Global Recruitment and Admissions

UNIVERSITY OF READING ALUMNI MASTER'S SCHOLARSHIPS 2026 – GUIDELINES AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Guidelines

1.0 This information applies to new master's students taking up a place of study in 2026-2027 at the University of Reading (Whiteknights and London Road (UK) campuses) who are eligible for consideration for the University of Reading Alumni Master's Scholarship (hereafter referred to as 'the Scholarship').

1.1 The Scholarship is for £3000. It is paid directly to the recipient as a contribution towards living costs.

1.2 The Scholarship may be held in conjunction with certain other scholarships, although some exclusions apply (see 3.5). The information contained in this document relates only to the University of Reading Alumni Master's Scholarship. Information about other funding offered to masters' students is available on the University website.

1.3 The Scholarship has an application process. Eligible candidates will be given access to an application form. The allocation of funds is competitive and not all applications received may be successful. We will only contact successful scholarship applicants.

1.4 The Scholarship selection process will not commence until after the closing date for applications. There are two application windows – one for students commencing their studies in Semester 1 (September 2026) and the other for students enrolling in Semester 2 (February 2027):

- Semester 1 entry deadline for applications – 1 June 2026
- Semester 2 entry deadline for applications – 1 December 2026

1.5 We will endeavor to notify successful scholarship applicants within 4 weeks of the closing date. However, if a student for any reason declines an awarded scholarship, we may revert to a reserve list. Therefore, some students may be contacted beyond 4 weeks of the closing date.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration for the Scholarship candidates must:

2.1 Have previously completed an Undergraduate programme of study at the University of Reading of at least 120 credits (or equivalent) or have completed at least one term / semester of study at the University of Reading as a Study Abroad student.[1]

[1] This is evidenced through the student's RISIS record or the supply of University of Reading degree certificate / transcript.

2.2 Have applied for entry to a University of Reading master's programme for admission in the academic year 2026-2027, using the University's online postgraduate application form.

2.3 Have applied to study on a full-time or part-time basis. Flexible / part-time modular master's courses are excluded.

2.4 Have received a formal offer of admission (it is **not** necessary to have accepted the offer of admission at the Scholarship application stage).

2.5 Not already be in receipt of a scholarship from a third party that pays in full the cost of living expenses.

2.6 The following students are not eligible for the Scholarship because their studies are deemed to form progression within an overall programme of study:

2.6.1 Students who complete the Pre-Sessional English course and progress on to a master's programme

2.6.2 Students who are moving into the final year of an Integrated Master's programme

Terms and conditions

3.0 Scholarship applications will only be considered if candidates satisfy the Eligibility Criteria and the Terms and Conditions.

3.1 Scholarship applications must be submitted using the form that eligible candidates will be given access to. No alternative method of application will be valid or considered. The Scholarship application form must be completed in full.

3.2 Recipients of the Scholarship are required to be an alumnus of the University of Reading, or will be, at the time of entry onto the Master's course they have applied for

3.3 Scholarship candidates will be assessed primarily based on financial need and the difference that an award would make to their educational experience. The Scholarship application allows candidates to submit these details by answering questions in the application form. Please note there is a limit of 1500 characters to record this information for each question. Supplementary documents cannot be submitted, although university staff reviewing scholarship applications may make reference to the information provided as part of the master's course application process, including supporting information, such as degree transcripts.

3.4 All information in the scholarship application should be provided by the candidate themselves and be true and accurate.

3.5 Candidates in receipt of partial scholarships from other sources can combine these awards with the Alumni Master's Scholarship. We will not give an Alumni Master's Scholarship to anyone who already has a full scholarship or sponsorship to pay for their living expenses. Scholarship recipients are required to advise us if their financial situation changes and they are subsequently granted a full scholarship from another source. The University reserves the right to withdraw all or part of the Scholarship and make no (or no further) payments if the student obtains sufficient alternative funding from another source.

3.6 Each scholarship round will close at 11.59pm on the dates above and under no circumstances can scholarship applications be submitted after the final deadline.

3.7 Candidates selected for a scholarship will be notified by email and it is therefore essential that the University has up-to-date contact information. Upon being notified of an award, a candidate will have 10 days within which to register their acceptance. If the candidate has not accepted their offer of admission for the master's course, they will also be required to do this. If the Scholarship and the offer of admission are not accepted within 10 days of scholarship notification, it will be assumed the candidate does not wish to receive funding and the scholarship offer will be withdrawn.

3.8 If the Scholarship is awarded to a conditional offer holder, then the award of the scholarship will also be conditional on the student meeting these requirements for entry.

3.9 The Alumni Master's Scholarship is applied only in the form of a grant of £3000 paid into a UK bank account in the student's name. This will be split into the following instalments.

- For full-time students studying for one year, funds will be disbursed as payments of £1500 each in semesters 1 and 2.
- For part-time students studying over a 2-year period (or full-time students studying a 2-year master's), funds will be disbursed as payments of £750 in semesters 1 and 2 of each year, subject to satisfactory progress.

3.10 The Scholarship cannot be deferred to future years and is valid for entry in the 2026-2027 academic year only. A new application will be required in the event of deferral (subject to the scheme remaining in operation).

3.11 All decisions on eligibility for the Scholarship will be made by the University and the decision of the University is final. The University reserves the right to withdraw or vary the scheme at any time, but any such withdrawal or variation would not apply to eligible students who have firmly accepted the offer of a place prior to its withdrawal/variation and who register for a course in the academic year for which they applied.

3.12 In making an application for a University of Reading Master's Scholarship candidates are deemed to have agreed to the above terms and conditions. Any queries about the University of Reading Master's Scholarship scheme should be addressed to scholarships@reading.ac.uk

January 2026