



Swansea University Sanctuary Scholarship Terms and Conditions 2025-26

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1 Scope

- 1.1 This document outlines the full terms and conditions of this scheme, and you should read these before you complete and submit an application.
- 1.2 These terms and conditions apply to Postgraduate Taught (PGT) master’s students taking up a place of study in 2025/26. Applicants must hold the status of:
- o Asylum Seeker, eligible dependent or child of an Asylum Seeker (a person who has made a claim within the UK for refugee status) or,
 - o Under some circumstances, we may accept applicants who have discretionary or limited leave to remain, or under Humanitarian Protection, depending on their eligibility for UK based student funding – a decision on this basis will be discussed with our relevant colleagues and please note our decision will be final.
 - o Have received the status under which you are applying, as outlined above, prior to submitting your application for your place/for the scholarship.
- 1.3 Successful applicants are responsible for sourcing and securing local accommodation, if required. The Sanctuary Scholarship provision does not include University accommodation (see point 3.1.a).
- 1.4 The allocation of the bursary is competitive and so not all applications received may be successful.

There are 3 post graduate taught masters scholarships available, and all will consist of:

- o Tuition Fee Bursary for the year of study – Applicants must be classified as eligible for international fee rate as assessed by Swansea University Admissions.
- o A grant available to help towards living and study costs – This is capped at £12,000 for the entire duration of the course, paid as a regular stipend.
- o See 3.1.a; also.

2 Eligibility Criteria and Definitions

Eligible Postgraduate Taught Programmes	An eligible PGTM programme is a full time or part time programme (other than those listed below) leading to an MSc/ MA / LLM qualification, with a maximum duration of one year for a full-time programme or three years for a part time programme. Part time programmes must be studied at a minimum of 33% intensity (e.g. a programme which would take one year if studied full time can take up to two or three years if studied part time).
Excluded Postgraduate Taught Programmes	These programmes are NOT eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship: Postgraduate Certificate, Diploma, LPC, PGT programmes that are studied over a period of more than 33% of its full time equivalent, PG programmes that are franchised and studied by distance learning are also not eligible for this scholarship, all NHS sponsored

	<p>Masters degree programmes, including Nursing, Healthcare Science, Medicine are not eligible. Courses that include travel abroad and/or work placements are not eligible.</p>
Ineligible Courses/Modes of Study	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHS sponsored courses. • Courses that include travel and/or study abroad. • Courses that include work placements and / or overseas travel. • Distance Learning courses. <p>Graduate Entry Medicine (partly NHS Funded).</p>
Application for Study	<p>You must have made an application and received an offer to study an eligible programme at Swansea before you can apply for a Swansea University Sanctuary Scholarship.</p> <p>English language requirements will apply. To become eligible for your course and the Sanctuary Scholarship, you may have to evidence completion of an English Language test such as IELTS, or Swansea University equivalent (SWELT). Please find more information about this here: Swansea University – English Language Requirements</p>
Immigration Status	<p>An eligible immigration status can be one of the following if you have it in your own right or as a dependent of someone with this status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UK Asylum Seeker, eligible dependent or child • UK Limited/Discretionary Leave to Remain (as result of an Asylum application)* • Humanitarian Protection* <p>*But do not meet residency requirements and thus eligibility criteria for Welsh student funding. This will be judged on a case by case basis with our relevant colleagues and our decision on eligibility will be final.</p> <p>You must be in the UK at time of application. You must hold this status prior to your application for study at Swansea University. Immigration status needs to be confirmed and verified prior to application for the application to be deemed eligible, and successful award holder(s) will be required to reconfirm status prior to enrolment. It is the duty of the successful award holder to inform us of any change in immigration status (and failure to do so may result in the award/ application being withdrawn).</p>
UK Postgraduate Taught Student Loans	<p>If you are eligible to access UK PGT loans from the UK government then you cannot apply for this scheme.</p>

3 Application

- 3.1 To be eligible to be considered for one of the bursaries, you need to:
- Meet the eligibility criteria in relation to your immigration status
 - Have applied for and received an offer of study for an eligible programme (see above)
 - Not be eligible to apply for statutory funding for students from the UK government, specifically UK student loans
 - Have submitted a Sanctuary Scholarship application by the published deadline
 - Meet all the conditions of the academic offer to be able to start your studies
 - Hold the status under which you meet the eligibility criteria status for to apply for your course and submit your application for the scholarship.
 - Be able to meet your living, travel and study expenses via the allotted stipend or be able to supplement the stipend from your own funds to meet your living costs.
 - Be able to secure appropriate accommodation within suitable travelling distance of the University or commute from your current location.
 - Please note priority will be given to those applicants who do not currently hold an equivalent level qualification.
 - Please note that due consideration will be given to those living in the local area.

3.1.a. By applying for the scholarship, you are acknowledging awareness of an agreement with the following conditions:

- The Scholarship Award is an open 'competition'.
- If you are awarded a Sanctuary Scholarship but you do not meet all your academic conditions to be able to start your course, then your Scholarship offer cannot be deferred to another year.
- If you do not meet all your academic conditions but are allowed to defer your course entry start date to achieve the conditions, you must submit a new Sanctuary Scholarship application.
- If you meet your academic course conditions, but are not awarded a scholarship, you are able to start your studies on a self-funded basis. You will be asked to complete a Tuition Fee Assessment Form and International Tuition Fee rates may apply.
- You are responsible for securing all any/all accommodation that you require because of attending Swansea University and paying for the cost of this and other living and study costs, as there will be no recourse to additional university funds.
- You are responsible for meeting the travel or commuter costs associated with attending Swansea University, as there will be no recourse to additional university funds.
- You will set up a UK bank account.

3.2 It is the University's responsibility to identify potential award recipients based on information provided in your scholarship and study applications. The University cannot be responsible for any errors or omissions in the information supplied and on which eligibility decisions are based. The University's decision on the interpretation of eligibility criteria is final and there is no right of appeal.

You must comply with all requests for additional information to establish your eligibility on the timeframes specified and you must submit any evidence requested by deadlines.

Once a decision has been made on an applicant's eligibility to apply for the Scholarship (Stage 1), unsuccessful applicants will be given the opportunity to appeal the decision. Stage 1 application appeals must be made within 3 working days of the applicant receiving the notification email, and applicants must be able to provide relevant supporting evidence as part of the appeals process (where applicable).

Failure to provide relevant supporting evidence and/or to make the appeal in writing within the specified 3 working day timeframe will result in the appeal being rejected. Appeals made after the 3

working day timeframe will not be accepted.

- 3.3 You should complete the relevant Sanctuary Scholarship Application Form which is made available on our website.
- You will be notified by email if your application does not meet the eligibility criteria when applications open for submission, and only if you have received an offer to study for an eligible PGT programme.
 - If the PGTM programme that you hold an offer for is one of the 'ineligible' programmes listed above, then your application will not meet the eligibility criteria and you will be informed.
 - Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- 3.4 The deadline for Sanctuary Scholarship applications will close at 4pm on Thursday 31st July 2025. We reserve the right to extend this date in order that this scheme may be allocated before the start of the 2025 academic year and/or utilise scholarships awards for January intake applicants. Applicants must meet **all** these strict eligibility criteria and be able to verify their circumstances to apply. Applicants who do not meet all the criteria will not be considered for the scholarship.
- 3.5 The University reserves the right to review application closing dates and/or timeframes to ensure the allocation of awards is met in full, where possible.

4 Selection

- 4.1 Selection will be based on your supporting statement submitted in your scholarship application and other contextual information, *specifically your references*, provided in your application.
- 4.2 A selection panel will meet to consider all eligible applications and allocation of this fund. This will normally comprise, but is not limited to, a member of the academic staff team, a representative from the local asylum seeker community and/or a member from a local asylum seeker support group or agency, a student representative (e.g. a previous Sanctuary scholar, a Student Union representative, etc.) and a representative from the University's professional services team.
- 4.3 You cannot be considered for an award if you have not submitted a completed application, along with any relevant supporting evidence, within the application deadline. All awards are discretionary and limited in number, so even if you meet the criteria, you are not guaranteed to be successful.

5 Additional Funding Support

- 5.1 This funding scheme is only open to those who are **not** eligible for UK Government funding, such as PGT loans or any other significant sponsorship funding towards fees and living costs. The University reserves the right to vary this policy in particular individual circumstances, where the additional funding received may be limited. The University reserves the right not to allocate, or to withdraw and seek repayment of your fee bursary and study bursary, if you already have, or are later awarded a bursary or sponsorship package and/or if you fail to disclose a significant change in your immigration status that then entitles you to access statutory student funding.

6 Provision of the award

- 6.1 Provision of the awards will be made by the University's finance office and the University's Money@StudentLife team. Please note the tuition fee element of the award will only be transferred to the University's income team on the due date if you are fully registered as a student at Swansea University and have completed and returned a scholarship agreement form to your point of contact*. This form will be emailed to you should you be successful in your application.

Please note that prior to enrolment on your degree (and allocation of the scholarship) you will be required to meet with an allocated staff member who will:

- *confirm your immigration status at the point of enrolment.*
- *ensure that you have read and agree to the terms and conditions of the bursary, in full.*

6.2 You will be contacted regarding the schedule of provision for the stipend to cover living costs. If you and your family are in receipt of asylum support provided by the UK Home Office, this stipend may disrupt your eligibility for these payments.

It is your responsibility to seek independent advice from an external organisation supporting refugees or asylum seekers on the impact that the Sanctuary Scholarship may have on your/your family's access to financial support from the UK Home Office.

6.3 Please note the university will not be able to provide interim financial support between the last payment date of the Scholarship stipend and any statutory/government support, you may be eligible for.

6.4 If studying at Swansea University requires you to enter an accommodation contract, either with the University or a local provider, the responsibility to meet all costs of this will remain with you as no further funds can be made available.

6.5 If you are undertaking a full time PGTM programme which entails a longer period of writing up, further funding will not be available.

6.6 The University reserves the right to withdraw or not award scholarships at any point before they are allocated.

6.7 No cash alternatives will be offered to the fee bursary and the scholarship cannot be transferred to any other course at Swansea University or to any other nominated recipient.

7 Changes to study

7.1 If you change to a non-eligible programme or mode of study, then your Sanctuary Scholarship may be withdrawn. If you make **any** changes to your original programme of study you must notify the Participation@StudentLife Team about this by emailing Sanctuary@swansea.ac.uk, as it may affect your continued eligibility.

8 Suspension from Studies

8.1 If you suspend your studies, then you will not be eligible to receive any future awards in that year.

8.2 You *may*, however, be eligible to receive any outstanding awards due upon your return to your studies, following a period of suspension.

8.3 If you do consider suspending your studies, you must notify the named contact at your earliest opportunity, as dates of suspension may affect your eligibility for future bursary awards.

9 Withdrawal from Studies

9.1 A student who wishes to end their course will be withdrawn from that course and the Sanctuary

Scholarship will be withdrawn.

- 9.2 A student who withdraws will not have to repay any Sanctuary Scholarship award payment, if they are in attendance on the date of their payment/tuition fee due date.
- 9.3 A student who withdraws will not receive any further payments/award provision.
- 9.4 A student who withdraws will have the tuition fee award adjusted to meet the tuition fee liability in the year of withdrawal.

10 Repeating, extending or deferring your studies

- 10.1 Scholarship awards will not be provided during any extension/repeat period(s) to a taught postgraduate programme. (See also section 8.).
- 10.2 Scholarship recipients will not be eligible for a '+1' / 'gift year' of tuition fee scholarship or grant.
- 10.3 Scholarship funding is only up to the award value of the relevant tuition fee liability as agreed at the start of the programme.
- 10.4 Students transferring to a different mode of study (e.g. full time to part time) will receive the tuition fee scholarship and other scholarship provision associated with their new study mode on a pro rata basis.
- 10.5 Awards are allocated only for the duration of the course. If you defer or withdraw and restart, any award already offered will become void. If eligible, you will be eligible to apply for a scholarship in the future, but this will be subject to the terms of the award then in force.

11 Changes to your immigration status

- 11.1 If you have a change to your immigration status, you **must** notify the named contact immediately. We may require you to provide documentary evidence of your change in status.
- 11.2 If your change in immigration status means that you become eligible for UK PGT funding, then any scholarship award will be calculated on a pro rata basis and will only be payable up until that point. You will be expected to apply for relevant funding from the UK Government for the future period of study, to cover any balance/shortfall that is payable from the date that your immigration status changed, and the scholarship award was no longer payable. Once UK Government student financial support has been awarded, the Sanctuary Scholarship award would be suspended.
- 11.3 If you receive notice of detainment by the UK Home Office, then your award will be suspended for the duration of your detention. The University will review the support available to you to support continuation of your studies, if possible. Please notify your named contact as soon as possible to ensure we can provide you with the most appropriate support.
- 11.4 If at any point during the application process or after you begin your studies, we are informed by the Home Office that you should not be studying at the University, you will no longer be eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship. We will deem you withdrawn, and you will be expected to leave your studies immediately.
- 11.5 It is a student's responsibility to ensure their Application Registration Card is in date throughout the duration of the course, in line with any ongoing claims for asylum. If your card does expire before your course end date, without a renewal being obtained, this could result in you being withdrawn from the university and all financial support being terminated.

12 Disciplinary action and fraudulent applications

- 12.1 The University reserves the right to terminate your scholarship award and demand repayment of funds (fee scholarship) already paid in the case of any disciplinary action being taken against an award-holder. Cases will be considered on an individual basis by a member of the Senior Management Team.
- 12.2 The University reserves the right to withdraw an award from anyone who is found to have provided inaccurate information about any aspect of their eligibility to the Sanctuary Scholarship award.

In such cases, the University reserves the right to seek repayment of any award already made. The University may seek to recover any money paid as a debt (in which case the University may also seek to recover additional sums such as interest accrued on the debt, county court fees and legal costs if applicable).

We may request at any point, for verification and auditing purposes, evidence of any information provided in your application.

13 Appeals

- 13.1 There is no right of appeal and the University's decision is final in relation to your eligibility for an award. You may make a complaint if you believe that you have not been considered for an award because of a procedural error, or you believe that there has been some other procedural problem with our allocating and awarding system.

Complaints should be made in accordance with the university's process. Please find details on this here:

[Complaints and Appeals Policy for Applicants](#)

14 Use of Data

- 14.1 Students on collaborative programmes need to be aware that, to facilitate the delivery of these programmes, it will be necessary for some student personal data, including sensitive data, to be shared with partner institutions. Each partner institution is responsible for ensuring that they comply with the Data Protection Act 2018, including ensuring that the data shared is relevant to the registration requirements and shared and stored securely.
- 14.2 The University may use the data/information you share with us to provide information and advice about the University to you as an applicant. Should you subsequently join the University, the University may also use the data to inform our strategies for supporting you as a new entrant, to inform you about provision that you may be able to access, to monitor student success and for other legitimate reasons.

For more information on Swansea University's use of student data, see here:

[Student Privacy Notice](#)

- 14.3 Successful applicants will be required to attend a meeting with their named contact. This will include a discussion around consent to be contacted by the University's Fundraising Team, which is optional.

*The point of contact for the Sanctuary Scholarship can be found at Sanctuary@swansea.ac.uk

