

Step-by-Step Guide to Getting Scholarships

Start Early

- Begin researching scholarships at least a year before you want to start university
- Many deadlines are between November and March for autumn entry

Decide Where You're Applying

- Choose your target universities and courses first
- Check their scholarship pages on their official websites
- Some scholarships are university-specific, while others are external (offered by charities, governments, or private companies)

Types of Scholarships

Here are some types you might be eligible for:

- **Merit-based scholarships** - awarded for high academic achievement.
- **Need-based scholarships** - awarded based on financial circumstances.
- **Subject-specific scholarships** - awarded for certain courses (like Engineering, STEM, Arts)
- **Nationality-based scholarships** - sometimes offered to international students
- **Government scholarships** - e.g. Chevening Scholarships (for postgraduate study)

Prepare Your Documents

Typically, you'll need:

- A strong personal statement (why you want the course, your goals)
- Academic transcripts (GCSEs, A-levels, or equivalent)
- References (from teachers, counsellors, or employers)
- Sometimes proof of financial need (bank statements or family income evidence)
- For some, a portfolio (if applying to arts-related courses)

Check Eligibility and Deadlines

- **Eligibility:** Some scholarships are for UK home students, some are open to all international students
- **Deadlines:** Vary widely; some close early (Nov-Jan), others accept rolling applications

Apply (and Apply Widely)

- Apply to multiple scholarships - competition can be tough
- Tailor your application to each one - emphasise how you meet their criteria

Consider Additional Funding Options

- **Bursaries:** Often awarded automatically based on income or background - check university websites
- **Student loans:** Home-fee paying international students might qualify for UK student finance (depending on residency status)
- **Part-time work:** Some students supplement with part-time jobs

Where to Look

Here are some useful starting points:

- **University websites** - look for fees and funding or scholarships pages
- **UCAS** - they often list scholarships by university and course www.ucas.com
- **British Council** - especially for international scholarships
- **Scholarship portals** — e.g. Scholarship Search UK or The Scholarship Hub.
- <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/scholarships-funding>
- <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>