



Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship 2027

The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship recognises and supports exceptional international students who demonstrate outstanding academic potential. This prestigious and highly competitive partial scholarship is open to self-funding international applicants seeking admission to an eligible postgraduate taught degree programme at Durham University for the 2027/28 academic year.

The scholarship is offered in two award types:

- **Inspiring Excellence 5k (PGT)** – £5,000 in tuition fee discount
- **Inspiring Excellence 10k (PGT)** – £10,000 in tuition fee discount

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship, applicants must:

- Be **self-funded** and not in receipt of any other scholarship, funding award, or sponsorship from Durham University or any external organisation.
 - Durham alumni are welcome to apply for the Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship; however, the scholarship cannot be combined with the Durham University Alumni Discount. Successful applicants will be asked to choose from one of these awards.
- Be classified as overseas student for tuition fee purposes.
- Hold a valid Durham Student ID
- Have applied to a one-year, full-time (in-person) taught MSc, MA, LLM or MDS qualification
 - MBA, MSW programmes and MA in Theology and Ministry are excluded
- Meet or exceed the entry requirements for the programme applied for at Durham University.
- Commence postgraduate studies at Durham University in September 2027.
- Not be progressing to Durham University via the Durham University International Study Centre.
- Submit Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship Application Form.



Key Dates and Deadlines

Key Dates	Date
Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Application Opens	1 October 2026
First Round Application Deadline	7 December 2026
First Round Results Announced	18 December 2026
Second Round Application Deadline	15 March 2027
Second Round Results Announced	29 March 2027
Final Round Application Deadline	1 May 2027
Final Round Results Announced	15 May 2027

- Applicants are not required to hold an offer from Durham University to apply for the Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship. However, they must have applied for an eligible postgraduate programme at Durham University before submitting their Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship application.
- Successful applicants will be notified by email on the relevant Results Announcement Date and will receive a conditional scholarship offer. To secure the scholarship offer, applicants must complete the Scholarship Response Form and pay the required tuition fee deposit by the specified deadline. Durham University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship offer where these conditions are not met.
- Only successful applicants will be contacted. Unsuccessful applications will automatically be carried forward to the next application round and reconsidered alongside new applications.



Terms and Conditions

1. The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship applies to eligible one-year, full-time (in-person) taught MSc, MA, LLM or MDS courses commencing in September 2027 only.
 - a. MBA, MSW programmes and MA in Theology and Ministry are excluded from this scholarship scheme
2. The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship will be applied as a tuition fee discount directly to the postgraduate programme tuition fees. No cash alternative is offered. The tuition fees will be adjusted at the time of enrolment at Durham University.
3. The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship is valid only for the 2027/28 academic year and is neither transferable nor deferrable. Any recipient who defers their enrolment will forfeit the scholarship, and the award will be withdrawn.
4. The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship cannot be held in conjunction with any other scholarship, funding award, or sponsorship from Durham University or any external organisation.
 - a. Applicants and scholarship recipients are required to disclose any scholarship, funding award, bursary, or sponsorship received from Durham University or any external organisation.
 - b. Where an applicant or scholarship recipient fails to disclose any other scholarship, funding award, bursary, or sponsorship, Durham University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship offer and recover, on a pro rata basis, any scholarship fee discount already made.
5. The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship is available only to students who are classified as Overseas fee status. Applicants with Home fee status are not eligible for the scholarship.
 - a. Applicants and scholarship recipients must promptly notify the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team of any change to their tuition fee status.
 - b. Where an applicant or scholarship recipient is initially classified as Overseas fee status but subsequently has their fee status changed to Home, they will no longer be eligible for the scholarship. Durham University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship



and recover, on a pro rata basis, any scholarship fee discount received to which the recipient is no longer entitled.

6. Selected applicants will be notified by email on 18 December 2026, 29 March 2027, or 15 May 2027 and will receive a conditional scholarship offer. Confirmation of the scholarship is subject to the recipient meeting all conditions set out below:
 - a. The scholarship recipient must respond to the scholarship offer and complete the Scholarship Response Form by the set deadline stated on the conditional scholarship offer email.
 - b. The scholarship recipient must make the tuition fee deposit payment by the set deadline stated on the conditional scholarship offer email.
 - c. The scholarship recipient must meet all academic conditions, secure an unconditional place on their chosen postgraduate degree programme, and enrol at Durham University to commence their postgraduate studies in September 2027.
 - d. The scholarship offer will be withdrawn if any of the above conditions are not met.
7. Applicants who progress to Durham University via the Durham University International Study Centre are not eligible for the Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship.
8. Scholarship recipients must obtain prior approval from the International Office before making any changes to their programme of study, including course transfers, programme changes, or interruptions to study.
 - a. Scholarship recipients who suspend their studies will have all future scholarship fee discount withdrawn. Durham University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship and recover, on a pro rata basis, any scholarship fee discount received to which the recipient is no longer entitled.
 - b. In exceptional circumstances, such as medical conditions, they must notify the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team as soon as reasonably practicable. Any exception will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the sole discretion of the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team.
9. Scholarship recipients are expected to participate in and support marketing and communications activities on behalf of their faculty and/or Durham University ("Scholarship Commitments"). These activities may include providing testimonials, participating in public relations opportunities, attending



Open Events and webinars, acting as a student ambassador, or serving as a student representative.

- a. Scholarship recipients who fail to fulfil their Scholarship Commitments may have future scholarship fee discount withdrawn. Durham University reserves the right to withdraw the scholarship and recover, on a pro rata basis, any scholarship fee discount received to which the recipient is no longer entitled.
- b. In exceptional circumstances, where a scholarship recipient is temporarily unable to fulfil their Scholarship Commitments, they must notify the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team as soon as reasonably practicable. Any exception will be considered on a case-by-case basis and at the sole discretion of the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team.

Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship Application

1. Scholarship applicants must have applied to study an eligible postgraduate degree at Durham University through [Applicant Portal](#) which will generate a Durham Student ID. Scholarship application without a valid Durham Student ID will not be considered.
2. Applicants are only required to submit one scholarship application to be considered for both award categories. Applicants who have applied for more than one eligible programme at Durham University may list multiple programme choices within their scholarship application. Where multiple scholarship applications are submitted, only the first application received will be considered.
3. There is no save progress function in the Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship application form. Applicants will need to complete the application form in one session. Applicants need to answer all questions to progress with the scholarship application. An error message will appear if any question is left blank. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
4. Applicants will need to confirm that they have read and agreed with Durham's data statement, the scholarship eligibility criteria, and terms and conditions before submitting the application.
5. Applicants will receive an automated email confirmation following the completion of the scholarship application form.



6. Please refer to the Key Dates and Deadlines section for details of application deadlines and scholarship results announcement dates.

Selection Criteria

The Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship is a competitive scheme, and not all applications will be successful. A panel of key members of staff will select most suitable applications. In addition to the application form responses, academic achievements, nationality diversity and balance across programmes will also be considered in the selection process.

Scholarship awards are made at the sole discretion of Durham University, and all decisions are final. Due to the volume of applications received, Durham University is unable to provide feedback on applications and does not accept appeals in relation to scholarship decisions.

Key Contact

If you have any further questions regarding the Durham Inspiring Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship, please contact the Inspiring Excellence Scholarship Team at inspiring.excellence@durham.ac.uk