

Funding Postgraduate study

Sources of funding for home/EU postgraduate students

This is a general introduction to the principal sources of funding for postgraduate study; you should consult the individual websites for further details.

Useful web sites which provide general information on funding postgraduate study include:

www.prospects.ac.uk

www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk

www.studentmoney.org

www.findaphd.com

www.jobs.ac.uk

<http://www.get.hobsons.co.uk/>

<http://www.npc.org.uk/page/1082154863>

University Studentships and bursaries

The University offers a small number of full and partial bursaries. When available, these will be advertised on the University website and on <http://www.jobs.ac.uk>.

Research Councils

The major sources of funding for postgraduate students in the UK are the Research Councils. These bodies are government-funded agencies engaged in the support of research in different disciplines and postgraduate funding is just one part of a broad range of responsibilities. Competition for Research Council funding is intense, and in many areas only a small percentage of applications is successful.

To be eligible for a full Research Council award you must normally be an EU national who is 'ordinarily resident' in the UK throughout the three years preceding your application. Students from outside the UK but within the EU are eligible for Research Council awards that cover tuition fees only.

The availability of funding and submission procedures will vary according to the Council to which you are applying. You must consult the full details on the Research Councils' own websites. Applications are made through the University and you should consult your supervisor or the University Research Office to confirm eligibility and institutional deadlines. You should be aware that these are highly competitive and eligibility may be dependent on University quotas.

There are seven grant-awarding Research Councils:

- [Arts and Humanities Research Council \(AHRC\)](http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/Funding-Opportunities/Postgraduate-funding/Pages/Postgraduate%20funding.aspx) please change hyperlink to : <http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/Funding-Opportunities/Postgraduate-funding/Pages/Postgraduate%20funding.aspx>
- [Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council \(BBSRC\)](http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk)
- [Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\)](http://www.esrc.ac.uk)
- [Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council \(EPSRC\)](http://www.epsrc.ac.uk)
- [Medical Research Council \(MRC\)](http://www.mrc.ac.uk)
- [Natural Environment Research Council \(NERC\)](http://www.nerc.ac.uk)
- [Science and Technology Facilities Council \(STFC\)](http://www.stfc.ac.uk)

British Federation of Women Graduates (BFWG)

Academic Awards to women for final year doctoral research

These awards are open to women research students of any nationality in their final year of formal study for a PhD degree at a UK university. The main criterion is **academic excellence** with a proven ability to carry out independent research. Financial need is not a primary consideration

Full information and application material can be downloaded from the BFWG's website: www.bfwg.org.uk.

Funds for Women Graduates (FfWG)

The Charitable Foundation is a subsidiary of BFWG and offers Foundation Grants to help women graduates with their living expenses (not fees) in the final year of doctoral study at a UK HEI. The criteria are the proven needs of the applicant and their academic calibre. They can also provide emergency grants to assist with the completion of an academic years work. For further details, see www.ffwg.org.uk

Colt Foundation

Fellowships in Occupational/Environmental Health

The Foundation awards Fellowships each year to qualified persons carrying out research within the area of occupational and environmental health. The research is expected to lead to a PhD degree. The application must be submitted by the student personally.

<http://www.coltfoundation.org.uk/>

Culham Educational Foundation (Religious Studies)

The Culham Educational Foundation supports practising Anglicans wanting to pursue studies in religious education, religious studies or theology. Grants do not normally exceed £1,000 pa.

<http://www.cstg.org.uk/grants/>

Age UK: PhD Studentship Scheme

Research into Ageing supports high-quality research that will clearly improve the quality of life of older people. PhD studentships and research fellowships are awarded in order to encourage talented researchers into the field of ageing research, and provide grants to support shorter or longer pieces of research.

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/professional-resources-home/research/research-funding/>

The Perry Foundation (PGR)

The Perry Foundation promotes postgraduate scholarships to support research projects in agriculture and related fields. Preference is given to the following broad areas: Production and utilisation of crops for non-food uses; ecological, acceptable and sustainable farming systems, in particular: water and nutrient balances; integrated disease and pest control systems. Also socio-economic studies in: the occupation and use of land; the rural economy and infrastructure; developments in marketing. Applicants should hold a first or upper second-class honours degree, and their programme of study should lead to the award of a doctorate. Awards are tenable for a maximum of 3 years.

www.perryfoundation.co.uk

Sir Richard Stapely Educational Trust

Founded in 1919 by the businessman and philanthropist Sir Richard Stapley (1843-1920), the Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust supports the work of mature students of proven academic merit, and in financial need, who are pursuing further degree qualifications at an institution in the UK. Open to students from all countries, applicants must be resident in the UK at the time of applying, as well as during their course of study. The Trust supports postgraduate degrees in any subject, as well as courses in medicine or veterinary sciences taken as a second degree. The Trust also assists a small number of prisoners each year who are studying for postgraduate degrees. All grants are made annually, and are normally between £400 and £1,000.

<http://www.stapleystrust.org/>

Spalding Trusts: Grants-in-Aid of Research (Religious Studies)

Awards are made to scholars of any nationality engaged in the study of a world religion other than their own. These small travel grants and subsistence allowances are tenable for short periods only.

<http://www.spaldingtrust.org.uk/>

Opportunities for study abroad for UK students

Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation Scholarships

These scholarships are to enable outstanding young UK graduates in any academic discipline, career or aspect of the creative and performing arts to acquire a lasting knowledge of Japanese life and culture and of spoken and written Japanese. The first year will be spent at a Japanese language school and will be followed by a combination of language study and work placement. Scholars will receive grants at an annual rate of not

less than 3,000,000 Japanese Yen to cover accommodation and living costs. Candidates must be UK citizens aged 20 or over and must have completed their first degree.
<http://www.dajf.org.uk/scholarships/general-information>

Entente Cordiale Scholarships

A scholarship scheme for outstanding British and French postgraduate students in the arts, humanities and sciences, who wish to undertake research for one year on the other side of the channel. The scholarship is for one year of PhD study only and is not renewable. Candidates must be either British or French nationals. The application deadline for French students wishing to study in the UK is usually early February. British students wishing to apply should contact the **French Embassy** in London for further information (44 (0)20 7073 1312)
<http://www.britishcouncil.org/france-education-scholarships-entente-cordiale.htm>

Fulbright Traditional Postgraduate Awards

Awards are offered for Masters or PhD study in any discipline (not including Journalism, Film or MBA at Harvard) and at any accredited US university. The award covers up to \$40,000 for the first year of study only, as well as health insurance and university application and entrance exam fees. Successful candidates will work with the Fulbright Commission and the Institute of International Education (IIE) to identify and apply to the university departments which offer the best academic fit for their purpose, though the final decision will rest with candidates.

Applicants must be a UK citizen (resident anywhere) or EU citizen normally resident in the UK. Applicants must also hold a minimum 2:1 undergraduate honours degree from a UK university. Because an objective of the Fulbright Programme is to provide an educational and cultural experience to those not previously afforded such an opportunity, preference will be given to candidates who have not had extensive (6 months or more) recent experience in the United States.

http://www.cies.org/vs_scholars/

Leverhulme Trust Study Abroad Studentships

The Leverhulme Trust offers approximately 15 studentships for a period of advanced study or research at a centre of learning anywhere in the world except the UK and the USA. Applicants must hold a first degree from a UK university or equivalent; undergraduates in their final year are not eligible.
<http://leverhulme.ac.uk/funding/SAS/SAS.cfm>

Thouron Awards

The University of Pennsylvania, USA, offers up to 10 awards for postgraduate courses. Upenn is one of the leading Ivy League institutions in the United States of America and offers a wide range of options for graduate study. The awards are made for one or two years, and provide full funding (approx. \$60,000) covering tuition fees and a maintenance stipend. The Thouron Awards are open to suitably qualified British citizens who are currently resident in the UK and who have followed a regular school education in the UK.

Further details are available at: <http://www.thouronaward.org/index.php?action=PublicTheAwardOverviewDisplay>

Updated February 2015