Sanctuary Scholarships

Pathway 2 – 2024–25



1. Questions about the Sanctuary Scholarships

1.1 What are the Sanctuary Scholarships – Pathway 2?

A second stream of Sanctuary scholarships – Pathway 2 – are available in the academic year 2024-25, for students from Ukraine, Russia and Belarus who are displaced and/or at risk of persecution, violence, and conflict.¹ These scholarships are open to students at Masters level, across our Pathway 2 network, with scholarships prioritised for STEM subjects, in particular Maths and Physics. King's College London is the grant holder for this fund.

1.2 Who are the University Partners in the Pathway 2 network?

King's College London is currently working with the following partners to deliver Pathway 2 Sanctuary Scholarships:

- Leicester University
- Newcastle University
- Open University

King's College London is the lead coordinating partner.

1.3 What does each scholarship cover?

Each scholarship will comprise a full tuition fee waiver and a living costs bursary, for a maximum of 1 year. The scholarship can cover Home Tuition Fees² anticipated in the region of £11,040 per annum. An additional accommodation award will be made for a limited number of scholars who need full year accommodation.

Where required, your university may be able to supplement the award to cover the 'fee difference' for a limited number of students who must pay international fees.

- b) A **living bursary** that is at least equivalent to a full maintenance loan from Student Finance England, to cover living expenses. This will be in the region £8,400 £13,348 per annum depending on your circumstances.
- c) An **additional accommodation award** for a limited number of scholars for a limited number of scholars who need full year accommodation (e.g. in a university residence). The maximum additional accommodation award will be £6,978 per annum depending on circumstances.

****PLEASE NOTE**** Individual allocations will be confirmed, in writing, to each successful student upon allocation of the award.

¹ This action is taken a proportionate means of overcoming the disadvantage connected with these nationalities and to enable or encourage participation in higher education for these groups.

² Tuition fees vary across institutions and programmes, a King's 'average' fee is used here for illustrative purposes. Individual allocations will be confirmed, in writing, to each successful student upon allocation of the award.

Please note this fund is only available for 1 year, starting September 2024, and you will need to make other arrangements for any additional year(s) of your programme if your degree includes a Year Abroad or Placement/Industry year, or if you interrupt your studies.

1.4 Who can apply to the scholarships?

The scholarships are open to those who have applied to a Pathway 2 partner university (see item 1.2) to start a degree course in the academic year starting September 2024. The scholarship process is separate to the degree application process. You must apply for admission to a degree programme first. You can then apply for a scholarship.

Your application will be considered by the scholarships panel if you have a conditional offer or unconditional offer to study for a degree at any of the Pathway 2 partner universities.

If you hold an offer at another university (one that is not listed in 1.2 above), please note you are not eligible for this scheme. We recommend you check your own university's sanctuary scholarships or see <u>Refugee Education UK</u> for further guidance.

As part of the scholarship process, your university will undertake checks on your eligibility for the scheme (e.g. fee status, immigration, and offer conditions for admission).

1.5 Will I automatically get a scholarship if I apply?

Applying for a scholarship does not guarantee that you will be successful. This is a competitive process and not all applications will be successful. All decisions by the Pathway 2 university network are taken in good faith, based on the statements made on the application form and having considered the supporting evidence.

1.6 How are scholarships awarded?

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of the application form, a personal statement and supplementary evidence. Please only submit a reference or a transcript. If you cannot supply a reference or a transcript, you may elect to have an interview. Interviews will be held online during the first two weeks of April.

2. Questions about scholarship eligibility

2.1 Which courses are eligible for Pathway 2 of the Sanctuary Scholarships?

Postgraduate taught (Masters) courses are eligible. Scholarships will be prioritised for STEM subjects, in particular for Maths and Physics. We are not currently able to support pre-university Foundation programmes, Summer Schools, Study Abroad or Exchange programmes.

2.2 Am I eligible to apply?

Applicants must be a person normally domiciled in Ukraine, Russia or Belarus who are displaced and/or at risk of persecution, violence, or conflict. Pathway 2 scholarships are open to these groups to remedy the disadvantage faced by these particular groups of students in accessing higher education, following the war on Ukraine.

2.3 Is there an age limit for applicants?

There is no age limit for the scholarship.

2.4 Can I apply if I do not know what my current immigration or fee status is?

Most Higher Education Providers in England charge two different levels of tuition fees for on campus degree courses. The Home tuition fee is lower than the International tuition fee.

This is due to the way higher education is funded in England. Your fee status may also affect your eligibility for certain funding or scholarships, and sometimes for a particular course (usually where linked to National Health Service funding/places).

For further guidance see our <u>Fee Status guidelines</u>. Our fee status assessments are based on the eligibility categories provided by UKCISA (the UK Council for International Student Affairs), which can be viewed on their <u>website</u>.

If you are unsure about your current immigration status, please speak to your university's Student Visa and International Advice team (<u>King's Visa & International Student Advice team</u>). This service is available to applicants as well as current students.

Please note there may be changes to the requirements you need to meet to qualify for 'home' fees under the Ukraine scheme category for years that start from August 2023 onwards. Students granted leave under the Ukraine schemes are currently eligible for home fee status and student support if they are studying an approved course at an approved higher education provider in the UK. Certain family members of those granted leave under the Ukraine Schemes in England and Wales are also eligible for home fee status, tuition fee loans, and maintenance support. However, please note this can change at short notice.

2.5 Will I have to prove my current immigration status?

If you are shortlisted, we may need to discuss your immigration history and status with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). As a Higher Education Provider, we have a legal responsibility to ensure that everyone registered to study with us has the correct immigration permissions to do so. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider applications from students where their current immigration status is unclear or who do not currently hold an immigration status which allows study.

Shortlisted applicants will be contacted to obtain your immigration history from UKVI via the UKVI consent form.

After the deadline for applications, we will contact UKVI who should respond to us with your immigration history and status within 7 days. We will send shortlisted applicants a copy of these checks so you can respond to us if you think there are errors. You will be set a deadline to notify us of any errors. If you miss this deadline, we will assess your application based on the information received in the immigration check.

2.6 Can I still apply for a scholarship if I am eligible for Student Finance?

Yes – applications for Pathway 2 scholarships will be considered even if you are eligible for governmental loans through Student Finance. In the event of oversubscription, priority will be given for those students who cannot access governmental loans. Your living bursary will be adjusted accordingly, based on your circumstances.

2.7 Can I still apply for a scholarship if I have not yet applied to a university?

No – applicants should apply for a university place with at least one university within the Pathway 2 university network (as listed in item 1.2). You should then apply for the scholarship. If you have applied for a university course but are still awaiting an offer, please make that clear on the application form.

2.8 Can I apply if I have an asylum seeker or refugee immigration status?

Yes – if you are an asylum seeker you may also consider applying to our existing Sanctuary Scholarships (Pathway 1) which are open to individuals with the following immigration statuses: "granted a temporary form of leave (limited leave to remain, discretionary leave to remain) as the result of an asylum application or human rights application, or, an asylum seeker, child of an asylum seeker or an unaccompanied asylum-seeking child. Please note if you have refugee status you are able to access Home Fees and loans from Student Finance England. Please see the UKCISA website for further information on tuition fees and student finance."

2.9 Can I still apply if I have applied for other scholarships as well?

We actively encourage applicants to apply to as many sources of funding as possible. Securing alternative funding does not exclude you from applying and will not negatively impact your application. Please note down on the application form if you have applied, or been successful in gaining, another scholarship.

2.10 Can I apply to several Pathway 2 universities?

Yes – we actively encourage applicants to apply to other Pathway 2 universities. You will be asked if you have applied to another Pathway 2 university on the application form. If you are not accepted onto a degree programme at one Pathway 2 university, but are accepted at another Pathway 2 university, this will enable the panel to still consider your scholarship application.

3. Questions about the application form/process.

3.1 How do I apply for the Sanctuary Scholarship (Pathway 2)?

Eligible applicants should apply using the <u>online application form</u>. Please be advised that we will only accept applications via this online application form.

The online application form can only be completed in one go. At the end of this document please see an overview of the application form that will allow you to view the questions and prepare your responses to questions until you are ready to submit your application form online. Your application MUST be submitted online by the deadline.

3.2 When is the application deadline?

The deadline for applications is Monday 1st April 2024 at 11.59pm. If you would like any support throughout the application process, please contact <u>priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk</u>

3.3 Will I be able to save the online application form part way through and come back to it later?

Once you begin, you will not be able to save the online application form and return to complete it later. Therefore, please allow at least 1 hour to complete the form. Please have your personal statement and supporting information ready before you submit this form. Please be advised that we will only accept applications via this online application form.

3.4 Can I apply on behalf of a student?

Yes, you can apply on behalf of a student. However, you will need to know some specific information about the student in order to complete the online form and get their permission. Please be advised that we will only accept applications via the online application form.

3.5 Is there an advantage to submitting my application as quickly as possible?

There is no advantage for individuals who submit their applications first, so please take your time and fill in the form carefully. We do not consider incomplete applications.

3.6 Can somebody help me fill out the application form

In certain cases, help can be given to fill out the application form. First, please do read these FAQs for further details about the types of questions and relevant information required in the form. If further help is needed, please contact priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk.

3.7 I do not have access to a computer/the internet. How can I still apply?

Our preference is that you apply using the online application form. You may be able to use a computer/the internet at your local library, college, or community centre. In exceptional circumstances we can post a hardcopy of the application form for you to fill out and return. However, the deadline for returned hard copies is the same as the online application deadline.

3.8 What happens to all the personal data that I have included on the application form?

Your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act (2018). For more information, read the <u>university's privacy policy</u>. All information will be stored securely, and access limited to university employees essential to administering the scholarship. All your responses will be deleted from our records in line with the University's published records and information schedule.

4. Questions about the process.

4.1 What happens after I submit my application form?

After the deadline, applications are considered and shortlisted by each Pathway 2 university. If you are not able to upload transcripts or a reference, you will be invited to attend an interview to verify the information you have provided in your application. Applicants may then be requested to evidence their current immigration status with documentation such as a Biometric Residence Permit, Home Office letters, or a solicitor's letter.

4.2 If I cannot provide a reference or transcript, when and where will the interviews take place?

Interviews will be held online (via an online platform like Zoom or Microsoft Teams) in April.

4.3 Who will interview me?

You will be interviewed by Pathway 2 academic panel members and/or one representative from a Widening Participation team.

4.3 How do I prepare for the interview?

Some things to think about for an online interview: - make sure you have a good internet connection, and a quiet space.

Be ready for questions:

We want to get to know you better, and we use the interview to do this. You will not be asked any questions that are designed to 'trick' you. Instead, we may want to know what you are good at, what you like, and what your plans are. Think about why you want to study your course and what you enjoy

most about your current studies. Some questions may be about what you have written on your application form. Other questions may be about your history, interests, and passions. You will also have an opportunity to ask any questions that you may have.

Practice:

It is a good idea to have a practice interview with a teacher, support worker, or family member. *I am feeling anxious about the interview, what can I do?*

It is completely understandable if you feel anxious about being interviewed, especially if it is your first interview experience. The interviewers will know that you may be nervous and will take this into account when making their decision.

4.4 How long after my application and interview will I hear back?

We aim to contact all candidates **during the week commencing** 3rd **June** with a decision.

5. Miscellaneous questions

5.1 What should I do if my immigration status - or any of my details - change during the course of the application process?

You must notify the university by emailing <u>priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk</u> immediately if any of your circumstances change during the application process, in particular in respect to your immigration status. It is also important that you update us if you change your telephone contact number or email address during the application process.

5.2 Can I defer my scholarship?

Unfortunately, it is not normally possible to defer your scholarship. If you cannot take up your place you will be invited to re-apply to the next round of scholarships. Exceptions will be considered in line with our standard policies, which you can found at <u>https://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/how-to-apply/policies-and-guidance</u>.

King's Sanctuary Scholarship (Pathway 2) 2024-25

The online application form can only be completed in one go so the below document will allow you to view the application questions and prepare your responses until you are ready to submit your application form online. Your application MUST be submitted online by the deadline.

Application Deadline

The deadline for applications is Monday 1st April 2024 at 11.59pm. If you would like any support throughout the application process, please contact priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk.

Eligibility

Before you apply, please ensure you are eligible. An overview of eligibility is here:

To be eligible, you must

- be a person normally domiciled in Ukraine, Russia or Belarus who is displaced and/or at risk of persecution, violence or conflict.
- be unable to access or complete higher education in your home country for your chosen degree.
- have applied for an offer of admission for entry in Sept 2024. This includes applicants who are holding conditional or unconditional offers for degrees that begin in September 2024 as well as those who are still awaiting a decision from admissions.

Please note, the university will undertake checks on your eligibility for the scheme (e.g. fee status, immigration, and offer conditions for admission).

If you have any questions about your eligibility, please email the Widening Participation Department at priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk

Course eligibility

Postgraduate taught (Masters) courses are eligible. Scholarships will be prioritised for STEM subjects, in particular for Maths and Physics. We are not currently able to support pre-university Foundation programmes, Summer Schools, Study Abroad or Exchange programmes.

If you have any questions about your eligibility, please email the Widening Participation Department at priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk

Section 1

About you

1. Student application number

When you apply to university you receive a confirmation email that states your applicant number. Please list the applicant number here. If you cannot locate this, please provide your UCAS personal ID number instead

Enter your answer

2. First Name

Enter your answer

3. Surname

Enter your answer

4. Email Address

Enter your answer

5. Date of birth

Please input date (dd/mm/yyyy)

6. Gender

Woman Man Prefer not to say Prefer to self-describe

7. Do you identify as Trans? Yes No Prefer not to say

8. This scheme is open to nationals of Ukraine, Russia and Belarus on the basis of proportionate action to remedy the disadvantage faced by these particular groups of students. Those with dual nationality from these regions will also be eligible.

Please select your nationality: Ukrainian Russian Belarusian

9. Residence

Please select the country in which you were ordinarily residing as of 1 January 2022: Ukraine Russia Belarus Other

10. Do you expect to be in the UK on 1 Sept 2024? This will help us understand if you might also qualify for Home Fee status and access to Student Finance England.

Yes No

11. a) Which immigration status will you hold on the 1 Sept 2024?

Please **refer** to the UKCISA webpage for information on visa status and tuition fees <u>here</u>. If you are unsure about your current immigration status, please speak to the university's Student Visa and International Advice team <u>here</u>.

- leave to enter or leave to remain granted under Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme
- leave to enter or leave to remain granted under Ukraine Family Scheme
- leave to remain granted under Ukraine Extension Scheme
- leave to remain on the grounds of 'humanitarian protection'
- Refugee status
- Asylum seeker status/leave to remain as the result of an asylum application or human rights application
- International student visa

11. b) If you indicated 'leave to enter or leave to remain granted under Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme', do you already have a host to sponsor your visa?

Yes

No – I will find a host

No – I would like the university to try and find me a host (I understand this cannot be guaranteed)

12. Tuition fee status

Please indicate your fee status. Please refer to the UKCISA webpage: https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/Fees-and-Money/England-HE-fee-

status#layer-6082 Home Overseas

Not sure

13. Have you accepted your offer at King's as FIRM?

Yes

No

I have not received a response on my application

14. If you are applying for an undergraduate degree, is this your first degree?

Yes

No

Application is for a postgraduate degree

15. Course

Please enter your course title as per the university prospectus webpage Enter your answer

16.Course level

Postgraduate Taught - Masters

17. Duration of course in years

Enter your answer

17. Expected start date of degree

Please input date (dd/MM/yyyy)

18. Expected end date of degree (please note this scholarship funding is only available until 31 July 2026

Please input date (dd/MM/yyyy)

Section 2

Personal Statement

As part of the application, a personal statement is required. This is split into three questions.

19. Please tell us about your educational journey up to this current point, carefully describing any disruption to your studies because of the war in Ukraine. (max. 250 words) Enter your answer

20. Please tell us about your educational achievements and link them to your chosen course. You may also include any extracurricular activities you do related to your chosen course. (max. 250 words)

Enter your answer

21. Please tell us about your future plans and how this degree will support you to achieve these plans. (max. 250 words) Enter your answer

22. Referee details

You will need to provide ONE piece of supporting evidence to complete your application. This can be ONE of the below options:

a) statement from a professional referee. The statement should be no longer than 500 words and answer the following questions:

- How would the scholarship benefit this student?
- What further support do you think the applicant may require in order to succeed?
- Is there any other information that you believe is relevant to the student's application?

Referees should be someone who works as a teacher, lecturer, social worker, counsellor/therapist, support worker or personal advisor. They should have known you for over 12 months.

OR

b) a transcript of your current studies.

OR

c) if you cannot obtain a) or b) you would be able to undertake an online interview in April 2024

Please indicate which option you will supply to support your application.

Reference Transcript Interview

If you intend to provide a statement from a professional referee or a transcript of your current studies, please email the document to <u>priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk</u> using the following subject line: "King's Sanctuary Scholarships Pathway 2 - Supporting documents". Please make sure to use the same email address and name in the email that you used for this application.

Section 3

Financial needs assessment

This section helps us understand your living costs and on-course support needs.

23. Please tell us where you plan to live during your studies: University halls Private rented accommodation Staying with friends or family Other

24. Are you in receipt of any means-tested benefits (et Tax Credits, Housing Benefit, Universal Credit, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, income-based Employment and Support Allowance, Carer's Allowance)

res	
No	
25. Do you have any dependents?	
Yes	
No	

26. Do you have any financial support from parent(s)/partner/family or others towards your study costs? Yes

No

27. If you do have access to financial support from parent(s)/partner/family or others, please confirm the level of income you have access to:Less than £25,000More than £25,000

Section 4

Declaration and Signature

28. Declaration

The information I have given on this form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I confirm that I have applied, have been assessed for and expect to be in receipt of the maximum level of support from the government through my regional student funding body for tuition fees and maintenance loans and I have provided consent to them to share my information with King's College London.

I understand that representatives from the Sanctuary Hub university partners will be reviewing my application and any submitted documentation as part of the selection process. Anonymous, aggregated data may also be shared with the donor/sponsor of the scheme.

Yes No

29. Signature

Please enter your name and today's date to acknowledge your declaration and submission of this application.

Section 5

UKVI Consent Form

In order to process your application, we need to discuss your immigration history and status with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). As a Higher Education Provider, we have a legal responsibility to ensure that everyone registered to study with us has the correct immigration permissions to do so. Unfortunately, we are unable to consider applications from students where their current immigration status is unclear or who do not currently hold an immigration status which allows study. This information is also used to assess whether you are eligible for the Sanctuary Scholarship.

After the deadline for applications, we will contact UKVI who should respond to us with your immigration history and status within 7 days. We will send you a copy of these checks so you can respond to us if you think there are errors. You will be set a deadline to notify us of any errors. If you miss this deadline, we will assess your application based on the information received in the immigration check.

For us to obtain your immigration history from UKVI, please complete <u>the UKVI Consent Form</u> and upload below.

Please upload your UKVI consent form here.

Section 6

Just for Kids Law

We may work with Just for Kids Law, a charity which provide legal representation and advice, direct advocacy and support for young people in the UK. This helps us to assess applicants' eligibility for the scholarship. To do this, we share your UKVI immigration checks with them. Please read the below and ensure you understand fully before signing to give your consent. If you have any questions, please contact priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk

Authorisation/Release Form

- I give my authority for Just for Kids Law to liaise with Kings College London regarding matters pertaining to my immigration status and to discuss my case and provide their professional opinion as to whether I qualify for a scholarship with Kings College London
- I understand that Just for Kids Law will not use my personal, sensitive data for any other purpose and will store my data in line with GDPR guidelines.
- I give my authority for Just for Kids Law to access my records which are held by UK Visas and Immigration, which I understand they may request pursuant to the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Freedom of Information Act 1995.
- I understand that I am authorising Just for Kids Law to advise Kings College London in relation to whether I am eligible for Kings College London's scholarship programme. I understand that Just for Kids Law does not have a continuing obligation to advise me in any other capacity.

- I understand that if I wish to access the services of Just for Kids Law in the future, I will be subject to a Conflict of Interest check and that Just for Kids Law will not be able to represent me where there is a conflict of interest, due to any ongoing contract with Kings College London or otherwise.
- I have been advised that this authorisation may be photocopied and I have agreed that copies may be used to obtain the required information.

Please enter your name and today's date to acknowledge your declaration and submission of this application.

Section 7

Data Consent

In order to be considered for the scholarship, we need your consent to share information from this application form to individuals that are responsible for administering the scholarship. This is to determine who is awarded the scholarships.

Do you consent to the above? Without this permission, we will not be able to consider your application.

Yes No

Recording your application as a forced migrant can provide additional context when making admissions decisions and means you are eligible for additional consideration in your application. It also ensures we provide the right financial, academic and personal support.

If you respond yes to this, the university has obtained your consent for the collection, storage, and processing of your forced migrant status. The information will be stored electronically. You will be allowing your forced migrant status to be shared with a number of university departments including, but not limited to, Widening Participation, Student Advice, Admissions, Student Success, your Faculty Senior Personal Tutor, and Careers.

Data may be shared with external bodies including, Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA). This is to comply with our legal obligations. More information about this can be read in our <u>Core Private</u> <u>Notice</u>.

The university will keep any personal data held about you secure and will make those details available to you on request. This data is retained permanently as part of your student record. This is as stated on the university's <u>Records and Data Retention Schedule</u> You have the right to see the information held about you and should request this by contacting the Legal Compliance Manager at King's College London at <u>info-compliance@kcl.ac.uk</u>

Do you agree to King's College London recording your application as a forced migrant? Yes No

If at any point you decide to withdraw your consent, please email <u>priority-groups@kcl.ac.uk</u>. We will then ensure that any data collected as part of your Sanctuary Scholarship application will be deleted. This may mean that your application for the scholarship is also withdrawn.

We will contact you via email or phone to inform you of the outcome of your scholarship.