

Funding

Postgraduate study



Funding

If you're planning to study for a postgraduate degree, it's a good idea to think about funding as soon as possible. We can provide advice about funding your studies and details of the living expenses you will need to budget for while you're here.

Useful things to think about when considering funding include:

- How long is the course? Full-time taught courses can last one or two years, while many research courses last three or four years.
- What are the fees for the course you'd like to take? Unlike undergraduate courses, the fees can vary considerably. Check our website for up to date fee information.
- Do you need to rent a room in a house or a flat whilst you take the course? If so, you should research the potential cost as accommodation is likely to be your largest cost after the fees.
- What other expenses will you incur, such as the cost of travel, study materials and money for food, drink and socialising?

Sources of funding can include:

- Wages from a part-time job
- Money from savings
- Contribution from parent(s) or other relatives
- The government's Postgraduate Master's Loans: gov.uk/masters-loan
- Bursaries or Scholarships - you should research what is available at bris.ac.uk/fees-funding/

You can search for information on postgraduate funding opportunities by using our search facility on our Student Finances page at: bristol.ac.uk/students/support/finances/scholarships/

Postgraduate loans

Students from England can take out a government loan to help pay for their master's programme. This scheme is administered by the Student Loans Company. Loan amounts for 2021/22 were not



released at the time of going to print, but as a guide, in 2020/21 students could borrow up to £11,222 towards the cost of postgraduate master's study. Students from other parts of the UK could borrow other amounts, depending on their government.

Students ordinarily resident in England can take out a government loan towards the costs of their PhD. Loan amounts for 2021/22 were not released at the time of going to print, but as a guide, in 2020/21 students could borrow up to £26,445 towards the cost of postgraduate doctoral study.

Go bristol.ac.uk/students/support/finances/student-loans/ to find out more about these loan schemes.

University of Bristol alumni discount

If you're a University of Bristol student or graduate, you could benefit from a ten per cent reduction in your tuition fees for postgraduate study at Bristol. For full details and eligibility requirements, visit bristol.ac.uk/students/support/finances/scholarships/alumni-discount/.

Studentships

These are vacancies attached to specific research projects or fields. Our available studentships are typically advertised on faculty web pages or jobs.ac.uk/employer/university-of-bristol/phd.



Scholarships and bursaries

The University offers a number of scholarships and awards to postgraduate students, which you can search bristol.ac.uk/students/support/finances/scholarships/.

Some funding is programme-specific; you could also contact your prospective department to find out if they offer any other awards. Visit bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/prospective-research-students/.

Trusts and charities

The Alternative Guide to Postgraduate Funding (www.postgraduate-funding.com) provides contact information for a wide range of charities and organisations that offer grants for postgraduate study. As a prospective student, you can access the guide for free. Email careers-service@bristol.ac.uk to request your PIN.

Cohort-based doctoral training

The University of Bristol has been successful in securing multimillion-pound funding for doctoral training programmes from UK Research Councils, the Wellcome Trust and other charitable organisations, and EU-funded innovative training networks. This funding, coupled with our top-five position in the most recent UK-wide Research Excellence Framework, means we can offer numerous opportunities for funded doctoral study in a world-class research environment.

We currently have 29 funded centres and partnerships, each offering excellent postgraduate research opportunities and supported with a wide range of skills training. Many of these funded initiatives bring together academic expertise across multiple subject areas to create interdisciplinary programmes.

Funded studentships on these programmes offer the chance to study as part of a cohort of researchers and usually cover fees and living costs. PhD students within these cohorts gain a broad range of skills development and knowledge that can be applied across a wide variety of careers within and outside of academia.

The Bristol Doctoral College works closely to support our Doctoral Training Centres and Doctoral Training Partnerships, coordinating a network of staff who support postgraduate researchers to share best practice in cohort-based doctoral training.

For a full list of current doctoral training centres, visit the Bristol Doctoral College website: bristol.ac.uk/doctoral-college/centres.

We have made every effort to ensure all details are correct at the time of going to press (October 2020). However, since this information is subject to change, you are advised to check the University's website, bristol.ac.uk/pg-study, for the latest updates.

Contact us

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bristol.ac.uk/students/support/finances/

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