

Wellcome Trust Biomedical Vacation Scholarships

Application 2024 Directions

Your data will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and Data Protection Act (2018). You [can read the university's privacy policy here](#). After you have applied, all information from your application will be stored securely and access limited to university employees essential to administering the scholarship. All of your responses will be deleted from our records in line with the university's published records and information retention schedule.

What is the Wellcome Trust Biomedical Vacation Scholarship?

The Wellcome Trust's Biomedical Vacation Scholarships provide promising undergraduates from underrepresented groups with hands-on experience of research at King's College London during the summer holidays, with the aim of encouraging a career in research. You can read more about the Wellcome Trust's initiative on their website: [How we can give a more diverse group of undergraduates hands-on research experience](#).

Successful applicants will be paid the London Living Wage for 35 hours per week for the duration of their placements.

The seven-week Biomedical Vacation Scholarship placements will begin on 15 July 2024 and run until 30 Aug 2024. The first week will include an induction and an opportunity for the Biomedical Vacation Scholars to come together with current King's PhD Programme students and other summer programme students. A closing meeting will take place on 30 Aug 2024 for the BVS scholars to present their work to each other and others involved in the Programme.

Application Form

There are several sections to in this application form. These include:

- Section 1: Eligibility criteria
- Section 2: Personal details
- Section 3: Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Monitoring
- Section 4: Application Details for Supervisor Review Including Top 6 Project Choices

The following information provides an overview of all the questions and a little additional guidance. We recommend writing your answers to Section 4 in a word processor, before copying and pasting them into your online application form to minimize typos and incorrect grammar and to verify you are within the word limit.

Documents Required

You will be asked to submit:

- 1) First-year university *transcript* by email. Please ensure you have this available and entitle the attachment: **first name_last name_BVS application first year transcript**.
- 2) *Confirmation of Study Letter* from your university (or their equivalent titled document) providing your: (a) Programme of Study, (b) Start date, (c) Expected Completion date, (d) the term dates (if possible – please see further direction below).

Please note, you will NOT receive a response acknowledging receipt of this email.

Application Deadline

*****The deadline for applications is 23:59 on Tuesday, 2 April 2024.*****

We strongly suggest that you aim to submit your application a minimum of 24 hours in advance of the deadline to allow for unanticipated internet connectivity issues or other obstacles. It will not be possible to submit your application after the deadline.

Eligibility

Before you apply, please ensure you are eligible.

An overview of eligibility is here:

- Be registered on a relevant undergraduate course in the UK or Republic of Ireland. Examples of relevant subjects include: science (biomedical, natural, computing or physical sciences), medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, engineering, mathematics and psychology.
- be in the middle year(s) of your undergraduate degree.
- have not yet undertaken a substantial period of research.

Where a scholarship is oversubscribed, preference will be given to those who:

- Are from an ethnic group that is underrepresented at King's College London (Asian Pakistani; Asian Bangladeshi; Black Caribbean; Black African; Gypsy, Roma or Traveller; mixed backgrounds featuring one of these groups).
- Are a mature student (aged 21 or over when starting first undergraduate course).
- Have lived in a postcode listed as Polar4 quintiles 1 or 2, Acorn quintiles 4 or 5 and/or IMD quintiles 1 or 2.
- Are [care-experienced](#) or an [estranged](#) student.
- Have a [disability](#).
- Are currently studying at a non-Russell Group university.

Applicants who do not meet any of the above criteria are still eligible to apply.

Please note, you are **INELIGIBLE** to apply if you:

- Are in your first or last year of your undergraduate degree
- Attend your undergraduate University course in the UK on a 'Student Visa'
- Have previously undertaken a vacation scholarship from Wellcome or another funding body, or have had significant research experience
- Have completed or are currently undertaking an intercalated year
- Have completed or are currently undertaking a one-year placement in research as part of your degree (e.g. a sandwich year)
- Are a graduate-entry medical student who has completed a previous undergraduate degree in a science-related subject
- Are enrolled on a course outside the UK or the Republic of Ireland

Guidance for completing the application form

Section 1: Eligibility criteria

1. Please detail your 'right to work' in the UK. We ask this question to ensure that we will be able to pay you for the summer internship. If neither of the options listed are an appropriate match to your circumstances, then please provide details in the 'other' box.

2. Please confirm that you meet three eligibility criteria as below. You must meet these criteria in order to proceed with the application.
 - I am registered on a relevant undergraduate course in the UK or Republic of Ireland. Examples of relevant subjects include: science (biomedical, natural, computing or physical sciences), medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, engineering, mathematics and psychology.
 - I am not attending my undergraduate University course in the UK on a 'Student Visa'
 - I am in the middle year(s) of my undergraduate degree

3. These placements are to support student in gaining experience in research. We therefore need you to indicate how much experience you have gained to date. Select which applies.

4. These placements are only available for those who have **NOT** already participated in the BVS programme or something similar before. You will be asked to confirm this.

5. These placements are only available for those who are **NOT** participating in an intercalated year. You will be asked to confirm this.

6. These placements are **NOT** available for graduate-entry medical students who have already completed an undergraduate degree in science. You will be asked to confirm this.

Section 2: Your details

7. You are required to enter your first name(s) as it appears on your university transcript.

8. You are required to enter your surname as it appears on your university transcript.

9. You are required to enter your university email address. Please ensure this is correct as there is no confirmation field provided and it is how we will contact you if you are invited to interview for the scholarship.

10. You are required to enter your phone number. Please provide the most suitable number to contact you on during working hours.

11. Please confirm you understand that the scholarship placements will take place from 15 July - 30 Aug 2024 and you are expected to be able to work 35 hours per week for the seven week duration.

12. Please confirm your accommodation prospects from 15 July - 30 Aug 2024 if awarded a Biomedical Vacation Scholarship.

Section 3: Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Monitoring

These vacation scholarships are provided to give a more diverse group of students hands-on experience of research at King's College London. Therefore, priority will be given to those groups least represented at King's as described on the website. The information you provide below will only be seen by administrators and used to shortlist candidates for the next stage of the application process.

13. Please select the ethnicity that best describes you. If none of the options are suitable, please select the other option and describe this in your own words.

14. Please select the age or age bracket for the age you will be on 01 July 2024.

15. Please select your gender identity or describe this in your own words.

16. Please enter the postcode for the address you lived in during your GCSE results day. E.G., SE1 8WA.

17. Please confirm if you are [care-experienced](#) or an [estranged](#) student. The definitions for these terms can be found using the hyperlinks.

18. Please confirm if you consider yourself to be [disabled](#) or have a learning disability.

19. Please confirm if you are or are not currently a student at one of the 24 Russell Group universities.

University of Birmingham

University of Bristol

University of Cambridge

Cardiff University

Durham University

University of Edinburgh

University of Exeter

University of Glasgow

Imperial College London

King's College London

University of Leeds

University of Liverpool

London School of Economics and Political Science

University of Manchester
Newcastle University
University of Nottingham
University of Oxford
Queen Mary University of London
Queen's University Belfast
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University College London
University of Warwick
University of York

Section 4: APPLICATION Details for Supervisor Review Including Top 6 Project Choices

20. Please select your **FIRST** preferred project from the projects listed in the Biomedical Vacation Scholarship Scheme Project Catalogue available from the [King's BVS webpage](#). You can find the reference number in the top-left hand corner of the summary box. Applicants can select both projects 10a and 10b as their first/second/third choice or add them to the list of preferred projects 4-6.

21. Please provide 150- 200 words (maximum) to demonstrate why you are interested in this project. This could include any background knowledge you have in the subject, any general questions in this field that you are interested in or how you see this field of research being of benefit to society.

Please also confirm that you meet the required **Prerequisite Skills or Academic Background** listed at the bottom of the project (if any are listed).

22. Please select your **SECOND** project preference from the projects listed in the catalogue.

23. As per above notes for 20.

24. Please select your **THIRD** project preference from the projects listed in the catalogue.

25. As per above notes for 20.

26. Please select an additional three projects of interest. If you were selected for a scholarship and we were not able to place you in your top three project choices, then we would place you in one of these if possible.

27. The Wellcome Trust Biomedical Vacation Scholarship Awards are intended to provide students with new experiences with the aim of encouraging them to consider a career in research. With the above statement in mind, please provide up to 200 words (maximum) on what some of your postgraduate career pursuits will be, speaking to some of the following questions:

- Why do you think research is important?
- Why are you interested in pursuing a career in research?
- What research field(s) are most appealing to you and why?
- What skills will you need and how will you obtain them?
- Where do you think the best place to achieve your research goals will be: in academia, industry, pharma, a mixture of places, somewhere else?

28. Before you submit your application form, you must email outreach@kcl.ac.uk with the below **two** separate attachments.

Subject line: *your first name _ your surname _ BVS application attachments*

- 1) First-year university *Transcript* named: first name _ last name _ BVS application first year transcript. Applicants should be able to generate these themselves using a system such as HEAR or ROAR.
- 2) *Confirmation of Study Letter* from your university (or their equivalent titled document) providing your:
 - (a) Programme of Study
 - (b) Start date
 - (c) Expected Completion date
 - (d) The term dates – *if it is not possible to add term dates through an automated self-service option, then this aspect can be provided later, but they will be required for anyone who is awarded a position in the programme in order for us to pay you through talent bank.*It should be named: first name _ last name _ BVS Confirmation of Study letter.

Please note, you will NOT receive a response acknowledging receipt of this email.

After you submit your application, you will receive an automated confirmation. Due to time constraints, we will not be able to make any changes to application forms after they have been submitted so please do not click:

Submit

until you are satisfied that all the information you are providing is as you would like it to be. Thank you for reading this application guidance all the way through. Please continue to refer back to it as you prepare your application. Here is the link to the ONLINE:

[King's Wellcome Trust Biomedical Vacation Scholarship Summer 2024 Application Form](#)

The deadline for applications is 23:59 on Tuesday, 2 April 2024.

We look forward to reading your application, thank you for your interest in the scholarships.