

Think Big Postgraduate Scholarship 2024

Application Guidance

Contents

Scholarship Application Guidance	2
About the Scholarship	2
Who can apply?	2
What we fund?	2
Navigating the form	2
Writing your application	3
Application to Study Check	3
Section 1 - Personal Details	3
Section 2 - Application Questions	4
Section 3 - Terms and Conditions	5
Review	7
Submission	7
How we assess your application	7
What happens after you apply?	7
Key Contacts	8

Scholarship Application Guidance

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

Please note, you must submit an application to study before applying for a scholarship. If you have not yet submitted an application to study at Bristol starting in September 2024 then you cannot apply for a scholarship. For details about applying for a course, please visit [our international applications page](#).

About the Scholarship

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

Who can apply?

Applicants must be considered an overseas fee payer and have applied to an eligible* full-time postgraduate course at the University of Bristol, beginning in September 2024.

* any one-year taught Master's programme, or one of the following two-year taught Master's: MA Law or MSc Social Work. Distance learning programmes are ineligible.

Please note that scholarship applicants can submit an application before receiving a formal offer to study from the University, but they need to have at least applied to an eligible programme and be awaiting an outcome.

What we fund?

Think Big scholarship awards are applied to tuition fees only for every year that an awardee is in full time study.

In addition to scholarship awards, awardees may receive a living cost bursary of up to £3,000. These are awarded in the first year of study only and are paid directly into the student's bank account during the first term of study, once they have opened a UK bank account and registered in full.

Navigating the form

There are two application forms, one for postgraduate applicants and one for undergraduate applicants. Make sure you fill out the relevant form.

We have collated some tips for you to help navigate the form when filling in your application:

1. There is no save function, so you will need to complete the application form in one session. You will need to answer all required questions to move forward with the application – if you have not answered anything an error message will appear informing you of this.
2. There will be an opportunity to review your answers once you have completed all sections however, once you select 'submit' this is final, and you will not be able to make any changes to your application after this.
3. You will receive an email to confirm we have received your application. If you do not receive this, make sure to check your junk or spam folder.
4. If you are completing the form on a smartphone you may need to turn your phone to landscape to see all the text.

To help you prepare, we have outlined the information you will need below.

Writing your application

In this section you will find all the questions asked within the Think Big scholarship application. As you are unable to save while completing the application, we would recommend you draft your essay responses in a separate document before submitting your application.

Application to Study Check

Before beginning your scholarship application, prospective applicants must have applied to an eligible programme of study at the University of Bristol and received an application ID. Without an eligible application ID, a scholarship application will not be considered and will be automatically deleted.

Section 1 - Personal Details

Q1. [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 method you used, either through the University of Bristol applicant portal or the Global Transfer Programme.

Q2. [Mandatory] Student ID

Enter the application ID which corresponds to your application route.

Q3. [Mandatory] What degree have you applied for at the University of Bristol?

Select the programme that you have applied for from the menu. Please note that if your programme is not on this list then unfortunately it is not eligible for a Think Big scholarship.

Q4. [Mandatory] Have you applied for any additional degree programmes at the University of Bristol?

Please note any additional programmes you have applied to. You may select more than one from the list.

Q5. [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.

Q6. [Mandatory] First Name

Enter your first name.

Q7. [Mandatory] Surname

Enter your family name.

Q8. [Mandatory] Email

Please enter the best email address to contact you at with updates and outcomes regarding your application.

Q9. [Mandatory] Verify email

Re-enter your email address. Make sure your email addresses match or you will not be able to proceed to the next page.

Q10. [Mandatory] Nationality

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

Q11. [Mandatory] What is your permanent country of residence?

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

Q12. [Mandatory] Gender

Select your gender from the dropdown menu.

Q13. [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.

Q14. [Mandatory] Are you a recipient of, or have you applied for, any other funding from another organisation?

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.

Q15. [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.

Q16. [Mandatory] Do you wish to be considered for all award amounts, or only the £26,000 awards?

Think Big awards range in value from £6,500 to £26,000 and only a very small number of £26,000 awards are available each year. If your financial situation means you can only afford to come to Bristol with a £26,000 scholarship, we recommend you select that you only wish to be considered for the £26,000 awards. If you select all award amounts, we will consider you for all scholarship amounts.

Section 2 - Application Questions

There are three questions that you will need to complete. The maximum character count is 1000 for each question, and each question is worth 10 marks.

These questions are the main factor considered when awarding scholarships and bursaries so we recommend that you prepare and review your answers in advance of filling out your scholarship application.

The questions are different for undergraduate and postgraduate applicants so please make sure that you are completing the correct scholarship application form. Applicants who have not responded to the correct questions will not be considered.

The three questions you will be asked 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 form you will be asked to agree to our data statement as well as the terms and conditions of the Think Big award.

The personal information supplied on the form may be used to help respond to 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](#).

The Think Big Postgraduate Terms & Conditions are as follows:

- Scholarships and bursaries are valid for entry in academic year 2024/25 and cannot be used for any other year of entry. If you wish to defer your entry to the University, your awards will not be transferred.
- Applicants must meet or exceed the entry requirements as stated in their formal offer to study before 31 August 2024; accept their offer and pay any necessary deposit before the deadline stated in their offer letter.
- If you have been offered, or are offered, another University of Bristol scholarship towards your tuition fees, you may only accept one scholarship. If you decide to accept a different University scholarship other than Think Big, you must notify us immediately.
- If the amount of scholarship awarded is more than the cost of the tuition fees, the tuition fees will be covered in full and any remainder will not be issued.
- You are permitted to receive external tuition fee funding (e.g. from a scholarship body, corporate or government sponsor), however the total amount of scholarship funding (ie. Think Big award + external funding) cannot exceed the amount of your tuition fees. Please notify the International Scholarships and Sponsors Team as soon as you receive confirmation of any external funding, so that your fees can be adjusted accordingly.
- Your Think Big scholarship will be applied as a discount directly to your tuition fees. Your fees will be adjusted accordingly at the time of your enrolment at the University. No cash alternative is offered.
- You are permitted to receive external living cost funding (e.g. from a scholarship body, corporate or government sponsor), however if you are in receipt of a stipend which is equal to or more than the UKRI minimum, then you will be ineligible to receive a University of Bristol bursary. Please notify the International Scholarships and Sponsors Team as soon as you receive confirmation of any external funding, so that your funding can be adjusted accordingly.
- Bursary awards are to be paid in the first year of study only and will not be paid in any subsequent years.
- You will need to open a UK bank account, into which your bursary funds will be paid once enrolment has been completed.
- Should you wish to change your programme whilst you are studying at the University, please contact the International Scholarships and Sponsors Team to see if it will be possible to update your tuition fee scholarship. We will try to accommodate requests to amend tuition fee scholarships, but please be aware this cannot be guaranteed.
- Your bursary is specific to your chosen programme and may not be transferred if you choose to change your programme of study.

- We are only able to offer awards to students studying in person at the University of Bristol. If you are studying online, you will not be eligible to receive an award.
- Scholarship recipients are expected to become ambassadors of the University and at times you will be expected to participate in events or promotional activities. Any involvement in these activities will not exceed a total of 10 hours per term and will not unduly interfere with your studies. Possible activities could include (but are not limited to) attendance at a celebratory scholars' reception, completing a survey, writing a testimonial for marketing materials or attend a focus group.
- Information on students is sometimes shared within the University of Bristol and with sponsors (where applicable and relevant to your award) in accordance with United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation.
- The University reserves the right to withdraw this funding immediately should you do anything which would bring name of the University into disrepute.
- Future requests for further funding from the University of Bristol will not be considered under this scheme.

Review

Once you have filled in all the application questions and agreed to the data statement and terms and conditions, you will have the opportunity to review your answers before final submission.

Please do check your answers and details very carefully. It will not be possible to edit details after submission.

Submission

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

If you submit an application with an incorrect student number your application will be deleted.

Once you have submitted your application you will be able to email a copy of your answers to yourself for your records. You will also receive a confirmation email, confirming that your application has been received. This may go to a junk or spam folder so please check these folders if you do not receive an email to your main inbox.

How we assess your application

We look at all areas of your application when assessing your application, however your responses to the three main questions allow us to determine your suitability for the Think Big scholarship programme. We receive a very high number of scholarship applications and unfortunately cannot fund every applicant.

What happens after you apply?

By completing the application form, you will be considered for all the following scholarships and bursaries that you are eligible for. A full list of scholarships available can be found on our website. <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/international/fees-finance/scholarships/>

All deadlines for 2024 Think Big postgraduate applicants are:

Deadline	Date
Scholarship Application Deadline (application must be submitted by this date)	Monday 29 April 2024
Scholarship Offer Deadline (all scholarship offers made by this date)	Friday 24 May 2024
Scholarship Acceptance Deadline (all offers must be accepted by this date)	Monday 10 June 2024

At the University of Bristol, we want to guide our students to achieve their full potential both in their academic studies and through personal development. To support these bright minds, we have partnered with the Ashinaga Foundation UK and leadership consultant Guillemette Villemin, to create the Think Big Development Programme.

The Think Big Development Programme is offered to all Think Big international scholarship recipients, as well as a selection of our partner international scholarship programmes. This programme has components such as networking events and workshops (both in-person and online) throughout the year, as well as a self-reflection workbook to enable scholars to further development their daily lives at their own pace.

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