offer you a scholarship if you have already started your course.
  
- Can I apply for funding if my course starts in January 2023/ March 2023/ spring 2023?
  - o No. Your course must begin in the academic year 2023/2024 to qualify for the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship funding (i.e. your course must start after July 2023 and before September 2024). We cannot offer you a scholarship if your course starts before the Scholarships have been awarded at the end of June 2023.

- Can I do a distance learning / online course?
  - o Yes, your course can be taught in person, online or as a hybrid. However, your course must be taught by a university or institution registered in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
- Can I get funding for a master's in another country?
  - o Your course must be taught by a registered university or institution in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
- Can I study part time?
  - o Yes, your course can be taught part time or full time. However, your course must be taught by a university or institution registered in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
- Does my impairment qualify? Is my disability eligible? I still don't know if the disability I experience is eligible for the scholarship or not?
  - o We understand that disability is defined differently within different contexts, countries and by individual preference. However, we cannot provide an exhaustive list or reply to all queries about specific health conditions or impairments. If you believe, based on the information you have read in the eligibility criteria, that you meet the inclusion criteria then we urge you to apply.
- I am studying Arts/ Music/ Theatre/... what subjects does the scholarship cover?
  - o The Snowdon Trust welcomes applicants from across all master's subject areas.
- I have received a Snowdon Trust Grant before, am I still eligible to apply?
  - o If you have previously received a Snowdon Trust Grant, you are still eligible to apply for the Master's Scholarship. However, if you have previously received a Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship, you are not eligible.
- Is an MPhil eligible? What master's are eligible?
  - o Yes, full master's courses such as MA, MSc, MRes/MPhil, MML and MBA (180 higher education credits) are considered eligible for the Master's Scholarship. Please note that our funding remains capped at the same level regardless of the total course fees. The Scholarship offers up to a total of £30,000 divided between a contribution towards fees (up to £15,000) and an allowance/maintenance stipend (up to £15,000 divided between the terms).

- Is a PhD eligible?
  - o No, the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship cannot support a PhD level course.
  
- Is there an age limit?
  - o No, there is no age limit, but it is important in your application to explore the scholarship in relation to your future ambitions.
  
- My master's programme does not follow the usual academic term start dates; can I still apply?
  - o Yes. Your course must begin in the academic year 2023/2024 to qualify for the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship funding (i.e. your course must start after July 2023 and before June 2024). We cannot offer you a scholarship if your course starts before the scholarships have been awarded at the end of June 2023, or after the next year's scholarships are awarded in June 2024.
  
- Which universities does the Scholarship cover?
  - o Your course must be taught by a registered university or institution in The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).
  
- Will I have to provide evidence of my disability?
  - o No, we will not ask you to provide official evidence of your disability.
  
- Who should apply?
  - o The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship has been designed to identify and accelerate exceptional Disabled Students through higher education, creating the influencers of the future. We are looking for applicants who can communicate their aspiration to become an exceptional leader, a role model, or a pioneer in their area of expertise. All candidates are advised to focus their applications on the potential impact of the scholarship, and how this funding could enable them to reach their potential or overcome additional barriers that may be experienced as a result of living with a Disability.

## Filling in the application

- Are extensions to deadline possible?
  - o No, the deadline is **Friday 31 March 2023 at 12:00 GMT**. No extensions or exceptions will be considered.

- Can you support me to complete my application? Can you help me fill in the application form? I cannot access the application form or supporting documents?
  - o If you are not able to access the application form or any of the guidance documents we have posted online, please contact us on [info@snowdontrust.org](mailto:info@snowdontrust.org). We will do our best to provide accessible material and submissions.
  - o We will do our best to accommodate alternative methods of communication for accessibility purposes. Please let us know if you cannot communicate with us via email.
  - o We are not able to support any applicant in answering specific questions on the application form. We must ensure fairness and equal support to all applicants and be mindful of conflict of interest. We will host a live Q&A session in February 2023 where we will talk about the application in general and hear from previous Master's Scholarship awardees. Please read the guidance documents and do give us feedback if the guidance is not appropriate or you think of other ways we could improve.
  
- How do I apply for the scholarship?
  - o Applications open on 25 January 2023.
  - o There is a link to our application portal on our website. Make sure you read through the eligibility criteria and guidance posted on our [website](#) before beginning your application.
  - o If you want to submit your application in British Sign Language (BSL), please contact our office for details.
  
- How do I submit a link to a video or audio clip? How do I prepare my video or audio submission?
  - o Please read the guidance on our [website](#).
  
- How strict are the word counts in text boxes? Is there a minimum word count? Can I exceed the maximum word count?
  - o The maximum word count cannot be exceeded. There is no minimum word count. Some text boxes are mandatory which means you cannot complete the application without entering the requested information. These text boxes are marked with a red star.
  
- I cannot access the application portal. Can you accept alternative submissions?

- If for accessibility reasons you are not able to use our online application portal, please contact us on [info@snowdontrust.org](mailto:info@snowdontrust.org) to discuss alternative possibilities. We will accommodate alternative submissions as far as possible.
- I have no internet/ no electricity/ I experience load shedding/ my internet café is closed/ my computer or laptop has broken. Can I have an extension to the submission deadline?
  - Please prepare your answers and submit your application with plenty of time, especially if you are likely to experience technical and environmental issues. The deadline for applications cannot be extended.
- What are the Four Pillars?
  - The Four Pillars are key questions which all applications will be scored against. Please read the guidance document on our [website](#) which explains the Four Pillars and how to answer the questions.
- What do you mean by excellence within a field of study?
  - We are searching for outstanding candidates who are extremely good in their field.
  - We are searching for people that are truly passionate about their chosen subject. Excellence could be measured by results, performances, exhibitions, or any other subject related experience. Projects, extracurricular and workplace experience all count towards subject related experience.
- What do you mean by exceptional leaders?
  - We are searching for remarkable individuals who have the capability and qualities to become an outstanding leader, a role model, or a pioneer in their area of expertise and beyond.
  - We're searching for individuals with the ability to create change and influence others. This could include excellence within a chosen field of study, or the ability to demonstrate leadership more widely through the workplace, extracurricular activities and leading by example.

## Questions often asked by international students

- Can international students apply?

- Yes, international students can apply. You must be applying to study at a UK registered university or institution. If you are an international student, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have the appropriate student or other relevant visa in place for the duration of your studies.
- Can my dependents (e.g. child/ children) come with me to the UK while I study?
  - If you bring dependents with you (e.g. your child), it is your responsibility to arrange their visa, travel, accommodation, and all expenses. The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship funding available is a total of £30,000, which is divided between a contribution towards fees (up to £15,000) and an allowance /maintenance stipend (up to £15,000 payable in termly instalments of £5,000 for a one-year course, or £2,500 for a two-year course). You may decide how to use the allowance, there are no limits or expectations set by the Snowdon Trust on how the allowance is used.
- Can my mother/ brother/ family member come to the UK to support me during my studies?
  - If you bring a family member or members with you (e.g. your mother), it is your responsibility to arrange their visa, travel, accommodation, and all expenses. The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship funding available is a total of £30,000, which is divided between a contribution towards fees (up to £15,000) and an allowance /maintenance stipend (up to £15,000 payable in termly instalments of £5,000 for a one-year course, or £2,500 for a two-year course). You may decide how to use the allowance, there are no limits or expectations set by the Snowdon Trust on how the allowance is used.
- Can you help me arrange accommodation?
  - No, the Snowdon Trust cannot help you arrange your accommodation. Your university should be able to offer you help and guidance in arranging accommodation while you study.
- Can you help me find additional funding?
  - If your course fees are higher than the maximum Scholarship amount awarded (£15,000), it is your responsibility to source and fund the remaining costs. Your university might be able to offer you help and guidance in searching for alternative and additional funds.
- Can you help me get a Visa?

- No, it is your responsibility to arrange your visa and necessary documents. Your university should be able to offer you help and guidance in arranging these.

## Are there restrictions on receiving or using my Scholarship award?

- Are there any limitations on other study alongside the master's?
  - No, the Snowdon Trust does not set any requirements or restrictions on your ability to work or study alongside the master's which we are contributing towards. We offer the Scholarship to support you in your studies, so we do hope that you will prioritise your efforts in studying for the master's which we are contributing towards.
- Can I work while I study? Do I need to limit the number of hours I work while I study?
  - No, the Snowdon Trust does not set any requirements or restrictions on your ability to work or study alongside the master's which we are contributing towards. We offer the Scholarship to support you in your studies, so we hope that you will set enough time aside to concentrate on and excel in the master's course which we are contributing towards.
- Do I have to pay the scholarship award (money) back?
  - No, you do not need to re-pay any of the award The Snowdon Trust gives you. The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship offers up to £30,000 of non-repayable funds.
- How much (money) is the scholarship?
  - The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship offers up to £30,000 of non-repayable funds. These are divided between a contribution towards course fees of up to £15,000 and an allowance of £15,000 payable in termly instalments of £5,000 for a one-year course, or £2,500 for a two-year course.
- What can I use my allowance of £15,000 for? Can I use it towards fees? Can I use it towards the cost of living? Can I use it for travel? Can I use it for accommodation or travel for my accompanying family members? Can I use it to pay for study equipment? Can I use it to pay for my guide dog?
  - You can choose what you use the allowance for. There are no limits or expectations set by the Snowdon Trust on how you use the £15,000 allowance.

Please note that the allowance will be paid out proportionally over the duration of your course. You will not receive a lump sum of £15,000 at the start of your course.

- For example, a one-year master's course typically has three terms, so the student would be paid £5,000 each term. If your course was over two years, this would typically result in payments of £2,500 each term (based on six terms over two years).

## Responses and timings

- Can I have personalised feedback on my application?
  - No, due to the high number of applications we receive, we regret that we are unable to provide individual feedback to unsuccessful applicants.
- I sent you an email. When will I hear back? When will you reply to my enquiry?
  - We aim to reply to you within five working days. Please be patient, and do not send us a follow up email until five working days have passed. This will only create a larger volume of emails for us to deal with. Thank you for your understanding.
- When do applications close? When is the deadline for submitting an application?
  - The deadline for submitting applications is **Friday 31 March 2023 at 12:00 GMT**. There are no extensions.
- When do applications open? When can I submit an application?
  - Applications opened on 25 January 2023.
- When will I hear if my application was successful?
  - You will be notified on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 if you have progressed on to the next stage of the application or not.

## General questions

- Can I speak to a previous awardee? Can I speak to someone about the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship?
  - Yes, we are hosting a live online Q&A session on Wednesday 22 February 2023 at 1-2pm. Please sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/692FTykw2> (the



link is also available on our website). Both Snowdon Trust staff and previous Master's Scholarship awardees will be online to talk about the Scholarship and to answer questions.

- Do you have Q&A/ live information drop-in sessions?
  - o Yes, we are hosting a live online Q&A session on Wednesday 22 February 2023 at 1-2pm. Please sign up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/692FTykfw2> (the link is also available on our website). Both Snowdon Trust staff and previous Master's Scholarship awardees will be online to talk about the Scholarship and to answer questions.
  
- How much competition is there? What are my chances of receiving a scholarship?
  - o The number of applications we receive has been growing each year. In 2022, we received around 600 applications. The Snowdon Trustees award up to twelve scholarships.
  
- What is the difference between the Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarships and Snowdon Trust Grants programmes?
  - o The Snowdon Trust Master's Scholarship has been designed to identify and accelerate exceptional disabled students through higher education, creating the influencers of the future. Successful recipients will receive a total of up to £30,000 divided between a contribution towards fees (up to £15,000) and an allowance /maintenance stipend (£15,000 payable in termly instalments of £5,000 for a one-year course, or £2,500 for a two-year course).
  - o Snowdon Trust Grants typically contribute towards study costs that are an additional cost to Disabled Students, but which have not been covered or fully covered by statutory funding. The maximum grant value is £5,000. The applicant must provide evidence of their additional study related costs, and proof that they have not been able to source the funding from elsewhere (the government, the university, the local council etc.).
  
- Can I also apply for a Snowdon Trust grant?
  - o If you meet the eligibility criteria for a grant, you can also apply for a grant. Applying for the Master's Scholarship does not exclude you. Please note that our next grant round will open in Spring 2023.
  
- What is the Disabled Leader's Network (DLN)?
  - o The DLN is an established network of skilled and knowledgeable Disabled Students and Graduates from diverse disciplines and backgrounds who are

commonly driven to support one another, create change and would like to benefit from on-going support and information sharing.

- The DLN is an exclusive network for building capacity within a cohort that are recognised for their brilliance and are driven to develop and share skills amongst themselves. The network is led by its members but supported by the Snowdon Trust and the Global Disability Innovation Hub who help in running a calendar of activities and are the main point of contact for members