

University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarships 2019-20

Our University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarships support talented PhD students to study at the University. These awards are available to students who can demonstrate an excellent academic background and the potential for future achievement. They are awarded for each year of study during the standard minimum period of enrolment for your degree, subject to satisfactory progress.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These terms and conditions apply to University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarships awarded to students entering our University in October 2019 and those on an integrated PhD course entering their 2nd year in 2019-20 academic year.

What does the award offer?

The following departments in our Faculty of Social Sciences are offering scholarships for entry in 2019-20: Government, Economics, Sociology, Language and Linguistics, Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies, Institute of Economic Research and The Essex Business School. The award consists of a full Home/EU fee waiver or equivalent fee discount for overseas students (£4,630 in 2019-20), a doctoral stipend equivalent to the Research Councils UK National Minimum Doctoral Stipend (£14,777 based on 2018-19 amount, 2019-20 amounts are yet to be announced), plus a training bursary of £250 per year and Proficio funding, which may be used to 'buy' advanced skills training.

Who is eligible?

- This award is available to UK, EU and international full-time PhD students;
- Successful international applicants will need to fund the balance of the tuition fees;
- You must hold an offer from the University of Essex for a PhD, Integrated PhD or full-time Professional Doctorate (not MPhil, Doctor of Medicine, Masters by Dissertation, 1+3 Doctorate);
- Receipt of the scholarships is subject to applicants firmly accepting the offer of study, registering as students of the University of Essex for the 2019-20 academic year, and meeting all conditions of our offer;
- Some of these scholarships are only available to University of Essex Graduates.
- No alternative form of the scholarship is available and the award cannot be deferred to a later year from the one for which you are admitted;
- Successful applicants on an Integrated PhD course will have to fund their final year;
- Integrated PhD students who are already in their first year (i.e. started in Oct 2018), are allowed to apply for these scholarships to fund their second, third, and fourth years.
- **Economics** applicants who are currently studying for Master's degree or equivalent should submit any updated statement of marks, which could be provisional statements provided by departments. **Please provide this statement at the end of your research proposal document.**
- Applicants may only receive one award administered by the University of Essex. In the event that an applicant is already in receipt of another University award (including fee discounts such as the Alumni Loyalty Discount), the larger of the two awards will be kept and the other released;
- Where a student applies for and is awarded a scholarship and subsequently obtains full external funding, the University will rescind the scholarship offer. Where partial external funding is obtained, the department may choose to continue, reduce or rescind the scholarship offer as it sees fit.

How do I apply?

If you have applied for a full time SeNSS studentship starting in 2019-20, you will automatically be considered for our Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarship and do not need to complete a separate application form. However, you are advised to read the terms and conditions of these awards and which departments are offering them. The University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral scholarships do not cover SeNSS 1+3 applications but you will be considered for an Integrated PhD if there is one appropriate for your studies.

If you have not applied for a SeNSS studentship you should complete the University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarship application form online via <https://www1.essex.ac.uk/fees-and-funding/research/scholarships/social-sciences-apply.aspx>. Please note that you must be applying for a new programme of study at the University of Essex, starting in October 2019, in order to be eligible. The only exception to this is if you are in the first year of an integrated PhD in the 2018-19 academic year and are progressing to year 2 in October 2019. Applications for the University of Essex Social Sciences Doctoral Scholarship must be received by the specified closing date.

How are candidates selected?

- Candidates will be selected for the award of a scholarship on the following criteria:
- academic ability - based on previous academic qualifications, normally a Master's degree with distinction or merit;
- research potential - based on the candidate's research proposal submitted with their application, as well as their statement on the scholarship application form; and
- professional development potential - based on the candidate's skills, aptitudes and potential to support their department's undergraduate teaching or research activities.

When are successful candidates notified?

Successful candidates will normally be notified by our Funding Team within six weeks of the closing date for applications. Acceptance of the scholarship constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. A scholarship will not commence until the student formally registers on a relevant course at the University of Essex.

How will the money be paid?

Our scholarships are awarded for each year of study during the standard minimum period of enrolment for your degree. The fee element will be deducted automatically, and the stipend will be paid in four instalments. Awards are granted for one year in the first instance but will be renewed, subject to the award holder's satisfactory progress (as defined by the Code of Practice: Postgraduate Research Degrees), for a second and third year – up to a maximum tenure of nine terms or three years, provided the award holder is still engaged in full-time research (and excepting the circumstances stated in the section on termination, below). Where progress is satisfactory, renewal of the award is automatic. Students who wish to extend their minimum period of study will have to meet the additional costs themselves. Students applying for a four-year PhD programme will have to meet one year's costs themselves.

Intermission

The University expects students to complete their training in a single continuous period, and does not encourage the suspension of awards. Where suspensions are agreed, total periods of suspension must not normally exceed two calendar years during the lifetime of the award. Sympathetic consideration should be given to requests for abeyance due to personal or family reasons. The studentship end dates and expected submission dates should be amended to reflect periods of abeyance.

Illness

Payment of a studentship can continue for absences covered by a medical certificate for up to thirteen weeks within any 12-month period. If the illness lasts, or is expected to last, for more than thirteen weeks, the University should make arrangements to suspend the studentship.

Maternity/Adoption Leave

Funded students are entitled to up to 26 weeks of maternity or adoption leave on full stipend and a further 26 weeks of unpaid maternity leave. Partners are entitled to up to 10 days paid Ordinary Paternity Leave on full stipend. Partners may be entitled to up to 50 weeks of Shared Parental Leave; this may include paid and unpaid leave, depending on the individual circumstances, any paid leave should be at full stipend. There is no qualifying period for maternity, paternity adoption or shared parental leave. The University will make every effort to recover the value of maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption funding from students who decide not to return to study after maternity, paternity, shared parental or adoption leave.

Holidays

Scholarship holders are entitled to a maximum of eight weeks' holiday (including bank holidays and the University closure at Christmas) per annum and pro-rata. Holidays should be agreed in advance with the supervisor and, in cases where the scholar is engaged in teaching and demonstrating, with the approval of the head of the student's department, school or centre.

Termination of Scholarship

Our University will terminate a scholarship when progress or performance is deemed to be unsatisfactory. The scholarship will be terminated if a student ceases to be registered as a student with the University, or for good cause at the discretion of our Dean of Postgraduate Research & Education, or his/her nominee for this purpose. If a scholarship is terminated prematurely for any reason, a scholar must repay to the University any monies including maintenance, travel, subsistence, fees overpaid from the date of the termination of the scholarship. If a scholar submits his/her thesis before the end of the scholarship, the scholarship will be terminated on the date of submission. If a scholar takes up full-time employment whilst in receipt of a scholarship, the scholarship will be terminated as of the first day of employment.

Transferability

Change of course within the University of Essex will not affect the continuation of a scholarship, providing that the student continues to be registered on an eligible course within the same department.

Resolution of disputes

In cases not covered by the above terms and conditions, or where a student claims exceptional circumstances, or disputes a decision not to make payments due under a scholarship, they should first put their case in writing to the Funding team who will consider the circumstances and uphold, amend or revoke the original decision. Should a student be unhappy with this decision they should follow the university complaints procedure: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/about/governance/policies/complaints.aspx>

Disclaimer

The information set out above is correct at the date of publication (February 2019). The University of Essex reserves the right to make changes to the above and will notify any such changes to applicants as appropriate.