



UCD Global

**Global
Excellence
Scholarship**

Terms &
Conditions
and

Regional
Information
2026/27



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Terms and Conditions

Scholarship Description

1. Global Excellence Scholarships aim to attract outstanding candidates to UCD programmes and to encourage early applications.
2. Scholarship applications will be considered on academic merit, paired with a holistic review of the applicant's response to the scholarship application questions. These questions explore an applicant's motivations for studying at UCD, alignment with UCD's values, experience and achievements, contributions to equality, diversity and inclusions, and their potential to act as an Ambassador for UCD.
3. Recipients will be selected by a committee comprising of staff from each UCD's six Colleges, supported by UCD Global.
4. An annual competition will be held to select a limited number of students per region. Successful applicants will be awarded either a 100% or a 50% tuition fee scholarship.
5. The Global Excellence Scholarship is payable only toward the tuition fees charged to the successful candidate.
6. The scholarship is only available to applicants entering a new programme at UCD.

Preconditions

7. Applicants must meet the citizenship and residence requirements outlined in the **Regional Information** section of this document.
8. Scholarships are only open to self-funding candidates **who are classified as [non-EU for tuition fee purposes](#)**.
9. Eligible programmes are limited to undergraduate and graduate taught programmes, where the student must be based in Dublin and no part of the programme is awarded by another institution. The following programmes are excluded from the Global Excellence Scholarship scheme:
 - Online programmes
 - January start programmes
 - Part-time programmes
 - Clinical programmes
 - Off-shore campus programmes
 - UCD International Study Centre International Foundation Year PathwayFor a full list of eligible programmes, please see [Eligible Programmes](#).
10. Applicants to the Global Excellence Scholarship must have already obtained one of the following statuses on an application for an eligible programme:
 - Offer
 - Conditional Offer
 - Accept
 - Conditional Accept
11. Applications for the Global Excellence Scholarship should be submitted in accordance with the instructions given in the **Global Excellence Scholarship Application Instructions**.
12. The Global Excellence Scholarship cannot be combined with any other tuition fee scholarship.

Due Date and Timeframes

13. Without exception, only complete applications received on or before the deadline will be considered. The deadline is specified in the relevant **Regional Information**.
14. Successful and reserve candidates for the Global Excellence Scholarship will be selected by the Scholarship Committee.
15. Candidates will be notified within two weeks of the Committee's decision.
16. The Scholarship Committee's decisions are final and cannot be appealed.
17. Following notification of an offer for a Global Excellence Scholarship, students must accept their scholarship offer online within the timeframe communicated by the International Scholarships and Funding Team, or nominee.
 - a. It is the student's responsibility to formally accept the scholarship offer.
 - b. Failure to respond within the given timeframe will be considered as declining the scholarship offer.
 - c. A declined or lapsed Global Excellence Scholarship offer cannot be reinstated.
18. Candidates for the Global Excellence Scholarship must pay the deposit required upon acceptance of an offer to study at UCD. Only candidates who have paid their deposit when accepting the Global Excellence Scholarship will secure both their Scholarship and a place on the UCD programme. Successful awardees of the 100% Global Excellence Scholarship will have their deposit refunded following registration at UCD.
19. The Global Excellence Scholarship is non-transferable and cannot be deferred. It is only applicable to the programme and academic term (or 'commencement date') specified in the offer letter that contains the scholarship award. Once the offer of a Global Excellence Scholarship has been issued, a candidate who declines the initial offer of admission to UCD is not permitted to retain the Scholarship for another programme. In exceptional circumstances, the College Vice Principal International (VPI) has limited discretion to permit an internal transfer of a scholarship to another programme within the same College. If deferred entry is approved by UCD, the Global Excellence Scholarship will be forfeited. Students who have deferred their entry may apply or re-apply for a Global Excellence Scholarship for the year to which they have deferred. Such applications will be reviewed and considered independently of any previous decision therefore, there is no guarantee of outcome.

Student Obligations

20. By accepting a Global Excellence Scholarship, students commit to contributing to at least one of the following platforms, as reasonably directed by UCD:
 - UCD social media content;
 - UCD website content;
 - Become an Ambassador on UCD's peer-to-peer engagement platform;
 - Discussion groups and panels, surveys;
 - Additional events or activities for the promotion of UCD.
21. Only students who remain continuously enrolled at UCD may retain their Global Excellence Scholarship.
22. A student who withdraws, cancels, becomes inactive, enrolls less than full-time, is suspended or dismissed from the University will lose their scholarship eligibility. If a student's enrolment status changes to any of the aforementioned statuses due to medical reasons (or other approved extenuating circumstances), their scholarship will be reinstated upon return to normal, full-time enrolment at UCD¹. For reinstatement of the Global Excellence Scholarship to be considered, a student's leave from the University cannot exceed two consecutive semesters.

¹ Please see [UCD's Extenuating Circumstances Policy](#) for further information .

23. A student who applies for a formal Leave of Absence and is approved by the relevant College Programme Board may retain their scholarship upon return to the same programme at UCD. In order for the scholarship to be retained, the Leave of Absence may not be longer than one academic year.
24. The scholarship awarded will be in accordance with the information published in the student's offer letter. Scholarships will not cover tuition fees incurred as a result of students taking additional modules, above the standard credit load for their programme. Where a student registers to additional credits, they are required to cover the tuition fees independently.
25. Reduced or prorated fees:
 - a) If a student's fees are reduced or prorated due to a formal Recognition of Prior Learning, the scholarship may be prorated in proportion with the fees reduced.
 - b) If a student's fees are reduced or prorated due to a non-standard credit load for another reason, the scholarship may be retained only if the credit load is within 10 credits of the standard credit load for the given year and Stage of the programme. In such cases, the scholarship will also be prorated in proportion with the fees reduced. Where the student's annual credit load deviates by more than 10 credits, the scholarship may only be retained where the College Programme Office has documented medical or personal reasons for the reduced credit load. The scholarship amount is subject to adjustment commensurate with the reduction in fees. No increase in the scholarship amount will be considered.
 - c) If a student's fees are reduced for any other reason, the scholarship will be reduced in proportion with the fees reduced.
26. Global Excellence Scholarships are automatically renewed each year of a programme, on condition that the student maintains a Stage GPA of 3.08/4.20 and meets the programme progression and credit requirements within one academic year. Students completing an exchange, study abroad or component of study for which they will not receive an overall GPA grade at UCD or a GPA neutral grade, must meet the progression requirements for this component in order to maintain their scholarship.
27. For multi-year programmes, where a Global Excellence Scholarship has been suspended, a student may have their original award reinstated if they subsequently reestablish eligibility. For example, if a student's GPA falls below 3.08 in Stage 1 and consequently their award is suspended for Stage 2, the original award may be reinstated for Stage 3 provided the student achieves a minimum Stage GPA of 3.08/4.20 and meets all programme progression and credit requirements at the end of Stage 2.
28. Once a Global Excellence Scholarship has been discontinued, it cannot be reinstated, except in cases where a student subsequently reestablishes eligibility, as outlined above (point 26)
29. All scholarship and funding schemes are subject to availability of funds, and details given here are subject to change at any time. Potential applicants are urged to check information regularly to ensure they are aware of current procedures, deadlines and other information.
30. The University reserves the right to withdraw, vary or amend any aspect of a scholarship if it is found that an error or mistake has been made by the University.
31. Any material misrepresentation of the facts in the candidate's application and supporting materials, whether discovered during the verification process or later, will result in immediate disqualification.

Note that all Terms and Conditions are subject to change without notification.

Regional Information

Regional Notes:

- All applicants must be classified as non-EU for tuition fees and UCD admissions.
- Citizens of each region must apply by the regional deadline outlined below.
- Deadlines noted below are in Irish Time. Late applications will not be considered.²
- Decisions are generally released within 6-7 weeks of the submission deadline.

Region	Rules	Deadline
North America: Canada, USA, American Samoa, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam	Undergraduate only Applicants must be citizens in this region.	01 February 2025
	For Graduate applications – see <i>All Other Regions</i>	
South Asia: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka	Graduate only Applicants must be citizens <u>and</u> in this region.	28 February 2025
	For Undergraduate applications – see <i>All Other Regions</i>	
Middle East, Africa and Pakistan: Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ivory Coast, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Republic of Cabo Verde, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe, United Arab Emirates.	Undergraduate and Graduate:	28 February 2025
All Other Regions	Undergraduate and Graduate: Applicants may be citizens and/or resident of any countries outside the EU/EEA/ Swiss Confederation.	31 March 2025

² The application portal will close at 11.59pm Irish Time on the date(s) noted above.