



Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme

About the Programme

The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme cultivates the leaders of tomorrow by providing outstanding university graduates and professionals, mainly from low and middle income countries, with the opportunity to pursue fully-funded full time, 1-year graduate studies at the University of Oxford, combined with a comprehensive programme of leadership development, long-term mentoring, and networking.

The Leadership Programme is a unique part of our scholarships, and over the course of a year, scholars take part in philosophical discussions, learn enterprise skills, and receive communication training within a supportive community. More information on this can be found on the [Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust website](#).

The scholarship will cover 100% of course fees, a grant for living costs (of at least £21,805), and a contribution of £2000 towards pre-arrival costs such as Visas and travel. Awards are made to cover the full duration of your course and the Leadership Programme.

Eligibility

You must be applying to start a new full-time graduate course at Oxford and your course must be on the list of courses we support, and only at taught master's level (MSc/MA).

Please see the [complete list of eligible courses and countries here](#).

You must also be ordinarily resident in one of the eligible countries listed. However, if you are, or have been, a refugee or displaced person, you may be from a country not on this list.

The aim of the programme is to equip our graduates with knowledge, skills, and networks that will help them contribute to public life in their countries and regions of origin. (The Trust understands that in certain exceptional circumstances it may not be possible for scholars to return to their home countries immediately after completing their course.)

You should be able to demonstrate a connection between your subject of study and your longer-term career objectives, explaining how you see your professional work contributing to the improvement of public life in your country of origin or at a wider regional or international level.

The above qualities will be assessed during the selection process, including the use of your graduate application form, your Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships form, and, if shortlisted, your interview.

Special Scholarships & Partnerships

Chevening

In addition to the Oxford-Weidenfeld and Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme, the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust also has partnerships with **Chevening (funded by the UK Foreign Office)**. To be considered for a Weidenfeld-Hoffmann/Chevening scholarship, you must apply for admission at the university, select 'Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme' in the scholarship section, and complete our application form. For Chevening specific guidelines, [please follow the guidance here](#).

Oxford-Pakistan Programme

Since 2026-27, the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust has partnered with the [Oxford Pakistan Programme](#) to offer a scholarship with the same benefits as the regular WHT scholarship. To be eligible, you must be ordinarily resident in Pakistan.

You must apply for your course through the university and, in the "University of Oxford Scholarships" section of the application form, select the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme. Complete the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships Statement and upload it with your graduate application by the course deadline.

You will also need to submit a statement of intent directly to the [Oxford Pakistan Programme through their website](#). Whilst their portal does not open until March, you must apply to WHT through Oxford by your relevant course deadline.

New Scholarship for Afghan Women Leaders

The [Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust](#) is delighted to announce a new scholarship to be awarded annually to an Afghan woman of first- or second-generation descent, to enable the recipient with

the offer of a place to study at the University of Oxford to undertake an eligible master's degree combined with a programme of leadership training.

The scholarship is made possible by the generous donation of US\$2.5 million to the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust, made by Ms Shabana Basij-Rasikh (WHT alumna 2019-20), which will endow the scholarship in perpetuity.

Please note that there is a currently a VISA brake to [Student visa](#) applications made outside the UK from applicants who are nationals of Afghanistan, Cameroon, Myanmar and Sudan. The UK Government has stated that the visa brake is not permanent and will be reviewed in September 2027. The visa brake is based only on the main nationality you give on your application form. If you already have a valid visa for the UK you are still able to apply for an in-country visa extension or another visa route in-country if you are eligible. If you are of Afghan first- or second-generation descent and hold a valid passport of another country, you are eligible to apply.

We look forward to being able to award the scholarship at the earliest opportunity and to welcoming the first Afghan recipient of this award.

If you are interested in applying to the Afghan Women Leaders scholarship, [please read further guidance here](#).

How to apply

In order to be considered for the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Trust Scholarships & Leaderships Programme, you must select the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme in the University of Oxford Scholarships section of the University's graduate application form and submit your application for graduate study via the [graduate admissions portal](#) by the relevant December or January deadline for your course. See the relevant course page for the deadline applicable to your course. You must also complete a Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships form and upload it, together with your graduate application form, by the deadline. This can be found [here](#).

For more information on how to apply, please [see here](#).

Further questions

Please see below for our FAQ. The University of Oxford also has an extensive database of FAQs [here](#).

511	Scholars Supported	102	Countries Represented	80+	Degrees Awarded
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Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for graduate study at the University of Oxford?

Please refer to the university's [Graduate Admissions](#) website. You can learn more about the graduate courses offered by the university [here](#). You can also search for courses by departments and divisions by clicking [here](#).

Which courses does the programme support?

The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme is only for selected taught master's programmes at the University of Oxford and are listed on this [website](#). Please note that we do not support programmes (such as the MPhil/DPhil) other than the ones listed on this [website](#).

Is there any specific advice for international applicants?

Yes, the University of Oxford has a dedicated website for [International Applicants](#). If you have any questions about international qualifications, please refer to [this website](#). You can also write to your prospective departments if you have further questions.

What if I have questions about eligibility for a course?

In the first instance, please check the "Entry requirements" for your [course page](#). If you have further questions, please reach out to your department administrator as they will be best placed to ascertain your eligibility.

Does Oxford have any English language requirements?

Yes, you must demonstrate that you meet Oxford's English language requirements. You can use the university's [English language proficiency self-evaluation tool](#) for guidance. If you believe you might be entitled to a waiver, please see [this website](#) for more details.

How much is Oxford's graduate application fee, and can I apply for a waiver?

The university application fee is currently set at £75 for taught master's programmes. Residents of low-income countries and refugees and displaced persons can apply for a waiver in the online form. Please refer to [Application Fee Waivers](#) for more details.

What does 'fully funded' cover?

If selected, we will pay your tuition fee and college fee. You will also receive a termly stipend paid directly into your bank account for the duration of your course (9 months or 12 months), including any summer projects or dissertations. The annual stipend is currently set at £21,805.

What if I have any VISA related queries?

Please refer to this website for any VISA related queries: [Visas and Immigration](#). For detailed information on applying for a student visa in the UK, please click [here](#).

Do I have to select an Oxford college at the time of application?

The Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme currently partners with eight Oxford colleges, which are: Keble, Lincoln, Mansfield, St Antony's, St Edmund Hall, St John's, Trinity, and Worcester. If selected, you will be offered a place at one of these colleges.

Can I apply for more than one course?

Yes, you can apply for up to two taught master's programmes. See this [website](#) for further information.

Do you have any guidance on references?

Please refer to "Entry requirements" on your [course page](#). The university maintains this website for [guidance on references](#) which you may find helpful.

What are the deadlines for 2027-2028 intake?

Your course page should have all necessary [information on deadlines](#) for your course.

Can my spouse, partner, or dependant/s accompany me to the UK?

Unfortunately, in accordance with UK government rules, you cannot bring your partner and/or dependants to the UK on your visa if you are reading for a taught master's programme. As the Weidenfeld-Hoffmann Scholarships and Leadership Programme is only for taught master's at Oxford, we are unable to support these VISAs for your partners and/or dependants. However, if you hold funding from an external body or a government body and are selected as a WHT scholar

participating only in the Leadership Programme (no scholarship), you may be eligible to bring your partner and/or dependants. For further information, please click [here](#).

When does the leadership programme start? And how is it different from my proposed course?

The Leadership Programme is a compulsory element of the WHT Scholarships. The programme involves up to 200 hours of personal skills development, [business and entrepreneurship](#), [building a foundation for ethical leadership](#), networking and – in the process – forming a community of support to sustain a lasting global network. It will start *before* your course begins so you will be expected to travel to Oxford up to a few weeks before your course start date and it will likely end after your course. Your stipend is expected to cover costs incurred during the full length of your course (9-12 months) and any pre or post academic-year expenses related to the Leadership Programme which ever is the greater.

More details about the [Leadership Programme](#) can be found here.

Do you cover pre-arrival costs such as VISA?

If selected, we will contribute £2000 towards your pre-arrival costs such as VISA and travel.

Am I eligible if I hold a deferred offer from the university?

Only in exceptional circumstances, if you already hold an offer from the university *and* WHT, we may be able to defer your place.

I have further questions regarding graduate study at Oxford.

You can contact Graduate Admissions here or email us at info@whtrust.org.