

OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS / UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD SCHOLARSHIPS 2013-14

NOTES FOR APPLICANTS

THE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Open Society Foundations / University of Oxford Scholarships, which are funded by the Open Society Foundation-London and the University of Oxford, are intended to provide opportunities for postgraduate study in the United Kingdom for applicants who demonstrate both academic excellence and the potential to become leaders, decision makers and opinion formers in their home countries.

Each scholarship provides tuition fees and college fees at the University of Oxford, a stipend to cover living costs (for one person only) and return air travel from the scholar's home country. On completion of the scholarship, scholars will return to their home countries to continue their studies/work there.

ELIGIBILITY

- Selected **one year taught Masters Courses** within the University of Oxford's Social Sciences and Humanities Divisions. **You can find the full list of eligible courses at the end of these guidance notes.**
- Any scholarship awards are conditional upon you being offered a place to study at Oxford, and meeting all the conditions of that offer (e.g. obtaining the required score in English language proficiency).
- Applicants will be required to pass an English proficiency test before being offered a Scholarship. The minimum requirement for study on the eligible courses at Oxford is IELTS 7.5 or Internet based TOEFL 110. Details of the minimum scores for each component, and alternative tests are available on the University's website www.ox.ac.uk/graduate

Local representatives of Open Society Foundations will arrange tests for short-listed candidates after the interviews, if applicants have not already successfully taken a test in the 2 years prior to the interview.

- All applicants must have completed at least three years of BA course (in the Bologna system) or four years of university study and have obtained, or expect to obtain, the appropriate degree(s) not later than September 2013.
- Applicants must be citizens of **and** resident in one of the following countries during the academic year in which they apply for the award: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, and Montenegro. Applicants who are temporarily out of the country (for a total period of less than three consecutive months) may be treated as being resident.
- Applicants should be planning to return to their home country at the end of the period of study.
- Applicants should have a proven track record of success or excellence in their professional life distinguishing them from their peers and contemporaries and clear commitment to open society goals.
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not previously studied in Western universities.

Please note that if you have applied, or are applying, for other grants, fellowships or scholarships with the Open Society Foundations you should alert your local coordinator. While you may apply under more than one scheme simultaneously, you can be awarded only one Open Society Foundations scholarship or grant for a given period.

Employees, employees' relatives (or former employees who have left employment less than two years before) of the Educational Advising Centers or local Open Society Foundations representations directly involved in

the Open Society Foundations Scholarship Programs administration in the region and the participating universities will not be eligible to apply for these awards.

HOW TO APPLY

You apply for the Scholarships as part of your application to study at the University of Oxford. You do this by ticking the “Open Society Foundations Oxford Scholarships” box the funding section of the University’s Application Form for Graduate Study.

You can apply for your course either on-line or on paper, but more than 99% of applicants to the University now use the on-line option. Whether you apply online or on paper you must do three things:

1. Check your eligibility with your local OSF scholarship coordinator
2. Submit your completed application to the University of Oxford
3. Send a copy of your application to your local coordinator

If you fail to do these three things by the deadline (**Friday 18th January 2013**) then your application will not be considered for the scholarship. If you complete these three steps by the deadline, then your application will be considered for the scholarship, and your application fee will be paid for you (for eligible courses only).

However you apply, it is your responsibility to check the requirements for your chosen course, ensuring you have included any additional supporting materials (such as examples of written work) that are required. Details of these supporting materials can be found on the University’s website – www.ox.ac.uk/graduate.

The following sections give step-by-step instructions on how to apply for the scholarship online or on paper.

Online applications

Here are the steps you will need to follow for a normal online application:

1. Contact OSF’s local office to let the local coordinator know of your intention to apply. They will supply you with short questionnaire that we use to confirm your eligibility
2. Complete and return the eligibility requirements self-assessment form provided by the local coordinator.
3. If you are eligible your local coordinator will provide you with a reference number that can be used to have your University application fee waived.
4. Start your online application for one of the eligible courses. Details of how to complete this can be found on the University’s website – www.ox.ac.uk/graduate.
5. Upload a copy of the Scholarship Statement of Purpose (form provided by the local coordinator) as part of your application.
6. Once you have started your application, you should contact the University’s Graduate Admissions Office with your reference number to ask them to waive the application fee. You should contact them by submitting a message via the University’s website (www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask), selecting the ‘Prospective Graduate Student’ and ‘General Information’ category. Your message will need to include the following information:
 - i. ‘OSF Application Fee Waiver’ in the subject heading.
 - ii. Your name and surname (as you have given it in their application).
 - iii. Your email address.
 - iv. The fee waiver reference number given by your local coordinator.
 - v. The name of the course you have applied to study.
7. The Graduate Admissions office will email you to confirm that the fee has been waived.
8. You can then complete and submit your application. **You must submit your application by Friday 18th January 2013.**

9. You must also submit a printed copy of this application (and any supporting materials) to your local coordinator by **Friday 18th January 2013**.

Paper applications

If you think you will need to apply on paper then please contact Mr JP Roche at the University's Graduate Admissions and Funding office via the University's website (www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask).

TIMETABLE

All applications must be received (including all required supporting materials) by the University by **Friday 18th January 2013**. Applications received after this date cannot be considered for the Scholarships. To give your referees sufficient time to submit your references you should start your application well in advance of the deadline.

It is expected that interviews of short-listed candidates will be held in April 2013; precise dates will be announced nearer the time.

Conditional scholarship offers will be made to the ten best interviewees in May 2013. All conditions of the scholarship offer (e.g. achieving the required language test score) must be met by Monday 1st July 2013.

Local representatives of Open Society Foundations will arrange English language tests for short-listed candidates after the interviews in April/May (if applicants have not already successfully taken a test in the 2 years prior to the interview).

Please note that all successful applicants will be expected to attend a one-month preparatory academic writing summer school in August 2013. The Open Society Scholarship Programs Pre-Academic Summer Program is designed to prepare Open Society Scholarship Programs grantees for a successful academic experience in the UK. Successful applicants will be provided with the opportunity to refine their research and writing skills through intensive courses in academic writing and social sciences. The exact date and location of the summer school will be available at a later stage in the selection process.

For more information, please contact your local coordinator:
[Name, address and contact details of local representative]

Open Society Foundations / University of Oxford Scholarship
Eligibility Requirements Questionnaire

You should complete this form if you are applying for an Open Society Foundations/University of Oxford scholarship. By checking off the boxes below, you will confirm that you have read the guidance notes for applicants, understood the eligibility requirements and selection process and are prepared to submit a complete application form with all required supporting documents.

This form should be submitted to your local coordinator and signed at the bottom.

FAMILY NAME (BLOCK CAPITALS):	FIRST NAME(S) (BLOCK CAPITALS):	EMAIL ADDRESS:

Please read the statements below and tick the boxes on the right to indicate whether each of these statements is true or false of you.

- A. I must be a national of and resident in one of the eligible countries during the academic year in which I apply for the award (I am considered resident even if I am temporarily out of the country for a total period of less than three consecutive months.) true false
- B. I already hold or am expecting to hold by the time of taking up the award, if my application is successful, a degree of an equivalent standard to a BA with good marks. true false
- C. I am not a recipient of any other Open Society Foundations fully funded scholarship for the 2013-14 academic year, true false
- D. I have passed or will sit for a TOEFL/IELTS test to obtain a required score by the time of taking up an award (a test will be organized by the Sponsors for those applicants who are short-listed after the interviews). true false
- E. I understand that the Sponsors of the scholarship will give preference to applicants who have not studied outside of their home region. true false
- F. I am not a current employee/ or employees' relative of any Open Society Foundations representations directly working with Open Society Scholarship Programs in the region or the participating university and have not been employed by either of them within the last 2 years. true false

Your local coordinator will contact you to confirm your eligibility for the scholarship programme, and (if you are eligible) to provide you with a code to waive the fee for your application to the University of Oxford.

If you are ineligible for the scholarship programme you can still apply to the University of Oxford, but cannot receive support through the Open Society Foundation – University of Oxford Scholarships.

Should you have any questions concerning any of the criteria listed above, please, contact your local scholarship coordinator.

By signing this form I confirm that the information provided above is correct.

Signature

Date

Open Society Foundations/University of Oxford Scholarships 2013-14

List of Eligible Courses

	Course
MSc	Applied Linguistics and 2nd Language Acquisition
MSc	Biodiversity, Conservation and Management
MSc	Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology
MSc	Comparative Social Policy
MSc	Criminology and Criminal Justice
MSc	Economic and Social History
MSc	Economics for Development (note: applicants to this course MUST submit a GRE certificate or their application will not be considered)
MSc	Education (Child Development and Education)
MSc	Education (Comparative and International Education)
MSc	Education (Higher Education)
MSc	Education (Learning and Teaching)
MSc	Educational Research Methodology
MSc	Environmental Change and Management
MSc	Evidence Based Social Intervention
MSt	Late Antique and Byzantine Studies
Mjur	Magister Juris
MSc	Medical Anthropology
MSt	Medieval History
MSt	Medieval Studies
MSt	Modern British & European History
MSt	Modern Jewish Studies
MSt	Modern Languages
MSc	Nature Society and Environmental Policy
MPP	Public Policy (Master of)
MSc	Russian & East European Studies
MSc	Social Anthropology
MSt	Social Anthropology
MSc	Social Science of the Internet
MSc	Sociology
MSc	Water Science, Policy and Management
MSt	Women's Studies

**Supporting statement for applicants to the
Open Society Foundations Oxford Scholarships**

Name	
Nationality	
Course applied for	

One of the main criteria for the award of the scholarships is that applicants should demonstrate the potential to become leaders or opinion formers in their country. Please give an outline of your future career plans or intentions, and comment on ways in which you fulfil this criterion:

If you run out of space, please, feel free to attach additional pages.