

University of Reading Global Sustainability Leaders Scholarship - Terms and Conditions for 2025 entry

1. The Scholarship

- 1.1. These terms and conditions govern the application and administration of the University of Reading Global Sustainability Leaders Scholarship (“**the Scholarship**”).
- 1.2. These terms and conditions apply to new undergraduate students taking up a place of study at the University of Reading (“**the University**”) in the 2025/26 academic year to study at the University’s Whiteknights and London Road (UK) campuses.
- 1.3. The purpose of the Scholarship is to help build the capabilities of individuals from all backgrounds and of all academic specialisms to become the global sustainability leaders of the future, by bringing their skills and passion to addressing climate and nature issues that will likely shape all our lives and the future of the planet over the next century and beyond.
- 1.4. The Scholarship is awarded by the University. In 2025/26 the University will offer to UK and International students up to a total of 300 Scholarships.
- 1.5. The Scholarship will comprise:
 - (a) £6,000 per year of study, paid directly to students for maintenance and living costs (i.e. not as a fee discount), in accordance with these terms and conditions;
 - (b) Access to opportunities including: developing knowledge and leadership skills relevant to addressing climate and nature issues; engaging in cross-disciplinary learning and activities; taking positive action for sustainability; building relevant networks; being part of a growing community of global sustainability leaders of the future; accessing dedicated careers support and the potential to enhance employability; and
 - (c) The requirement that, where applicable, the final year dissertation or project is on the theme of environmental sustainability, or climate or nature issues. Where your programme does not include a final year dissertation or project, you will be expected to demonstrate you have undertaken learning about environmental sustainability within the context of your programme, as agreed with the University.
- 1.6. The Scholarship is discretionary and is awarded on a competitive basis. Award of the Scholarship will be assessed as set out in these terms and conditions, and not all students who apply for it will be successful. Some awards may be linked to specific Schools or types of students, so even if you meet the criteria you are not guaranteed to be awarded a Scholarship.
- 1.7. The closing date for applications for the Scholarship is **23:59 on 3 September 2025**. No applications will be considered after this date.
- 1.8. The process for applying for a Scholarship is linked to but separate from the application for a place to study at the University.

2. Eligibility to Apply

- 2.1. To be eligible to apply for a Scholarship you must meet the following Application Eligibility Criteria:
- (a) Have been offered admission to the first year (Part 1) of an undergraduate degree programme. This includes students who are applying for or progressing to Part 1 from a foundation year at the University or elsewhere;
 - (b) Meet the Predictions Requirements set out in paragraph 2.2 *or* have already met the Academic Requirements set out in paragraph 3.8; and
 - (c) Not be in receipt of a University of Reading Excellence Scholarship, a University of Reading Sanctuary Scholarship or a PwC Flying Start Bursary. **Please note:** the University reserves the right to withdraw all or part of the Scholarship and make no (or no further) payments and to claw back payments already made if you obtain scholarship or funding from the University that would have meant you did not meet these Application Eligibility Criteria.
- 2.2. The Predictions Requirements referred to in paragraph 2.1(b) are that you are predicted to attain grades AAB or above in your A-levels, or you are predicted an equivalent level of attainment as determined by the University, including from foundation study.
- 2.3. If your application to the University does not include predicted grades, you will not meet the Application Eligibility Criteria and will not be offered the opportunity to apply for the Scholarship at the point of your application to the University. However, you may have the opportunity to apply at a later date in accordance with paragraph 3.12.
- 2.4. If you are applying for a foundation programme at the University, or you are progressing to or entering the University at parts 2 or 3, or you are transferring from an undergraduate programme at the University to a different undergraduate programme, you are not eligible for apply for a Scholarship.
- 2.5. The Scholarship cannot be deferred to future years and is valid for entry in the 2025/26 academic year only. If you are offered the Scholarship but defer your place to the following academic year you may (provided the Scholarship scheme remains in place) reapply for the Scholarship, subject to satisfying the relevant application eligibility criteria.

3. Application

- 3.1. The University, during its normal application process for places on undergraduate programmes of study, will assess whether you meet the Application Eligibility Criteria set out in paragraph 2.1.
- 3.2. If you meet the Application Eligibility Criteria you will be invited to apply for the Scholarship using the University's electronic application form. You are not required to make an application and your decision whether or not to do so will have no impact on your application to study at the University or, if your place is confirmed, your time at the University. The decision to award you the Scholarship will not be affected by whether you place the University as your firm or insurance choice in applying via UCAS. **By applying for the Scholarship, you accept these terms and conditions.**
- 3.3. You must apply for the Scholarship using the form provided by the University. No alternative

method of application will be considered. All factual information provided in the Scholarship application must be true and accurate. The application must be fully and independently written by you. Supplementary documents cannot be submitted, although the University reserves the right to request additional information from you at its discretion.

3.4. In your application for the Scholarship you will be required to answer questions to demonstrate your commitment to global sustainability and addressing climate and nature issues.

3.5. Scholarships will be offered in batches, as funding is released in tranches, not in order of time of application. The following tranches will apply:

Tranche 1: Applications received by 23:59 on 1 May 2025

Tranche 2: Applications received by 23:59 on 7 July 2025

Tranche 3: Applications received by 23:59 on 3 September 2025 (to include applications during the results period and clearing)

3.6. Your application will be assessed within the relevant tranche and your answers to the global sustainability questions scored. Scores will be verified by a panel of University employees. Scholarships will be allocated according to this score, your fee status, your area of study and whether you are a Widening Participation student as detailed in paragraph 3.9. A number of Widening Participation students will be allocated Scholarships in each grouping and tranche ahead of other students.

3.7. Following assessment, the University will email you to:

(a) Provide you with a conditional offer of the Scholarship, subject to your enrollment at the University and these terms and conditions. This will set out the Academic Requirements, as detailed further in paragraph 3.7, that you must meet in order for the Scholarship to be confirmed; or

(b) Provide you with a firm offer of the Scholarship, subject to your enrollment at the University and these terms and conditions, because you have already met the Academic Requirements; or

(c) Tell you your application has been unsuccessful.

3.8. The Academic Requirements are:

(a) Obtaining AAA or above in your A-levels (or equivalent qualification as determined by the University); or

(b) Obtaining AAB or above in your A-levels (or equivalent qualification as determined by the University) if you are a Widening Participation student (see paragraph 3.9).

3.9. The University is committed to widening access and participation among certain groups of UK students under-represented in higher education. For the purposes of these terms and conditions Widening Participation students are individuals:

(a) resident in an area with low participation in higher education (defined as POLAR quintiles 1 and 2);

- (b) resident in an area with high levels of deprivation (defined as IMD quintiles 1 and 2);
- (c) have declared a disability on their UCAS form;
- (d) have participated in our Reading Scholars programme;
- (e) are care experienced;
- (f) are refugees or asylum seekers;
- (g) are estranged from their families;
- (h) young carers; or
- (i) children of military families (service children).

More information about our contextualised offers is available at <https://www.reading.ac.uk/ready-to-study/study/what-offer-will-i-get>. This information may be updated from time to time.

- 3.10. Any offer of the Scholarship is separate to your offer to study at the University. The Academic Requirements required to obtain the Scholarship may differ from your academic offer of admission to a programme of study (your Scholarship offer will typically require higher grades) and the conditions of both offers must be satisfied for the Scholarship to be awarded.
- 3.11. Ordinarily you will know the outcome within a maximum of two months of submitting your scholarship application, although in many cases notification will be received sooner than this. However, if a student for any reason declines the Scholarship, the University will consider a reserve list and some applicants may be contacted more than two months after the date of their Scholarship application.

Results period and clearing

- 3.12. If you have been offered a place to study at the University but were not invited to apply for the Scholarship because you did not meet the Application Eligibility Criteria, but then go on to meet the Academic Requirements, the University will contact you when your place is confirmed and offer you the opportunity to apply for the Scholarship. For example, your predicted grades are BBB, but you achieve AAA in your final A-level results.
- 3.13. If you apply to the University through clearing and meet the Academic Requirements, the University will offer you the opportunity to apply for the Scholarship.
- 3.14. Applications for the Scholarship made in accordance with paragraphs 3.12 and 3.13 will follow the same process set out at paragraphs 3.2 – 3.11 and the University will take reasonable steps to expedite this process.

4. Confirmation of Scholarship

- 4.1. When the University confirms your place on a programme of study at the University (typically on A-level results day), it will also confirm whether you have met the conditions of the

Scholarship offer.

- 4.2. Unless you have rejected the Scholarship offer, the Scholarship will be awarded when you:
- (a) meet the conditions of your Scholarship offer; and
 - (b) enroll on your place with the University.

5. **Other terms and conditions**

- 5.1. The Scholarship is only payable to registered students of the University. If you meet the conditions of your Scholarship offer but decline your place at the University or fail to complete enrolment, you will not receive the Scholarship.
- 5.2. The Scholarship is for the purposes of maintenance and living costs. It will be paid into a UK bank account, which must be in the name of the recipient of the Scholarship. It is your responsibility to provide bank details to the University in a timely manner.
- 5.3. The Scholarship will be paid in two instalments, each of £3000. The first instalment will be paid within 30 days of the commencement of Semester 1 and the second within 30 days of the commencement of Semester 2 in each academic year. There is no alternative arrangement to this and no advance payments can be made. Payment is conditional on enrolment with the University each academic year and payment will not be made until enrolment is completed.
- 5.4. If you undertake a work placement for a year or a semester, you will not be entitled to receive the Scholarship funding for that year or semester, as applicable.
- 5.5. If you study abroad for a year or a semester you will continue to be eligible to receive the Scholarship funding for that year or semester, as applicable, provided that you remain in full time study on your undergraduate programme and continue to be registered with the University.
- 5.6. If you suspend your studies, you will not be eligible to receive the Scholarship funding for the duration of your suspension. If your suspension is on medical grounds the University may, at its discretion, continue to award the Scholarship funding to you. In these circumstances you must contact the Global Sustainability Leaders Scholarship Manager by emailing gsls@reading.ac.uk as soon as possible.
- 5.7. If you leave the University for any reason, you will no longer be eligible for future instalments of the Scholarship.
- 5.8. The University reserves the right to withdraw all or part of the Scholarship and make no (or no further) payments and to claw back payments already made, where reasonable to do so, if:
- (a) You breach these terms and conditions;
 - (b) You do not meet the eligibility requirements set out in these terms and conditions and/or any offer of scholarship; or
 - (c) You do not provide a development and impact record demonstrating your

engagement with activities in the Scholarship development scheme to the reasonable satisfaction of the University; or

- (d) Your conduct is such that the Student Disciplinary Committee (or equivalent University committee) finds you have breached the University's conduct requirements and you have been removed as a student of the University or issued with a final written warning by the University.

5.9. The Scholarship shall not normally be paid for a period that exceeds 4 years.

6. **Raising concerns**

6.1. If you consider you meet the Application Eligibility Criteria but are not invited to apply for the Scholarship, you should write to the Head of Admissions and Enquiries Management at ugadmissions@reading.ac.uk within 30 days of receiving your offer of a place to study at the University. The Head of Admissions and Enquiries Management will review your application and their decision will be final.

6.2. If the University withdraws the Scholarship from you in accordance with paragraph 5.8, you can raise a complaint in accordance with the University's Student Complaints Procedure.

6.3. All further queries about the Scholarship should be sent to gsls@reading.ac.uk.