



THINK BIG POSTGRADUATE AWARDS 2025

Application Guidance

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Introduction

This document provides an overview of the full application form and process for the Think Big international scholarship scheme at the University of Bristol.

Please note, you must apply to study before applying for a scholarship. If you have not yet submitted an application to study at Bristol starting in September 2025 then you cannot apply for a scholarship. To find out how to apply to study, please visit [our international applications webpage](#).

About Think Big

The Think Big Scholarship scheme offers tuition fee scholarships of up to £26,000 per year of study, as well as one-off bursaries of up to £3,000 to support prospective international students at the University of Bristol.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for the University's postgraduate scholarships, you must:

- have applied to any eligible one-year, full-time taught master's programme, or one of our eligible two-year programmes: MSc Social Work and MA Law;
- start your master's programme in September 2025;
- be classed as an [overseas student](#) for fee-paying purposes;
- not already be in receipt of other funding which would equate to more than the full cost of tuition fees alongside a Bristol scholarship;
- meet or exceed the entry requirements as stated by the University of Bristol.

What we fund?

Your Think Big Scholarship will be applied as a tuition fee waiver directly to your tuition fees. No cash alternative is offered. Your tuition fees will be adjusted at the time of your enrolment at the University.

The discount is applied each year you are studying at the University. Think Big Scholarships will not be applied for any years not spent at the University, e.g. a placement year in industry or study abroad.

In addition to scholarship awards, you may be awarded a Bursary of up to £3,000. These are awarded in your first year of study only and are paid directly into your bank account once you have registered in full upon arrival in Bristol. These payments can only be made to UK bank accounts.

A full list of scholarships available can be found on our website at:

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/international/fees-finance/scholarships/>



How to navigate the application form

1. There are two application forms based on study level. You must ensure you complete the correct form. There is one form for postgraduate applicants and one form for undergraduate applicants.
2. There is no save progress function, so you will need to complete the application form in one session. You will need to answer all required questions to move to the next page. If you have not answered anything an error message will appear informing you of this.
3. Once you have completed all pages, there will be a final opportunity to review your answers. Remember once you select 'submit' this is final. You will not be able to make any changes to your application after submission.
4. If you are completing the form on a smartphone you may need to turn your phone to landscape to see all the text.

Application Form Questions

These are all the questions you must answer in your scholarship application. We recommend you read each question and draft your answers in a separate document first. After you have checked for errors, then transfer them to the application form.

Before you start your application form

Scholarship applicants must have applied to an eligible course of study at the University of Bristol and received an application ID. Without a valid application ID, you are not eligible for a Scholarship and your form will be deleted.

You do not need to have received a formal offer to study at the University of Bristol but you will need to have applied to an eligible course.

You can read [University of Bristol international scholarship terms and conditions](#) before starting your application.

Section 1 - Personal Details

[Mandatory] How did you apply for your postgraduate course?

There are several application routes available when applying to study at the University of Bristol. Please select which pathway you used, one of:

- University of Bristol applicant portal
- Global Transfer Programme



[Mandatory] Student ID

Enter the application ID which corresponds to your application route.

[Mandatory] What degree have you applied for at the University of Bristol?

Select the course that you have applied for from the menu. If your course is not on this list, it is not eligible for a Think Big scholarship.

[Mandatory] Have you applied for any additional degree programmes at the University of Bristol?

Select any additional programmes you have applied to study. You may select more than one from the list. If your course is not on this list, it is not eligible for a Think Big scholarship.

[Mandatory] Are any of the programmes you have applied to distance learning?

Distance learning programmes are not eligible to receive Think Big funding. You must be in the UK for your studies to receive an award.

[Mandatory] First Name

Enter your first name.

[Mandatory] Surname

Enter your family name.

[Mandatory] Email

Please enter the best email address to contact you at with updates and outcomes regarding your application. You will need to be able to access this email address until at least July 2025.

[Mandatory] Verify email

Re-enter your email address. Your email addresses must match before proceeding.

[Mandatory] Nationality

Select your country of nationality from the list. If you have dual nationality, you only need to select one.

[Mandatory] What is your permanent country of residence?

This is the country you are ordinarily resident in. This is same as the country you live in for most of the year. This is not a country you have been resident in for the main purpose of full-time education.

[Mandatory] Gender

Select your gender from the dropdown menu.

[Mandatory] Current or most recent Education Institution

Tell us the name of your current school or University, or the name of the institution where you most recently studied.



[Mandatory] Are you a recipient of, or have you applied for, any other funding from another organisation?

For example, this might be a scholarship organisation like Chevening, or your government may fund your studies. You do not need to note any funding from parents/family here.

[Mandatory] If you receive a Think Big award, how will you fund the rest of your studies and your living costs?

State how you will fund the remainder of your costs e.g. this could be through savings or family support.

[Mandatory] Think Big awards range in value from £3,000 to £26,000 and only a very small number of £26,000 awards are available each year.

Do you wish to be considered for all award amounts, or only the £26,000 awards?

There are a limited number of £26,000 Think Big awards available and it is highly competitive.

Your financial circumstances may mean you can only afford to come to Bristol with a £26,000 scholarship. If so, we recommend you select the "I want to be considered for the £26,000 Scholarship only" option. You will not be considered for any other Scholarship amount.

If you select "all Scholarship amounts", you will be considered for all scholarship amounts: £3000, £6500, £13000 or £26000.

Please select the option most relevant to your financial situation, one of:

- I want to be considered for the £26,000 Scholarship only
- I want to be considered for all Scholarship amounts

Section 2 - Application Questions

Remember there are separate forms for postgraduate study and for undergraduate study. You must ensure you complete the correct form applicants who have completed the incorrect form will not be considered.

There are three short essay questions that you will need to complete. These are all mandatory. The maximum character count is 1000 (including spaces) for each question. Each question is scored out of 10 marks.

The three questions for postgraduate applicants are:

QUESTION 1

Think Big aims to support the brightest and best individuals, with the talent and drive to be future changemakers. Please describe any special attributes or



accomplishments that you believe would make you an ideal candidate for a Think Big scholarship.

ANSWER 1

We want to hear about any special skills and achievements that highlight your ambition and how you make a difference. These skills and achievements may have been gained through:

- Internships
- Volunteer work
- Extra-curricular activities
- Travelling
- Starting your own business
- Hobbies and passion projects

QUESTION 2

Think Big scholars serve as international ambassadors to the University, and understand the importance of building strong relationships. Please give an example of when you have demonstrated clear leadership and/or teamworking skills.

ANSWER 2

Tell us how you have demonstrated the ability to guide, motivate, and inspire others to achieve a common goal or vision. This may have been gained in a setting such as work, university, community, sport, or volunteer activity.

QUESTION 3

Through Think Big, we aim to support students who have clear goals and ambitions for their future. Please explain your plans after graduation, and how studying your chosen programme at the University of Bristol will help you achieve your goals.

ANSWER 3

We are interested to learn what is it about the University of Bristol that attracts you, and how do you feel that being part of the university community will help to achieve your goals? Be specific. We want to hear about your personal expectations and anticipated contributions. Remember to link your responses back to the original question.

Section 3 - Terms and Conditions

In this section of the application, you will be asked to agree to our data statement, terms and conditions and academic integrity statement.

[Mandatory] How did you hear about the Think Big scholarship?

Please select the most relevant option, one of:

- News Outlet / Media publication
- Search Engine (e.g. Google/Bing)
- Social Media Platform (e.g. Instagram/Facebook)
- University of Bristol website



- University comparison website (e.g. StudyPortals/WhatUni/FindAMasters/Hotcourses etc.)
- Teacher or Lecturer
- Careers adviser
- Other agent/education representative
- Global Transfer Programme communications
- Other (specify below)

Data Statement

The personal information you supply on this form may be used to help us respond to your enquiries, and for quality assurance and market research purposes.

Unless required by law, your data will not be shared with or sold to any organisation outside the University of Bristol, apart from those that help us to provide this service.

For more information on how the University uses your personal data, please read our [Privacy Policy](#).

[Mandatory Checkbox] I, the applicant, have read and agree with the data statement

Terms & Conditions

For the full and complete details, read our [Terms and Conditions](#) before proceeding.

[Mandatory Checkbox] I, the applicant, have read and agree with the International Scholarships terms and conditions

Academic Integrity

The University of Bristol considers the use of AI or translation tools to be cheating if used for more than: generating the occasional short phrase within a sentence, checking basic grammar or spelling.

Before and during your time at the University, Scholars are expected to abide by these principles of academic integrity which covers plagiarism, collusion and contract cheating.

For latest information visit the [University of Bristol](#) website.

[Mandatory Checkbox] I, the applicant, understand the University's procedures and principles on academic integrity, plagiarism, collusion and contract cheating and have followed these principles in my Scholarship application.

Review your details

This page is a summary of your application.



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THINK **BIG**

Once you have completed every application question, agreed to the data statement, terms and conditions and academic integrity statement, you can review your details and answers.

Please check your answers and details very carefully before you submit. You will not be able to make any changes to your application after submission.

When you are happy with the details above, please click the 'Submit Application' at the bottom of the page to submit your application.

Submission

If you apply with an invalid student ID number, your application will be deleted.

Once you have submitted your application your answers are final, and you will not have the opportunity to amend your answers again.

We recommend that upon submission you enter your email address to receive a copy of your answers for your records.

You will receive a confirmation email, stating your application has been submitted. We will not be in touch with individuals to confirm receipt. This may go to your junk or spam folder so please check these folders if you do not receive an email to your main inbox.

How your application is assessed

We receive a very high number of scholarship applications and unfortunately cannot fund or share feedback.

We look at all areas of your application when assessing your application including performing eligibility checks. However, it is your response to the three short essay questions that allows the International Scholarships team to determine your suitability for the Think Big scholarship programme.

By completing the application form, you will be considered for all scholarships and bursaries that you are eligible for.



Application timelines

Key dates for Think Big postgraduate applicants are:

Postgraduate Scholarship	Postgraduate Career Accelerator	Date
	Career Accelerator Round 1 of 2 Applications close	Monday 24 February 2025
	Career Accelerator Round 1 Offers and Outcomes shared	March 2025
	Career Accelerator Round 1 Acceptance Deadline	April 2025
Postgraduate Application close (your application must be submitted by this date)	Career Accelerator Round 2 of 2 Applications close	Wed 23 April 2025
	Career Accelerator Round 2 Offers and Outcomes shared	May 2025
	Career Accelerator Round 2 Acceptance Deadline	May 2025
Postgraduate Offer and Outcome shared (all scholarship offers made by this date)		May 2025
Postgraduate Acceptance Deadline (all offers must be accepted by this date)		May 2025

Further benefits of a scholarship award

At the University of Bristol, we want to guide our scholars to achieve their full potential both in their academic studies and through personal development. To support bright minds, we have created the Think Big Development Programme in partnership with ICOS Consulting and leadership consultant Guillemette Villemin. This programme was a finalist for the prestigious Student Support Award at the Pioneer Awards in 2024.

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The [Think Big Leadership Development Programme](#) is offered to all Think Big international scholarship recipients, as well as a selection of our partner international scholarship programmes. The Leadership Development Programme involves networking events and workshops (both in-person and online) throughout the year. Scholars receive a self-reflection workbook to enable scholars to develop at their own pace in their daily lives.

The [Think Big Career Accelerator](#) is a new, bespoke employability scholarship programme for master's students only. It has been designed to boost your confidence in finding employment or advancing your career after graduation. Activities on the programme are subject to approval at the time of writing. They are designed to involve networking and speaker events as well as workshops providing insights on how to find your ideal role, prepare for job applications, enhance your CV and improve interview skills.

Frequently Asked Questions

You can find a full list of the University of Bristol [international postgraduate scholarships: frequently asked questions](#) on our webpages.

Key Contacts

Below you will find a list of useful contacts at University of Bristol.

Query	Email
International scholarships or Think Big related queries	international-scholarships@bristol.ac.uk
Applications to study at University of Bristol	support@international.bristol.ac.uk
Global Transfer Programme related queries	global-transfer-students@bristol.ac.uk
General queries	international-office@bristol.ac.uk