

DURHAM INSPIRING EXCELLENCE POSTGRADUATE 10K SCHOLARSHIP

Application Guidance

Introduction

This document is an overview of the full application process for the **Durham Inspiring Excellence 10K** scholarship. This scholarship rewards International Students applying to six Masters Programmes at Durham University. Eighty-five (85) **Inspiring Excellence 10K** scholarships are available for the six specific programmes in the academic year 2025/26.

Each scholarship is a competitive award worth £10,000 towards the original tuition fee for a postgraduate taught programme starting in September 2025. The selection will be based on an individual's achievements and potential for positive impact upon completion of their Postgraduate Degree at Durham University.

The scholarships are available to all new international students to Durham who meet the eligibility criteria.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for Durham's Inspiring Excellence 10K postgraduate scholarships, applicants must:

- have applied to one of the following six masters programmes for September 2025 [Advanced Computer Science \(Artificial Intelligence\)](#), [Law and Finance](#), [Public Policy](#), [Biotechnology](#), [Islamic Finance](#) and [International Business](#).
- have received an offer for a Master's programme at Durham University by 04 May 2025 (for 1st Selection) and 08th June 2025 (for 2nd selection)
- be classed as an overseas student for fee-paying purposes
- meet or exceed the entry requirements for the programme applied for at Durham University
- not already be in receipt of any other scholarship from the university
- self-funded and not supported by external sponsor or scholarship bodies
- complete the [Inspiring Excellence 10K postgraduate scholarships application form](#)

Funding

The **Inspiring Excellence 10K** Scholarship will be applied as a tuition fee waiver directly to the master's programme tuition fees. No cash alternative is offered. The tuition fees will be adjusted at the time of enrolment at Durham University. The **Inspiring Excellence 10K** scholarships (tuition fee

discounts) are not transferable and not deferrable.

The discount is applied for the one-year master's study at Durham University. The **Inspiring Excellence 10K** Scholarship will not be applied for any period not spent at Durham.

Application

1. Scholarship applicants must have applied to study a postgraduate taught degree through Durham's [Applicant Portal](#) which will generate a Student ID. Without a valid Student ID, no applicant is eligible to apply for the **Inspiring Excellence 10K** Scholarship and the scholarship application form will not be considered.
2. Applicants must have received an offer (conditional or unconditional) to study at Durham before 04th May 2025 (for 1st Selection) and 08th June 2025 (for 2nd selection). In order to receive an offer, a minimum of a personal statement and transcript will need to have been uploaded to the application portal.
3. 1st round Applicants without an offer by 04th May will automatically be considered for the 2nd round of selection.
4. There is no save progress function in the [Inspiring Excellence 10K scholarship application form](#), so applicants will need to complete the application form in one session. Applicants will need to answer all required questions to move forward with the application. If a question is left blank, an error message will appear informing applicant of this.
5. Once the application form is completed and submitted, applicants will receive an email confirming its receipt. The International Relations team will be in touch with successful applicants two weeks after the deadlines (see timeline for more details).
6. The **Inspiring Excellence 10K** Scholarship will have 2 rounds of selections and deadlines in the first semester of 2025. This is to allow later applicants to have an opportunity to apply for the scholarship. Unsuccessful applicants in the first round will be automatically considered for the second round and won't need to submit a new application form for the scholarship.
7. Applicants will need to confirm that they have read and agreed with Durham's data statement and the international scholarships terms and conditions before submitting the [Inspiring Excellence 10K scholarship application form](#).

Selection criteria

The **Inspiring Excellence** Scholarship is a competitive scheme, and not all applications will be successful. A panel of key members of staff will select most suitable applications. In addition to the application form responses, nationality diversity and balance across programmes will also be considered in the selection.

Scholarship awards are discretionary and final. Due to the volume of applications for this award, Durham University is unable to provide feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

Applicants may contact the team for further questions by email:
international.scholarships@durham.ac.uk

Scholarship Application Form

These are all the questions applicants must answer in the **Inspiring Excellence 10K** scholarship application form. Note that scholarship applicants must have applied for an eligible course at Durham University and have a valid Student ID Number. The scholarship application will be deleted in the absence of a valid Student ID Number.

Section 1 – Personal Information

1. [Mandatory] *Your First name*
2. [Mandatory] *Your Surname*
3. [Mandatory] *Your email address* (should be the same as on your Master's application)
4. [Mandatory] *The country of your nationality*
5. [Mandatory] *The country of your Permanent Residence*

Section 2 – Durham Application Details

6. [Mandatory] *Your Durham Student ID* (the 9-digit series of numbers that start with 00)
7. [Mandatory] *Have you received an offer from Durham University?* Select one of the 3 options: 'Unconditional offer received', 'Conditional offer received', or 'I have not received an offer'
8. [Mandatory] *Name of the Master's course that you applied for.* Select one from the list of 6 programmes available for this 10K scholarship
9. [Mandatory] *Are you studying or completed a pre-master's course at Durham University International Study Centre?* Choose 'Yes' or 'No'
10. [Mandatory] *Your tuition fee status.* Select 'Overseas' or 'home' (to be eligible you must be an overseas fee payer as home is only for UK students)

11. [Mandatory] *Are you a recipient of, or have you applied for, any other scholarship/funding from another organisation? Choose 'Yes' or 'No'*
12. [If YES was answered in Question 11] *please specify the scholarship/funding you have applied for. Only shows in case of a 'Yes' answer to Question 11.*

Section 3 – Education Background

13. [Mandatory] *Name of your most recent bachelor's degree? Add the name of the course studied*
14. [Mandatory] *Name of institution from which you received your bachelor's degree*
15. [Mandatory] *What grade did you achieve for your bachelor's degree? Add your overall grade achievement from your bachelor's studies*

Section 4 – Application Questions

16. [Mandatory] ***Describe an extraordinary achievement you have accomplished outside of your academic grades. (300 words maximum).***

This question expects applicants to demonstrate activities gained outside university environment that are special and highlight initiative and positive outcome.

17. [Mandatory] ***Tell us about your goals for the future and how your chosen programme at Durham will help you achieve them. (300 words maximum)***

Applicants should write about their motivation to study at Durham University in the chosen course, and how this choice reflects their aspirations and clear goals after graduation.

18. [Mandatory] ***How do you expect to contribute to the student community at Durham University? (200 words maximum)***

Durham University expects applicants to demonstrate how their abilities, attributes and accomplishments will impact the student community during their postgraduate studies at Durham.

Section 5 – Private Notice

19. [Mandatory] *Durham University has a responsibility under data protection legislation to provide individuals with information about how we process their personal data. Further information regarding how we process and secure personal data can be found here: <https://www.durham.ac.uk/about-us/governance/information-governance/privacy-notices/prospective-students>. You have the right to withdraw your consent at any time by contacting international.scholarships@durham.ac.uk. Please tick this box to give us your consent for your personal data processing. Yes option only.*

The option YES needs to be selected to finish application and submit it.

Application Timeline

Key dates for the Inspiring Excellence 10K Postgraduate Scholarship applicants are:
Applicants may contact the team for further questions by email: Applicants may contact the team

14 March 2025	Application to apply for the Inspiring Excellence 10K Scholarship is open for students in Durham's webpage
30 April 2025 (1st Selection)	Deadline for applicants to submit the Inspiring Excellence 10K scholarship application form (1 st Selection)
w/c 12 May 2025	Durham will announce the selected scholars. Scholars from 1 st round will have 2 weeks after announcement to pay their deposit and confirm their place in the master's programme. Waiting list of applicants will be created from the 1 st round.
08 June 2025 (2nd Selection)	Deadline for applicants to submit the Inspiring Excellence 10K scholarship application form (2 nd Selection)
w/c 16 June 2025	Durham will announce the selected scholars from the 2 nd round. Scholars will have 2 weeks after announcement to confirm their place (pay deposit) in the master's programme. Waiting list of applicants will be created from the 2 nd round.
w/c 07 July 2025	Durham will announce the selected scholars from the waiting lists. Scholars will have 2 weeks after announcement to confirm their place in the master's programme.

Key Contact

International Relations Team: international.scholarships@durham.ac.uk