

Frequently Asked Questions

Masters Scholarships Programme: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Who are these Scholarships for?

Muslims who wish to raise aspirations and standards and facilitate better representation of British Muslim communities in civil society.

What are the opening and closing dates for these applications?

Scholarship applications can be submitted from 12pm (noon) Monday 11th January and the final date to submit an application will be 12pm (noon) Friday 16th July. Late applications will not be considered.

How do I make an application?

From January 2021, you can make an application through the Aziz Foundation website.

What is the process time for this scheme?

Applicants will be notified within 6-8 weeks whether they have been shortlisted for an interview. The assessment and awarding process will be carried out over two cycles:

Cycle	Application dates	Interview dates	Award dates
1	11 th January - 31 st March	February - April	Mid May
2	1 st April - 16 th July	May - July	Late August

The earliest start for courses we can consider is June 2021.

If your course starts between June 2021-August 2021, you must apply during cycle 1, otherwise we won't be able to consider your application.

For courses starting from September 2021, you may apply in either cycle.

What criteria will be used in assessing the application?

We shall be looking for candidates to demonstrate that they are able to fulfil at least some of the following criteria:

- Able to successfully complete their proposed course of study
- Dedication to bettering British Muslim communities and wider society
- Experiencing financial barriers to pursuing further study

- The course will benefit career prospects and/or assist in development in current career geared towards community service
- Willingness to advocate on behalf of communities
- Desire to proactively tackle Islamophobia in society

Are there any restrictions that apply on courses that are covered by the scholarships?

Courses applied for must be at Masters level. We do not fund PhDs, Undergraduate courses, PGCEs, LPCs or PG Dips. Please also consider the specific exemptions that apply to individual partnerships (see below).

Moreover, courses will be awarded in the following subject areas only:

- **Law:** Candidates who hold high aspirations to excel in the legal profession and especially those who wish to become judges
- **Media & Journalism:** Candidates driven to champion greater diversity and inclusivity in the media
- **Policy:** Candidates with a passion for influencing public policy in the UK, to ensure that it is equitable and responsive to the needs of minority communities, especially Muslim communities (excluding health policy)

For the 2021-22 academic year, we will NOT be funding courses within the science, engineering and mathematics disciplines, including health policy.

Additionally, please see partner specific exemptions below:

Partnership scheme	Exemption
Aston University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masters programmes offered by the College of Business and Social Sciences
City, University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Journalism Department courses eligible: MA Newspaper Journalism, MA Broadcast Journalism, MA Interactive Journalism, MA Magazine Journalism, MA Investigative Journalism, MA International Journalism, MA Television Journalism, MA Financial Journalism
Coventry University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations courses eligible: MA Peace and Conflict Studies, MA Maritime Security, MPA Global Diversity Governance, MSc Protective Security and Resilience
Goldsmiths, University of London	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRes, MPhil and MFAs
SOAS, University of London	N/A

University of Birmingham	N/A
University of Essex	N/A
University of St Andrews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MRes, MPhil and MFAs
University of Sussex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MBAs • Online courses • Institute of Development Studies courses

For Institutional schemes such as Cambridge, St Edmund's, and Oxford, Regent's Park, please see the individual webpages on our site.

Is there any financial limit to your scholarships?

There is currently no upper limit to the funding we offer. However, please note that we cover tuition fees only and that more expensive courses may receive partial funding only (up to 100%). We will not consider bearing the cost of maintenance.

When must my course start?

The course you are applying for must commence in the academic year 2021-22, entry from June onwards. You may therefore also apply for entry in January 2022. Please note that applicants hoping to gain admission to courses commencing early (i.e. prior to September) will have to apply in the first application cycle (see above).

Does the course have to be full-time?

No. We also fund part time courses and online courses.

Does the course have to be at a British university?

Yes, as long as the University has opted into the Foundation's Preferred Partners scheme. Please see the website for the full list.

Can I be funded to undertake a second Masters?

You can be funded, as long as you meet the other stipulated requirements.

If I have started a two year Masters, can I be funded for the second year?

Yes, as long as the second year commences in the academic year 2021-22.

Who is eligible for this scheme?

Those who qualify for Home Fees status. International students will not be considered.

Will there be an interview?

Yes. Shortlisted candidates will usually be invited to attend an interview face-to-face at our office in central London or remotely. However, due to social distancing restrictions all candidates in the first cycle will be interviewed remotely.

Due to the high volume of applications we process, it will not be possible to provide you individual feedback on your application. If you are not notified a month after submission, please assume your application has not progressed to the next stage.

Will my financial circumstances be assessed?

Yes. Means testing will be carried out on the information supplied in the application form and, if shortlisted, at the interview stage. This will examine the financial barriers faced and take into account the following, although this should not be taken as an exhaustive list:

- Home address
- Secondary school(s) attended
- Amount of student debt (this ought to be evidenced with appropriate documentation)
- First generation to go to university
- Financial commitments, dependents and caring responsibilities