Masters Excellence Scholarship 2025-26

This scholarship scheme is for Home (UK) students seeking to join our University in the academic year 2025-26. The award is offered as a 25% discount on tuition fees. Details of the award available under this scheme are as follows:

Terms and conditions

Eligibility

- These scholarships are restricted to full-time students who are Home fee payers and are entirely self-funded*.

- Students must have been awarded a first-class honours bachelor's degree from a UK university. This does not include students who have completed their studies at University of Essex, as there is a separate Alumni discount.

- Students must register at the University of Essex in October 2025 or January 2026 for the first year of a full-time Masters course in academic year 2025-26 only, leading to the degree of:

    - MA, MSc, LLM, MFA, MPP, MBM

- The award cannot be held in conjunction with any other University of Essex scholarships. Students who are eligible for this award and are joining Essex through a link agreement, which includes a discounted fee, will receive the award which is greater in value.

- This scholarship is available for the first year of Masters study only.

- Successful students should be available for promotional activities.

 *Students receiving a repayable loan to fund their studies will be considered as self-funded.

Students who are not eligible

The following applicants are NOT eligible for the Masters Excellence Scholarship regardless of meeting the above criteria:

- Students studying on a part-time basis.

- Students who are fully or partly sponsored by their government or other external agency and are not required to make any repayments (this does not include VISA sponsorship)

- Students who are studying a Masters normally delivered wholly online by Kaplan Open Learning, operating as University of Essex Online.

- Courses below Masters level: including, but not limited to, Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas, Postgraduate Certificates (PGCerts), and Postgraduate Diplomas (PGDips).

- Students awarded the scholarship who defer entry to following academic years will be ineligible to receive the award and will be considered in line with the terms and conditions that apply in the new proposed year of entry.

- Students who are assessed as paying international tuition fees

- Current students whose first year of Postgraduate study at the University of Essex, was prior to academic year 2025-26.

- Students transferring from another higher education institution.

How to apply

If you meet all the eligibility criteria, you will automatically be considered for this award. You don't need to complete an application form. The University will assess your eligibility based on the academic transcripts and certificates you submit with your application for your place at Essex.

Payment arrangements

- These scholarships will only be made available as a reduction on the tuition fee that is payable on registration at the University. Payment cannot be offset against a tuition fee deposit if one is required.

- If you intermit from your course, you may, at the discretion of the University, be entitled to a pro-rata payment of the remainder of your award on your return to study. Please contact the Funding Team for further information.

Resolution of disputes

Acceptance of this award constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Applicants should contact the Postgraduate Admissions Team in the first instance for guidance regarding this award. Registered students should contact the Funding Team. 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 an award, final appeals on decisions regarding eligibility must be made via the Student Complaints process. The Academic Registrar or their nominee will review the case and his/her decision will be final.

These terms and conditions apply to the academic year 2025-26. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary.