

# A Guide to Solent's Grants, Bursaries and Scholarships 2024-25



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## What funding is available from Solent University?

Solent University is committed to encouraging students from all backgrounds, to enter higher education. We offer a number of **non-repayable** grants, bursaries, and Scholarships to support our students during their studies. This leaflet provides a brief overview of some of them. Please look at our webpages for more information:

- [www.solent.ac.uk/finance/grants-bursaries-scholarships/university-grants](http://www.solent.ac.uk/finance/grants-bursaries-scholarships/university-grants)

- [www.solent.ac.uk/finance/grants-bursaries-scholarships/scholarships](http://www.solent.ac.uk/finance/grants-bursaries-scholarships/scholarships)

## Solent University offers the following scholarships.

(Please always check the eligibility criteria for each scholarship before applying, to avoid disappointment).

### Sports scholarships

Scholarships are awarded to athletes competing at national and international levels in a variety of sports, including - but not exclusively - basketball, cricket and football.

We offer the following sports scholarship bursaries:

- Platinum: up to £5,000
- Gold: up to £3,000
- Silver: up to £1,000
- Bronze: performance club offer (access to team support services)

In addition to the bursaries, we can also offer alternative tuition fee based packages for overseas applicants depending on the level you compete at and your sporting history.

[Find out more about sport scholarships](#)

### Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Scholarship

We recognise that for many Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) students, the playing field for entry into university isn't always level and this can be a barrier to students from these under-represented backgrounds reaching their potential.

For students applying for 2024 entry to our undergraduate courses, Solent University is offering the BAME Student Scholarship. These scholarships provide eligible first year undergraduate students, from

specific ethnic backgrounds, £1,000 each to use towards their university tuition fees or the cost of student living.

### **How the scholarship is awarded**

The scholarship is awarded in the form of £1,000 which can be used by first-year undergraduate students in the following ways:

- A £1,000 reduction of tuition fees for the first year of study.

or

- A £1,000 balance credit applied to the student's Solent University Everyday catering app account. The Everyday app is used to purchase food and drink consumables from any of the University's catering outlets, including Costa Coffee and Starbucks.

The scholarship is non means tested, non-repayable and available in addition to any other funding that you may also be eligible.

Successful applicants for this one-off scholarship must meet the following criteria:

Have applied for and hold a firm acceptance, full-time undergraduate course offer from Solent University.

Have applied for this scholarship through the [applicant portal](#).

Are a UK national with 'home' fee status who identifies as having one of the following categories of ethnicity:

- **Asian or Asian British**
  - Indian
  - Pakistani
  - Bangladeshi
  - Chinese
  - Any other Asian background
- **Black, African, Caribbean or Black British**
  - African
  - Caribbean

- Any other Black, African or Caribbean background
- Other ethnic group
- **Mixed multiple ethnic groups**
  - Mixed White and Black Caribbean
  - Mixed White and Black African
  - Mixed White and Asian
  - Any other Mixed or Multiple ethnic background
- **Other ethnic groups**
  - Arab
  - Gypsy or Irish Traveller
  - Any other ethnic group

## How to apply

To be considered for the BAME student scholarship, applicants holding a firm acceptance place (conditional or unconditional) on an undergraduate course at Solent University, starting in September 2024, must apply for this scholarship through the [applicant portal](#). You will need your applicant username and password to log in.

This will enable the University to link your UCAS application with your application for the scholarship.

Please note, there are a limited number of scholarships provided each year and these are awarded in the order completed forms are returned.

The scholarship is one of several initiatives we are undertaking as part of our Race Equality Charter and acts to address the gap in under-represented groups of students, as set out in our Access and Participation Plan.

This scholarship cannot be used in conjunction with any other scholarship, bursary or fee discount.

The University reserves the right to pro-rata this discount, should you suspend or withdraw from study during the academic year. Please refer to our [student fees and finance section](#) for further information.

For further information about the scholarship, please email [stepintosuccess@solent.ac.uk](mailto:stepintosuccess@solent.ac.uk).

## Solent Sanctuary Scholarship

Solent University is committed to be a fair, diverse and cohesive University that challenges and tackles

social inequality. We aim to foster a community with a culture of welcome, mutual trust, fairness, harmony and respect.

Our vision is to transform the lives of people from all backgrounds, through learning that is relevant to the real world. Our values create a university that is open to all, which celebrates different, and demonstrates a commitment to social justice and equality of opportunity. In support of our vision and values, each year Solent University awards one Solent Sanctuary Scholarship consisting of a full yearly fee waiver and a £3,000 grant to a person seeking sanctuary studying on a three-year undergraduate programme.

To be eligible for the Solent Sanctuary Scholarship, you need to meet the following criteria:

- Seeking asylum or humanitarian protection in the UK, or the partner/dependant of someone seeking asylum or humanitarian protection; OR
- Someone, or the partner/dependent of someone, who has been granted Discretionary or Limited Leave to Remain, or some other form of temporary status.

AND

- Have a conditional or unconditional offer from Solent University.
- Be attending a school, college or voluntary group which can provide a reference in support of your application.
- Be unable to access mainstream funding for higher education ie, Student Finance
- Not have a 'no study' immigration bail condition.
- Live within easy commuting distance of Solent University.
- Not require additional support for living expenses or accommodation, other than that provided through the Solent Sanctuary Scholarship

All undergraduate programmes are open to Solent Sanctuary Scholarship applicants **except** BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing Practice, BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing, foundation years, and apprenticeships.

Please be aware you are likely to be able to apply for a contextual offer, which is a scheme where applicants who meet certain criteria (including being a refugee) may receive lower entry offers than standard (based on their context and individual circumstances). Those who meet the contextual offer criteria should apply through the usual UCAS process and should also use a self-declaration form if they feel they meet additional criteria. [Find out more about contextual offers.](#)

For further information please contact Monika Materna-Brossier, International Student Adviser, at [sanctuary@solent.ac.uk](mailto:sanctuary@solent.ac.uk) who will support you through the application process. If you do not yet have a conditional or unconditional offer from Solent University, we can also support you with this process.

## Contextual offers scholarships

To further enhance the support we provide for students in receipt of a [contextual offer](#), students may also receive a one-off contextual offer scholarship upon enrolment. This £500 scholarship aims to support eligible students with the cost of student living or course tuition fees. There are 100 contextual offer scholarships available for the academic year 2024 - these are awarded on a first-come-first-served basis in the order the UCAS applications are received.

The contextual offer scholarship is awarded in the form of a £500\* balance credit applied to the student's Solent University Everyday catering app account. The Everyday app is used to purchase food and drink consumables from any of the University's catering outlets, including Costa Coffee and Starbucks.

\* The contextual offer scholarship is a non-cash payment, is non means tested, and non-repayable. It is available in addition to any other funding applicants may be eligible to receive (excluding other Solent University scholarships).

The University reserves the right to pro-rata this discount, should you suspend or withdraw from study during the academic year. Please refer to our student fees and finance section for further information.

### Eligibility

Students eligible for the contextual offer scholarship must:

- have applied to study at Solent University *before* the equal consideration deadline of 31 January 2024.
- have been made a contextual offer by the University and have received an offer letter via the Solent University applicant portal confirming this.
- have successfully enrolled onto their chosen Solent University course of study beginning in September 2024.
- not be in receipt of any other Solent University scholarship.

### How do I apply?

Once you have been made a contextual offer by the University and have received a letter via the Solent University applicant portal confirming this, you do not need to do anything else apart from enrol on to the first year of your chosen undergraduate course.

After successfully enrolling on to your course, our Admissions Team will assess your eligibility for the scholarship and, if you meet the criteria, you will be contacted directly, informing you if you have been awarded the contextual offer scholarship and with information about the next steps you will need to take.

For more information about eligibility for our contextual offers and for answers to some frequently asked questions, visit our [contextual offers page](#).

## MSc Applied AI and Data Science scholarship

Solent University is one of 30 English universities chosen to share an £8.1 million fund to invest in artificial intelligence (AI) and data science scholarships. The funding from the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and Office for Artificial Intelligence (OAI) is being awarded by the Office for Students (OfS) to support the delivery of **22 scholarships** to home students (£10,000 each) from eligible underrepresented groups, in order to increase diversity. **One additional scholarship** will be funded by Solent University to home and international students who meet the criteria.

Scholarship funding will be delivered to eligible students from the following underrepresented groups, with priority being given to the first four groups:

- Women,
- Black students,
- Students registered disabled,
- Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds (Index of Multiple Disadvantage quintiles 1 and 2, low household income - UK students only) [You can check if you live in Q1 or Q2 here](#)
- Care experienced students (UK students only) (*Please refer to FAQs Q10*),
- Estranged students (UK students only) (*Please refer to FAQs Q11*),
- Gypsy, Roma, Traveller student (resident in the UK),
- Refugees (resident in the UK),
- Children from UK military families, veterans, and partners of UK military personnel.

The scholarship can be used towards tuition fees or stipend (towards cost of equipment, living costs etc)



required for the course, or a combination of both and you will be asked to specify this when applying for the scholarship.

Scholarships will be paid to the University to distribute to students who are in receipt of the scholarship. The University will pay the monies in four instalments over the duration of the course with the first payment being made at the start of the course.

Before applying for a scholarship, you must have applied for the course and provided all the required documents, including reference letters ([click here](#)). For frequently asked questions on this scholarship please [click here](#).

## Key dates

### September 2024 intake

- Application submission deadline: 30 August 2024
- *Applications for January 2025 will open soon - please check back for more information.*

## Funds administered by Solent's Student Funding Team

Note – Opening and closing dates may be subject to change at short notice.

## SUPPORT GRANT

This means tested grant is for students who are experiencing financial difficulty and who have exhausted all other sources of funding. It can be used to help towards rent, food, utility bills, course costs etc.

'Home' UK and eligible EU\*, full-time and part-time undergraduate (U/G) and postgraduate (P/G) students can apply. All applicants must be in receipt of their FULL funding entitlement of tuition fee loan and maintenance loan or postgraduate loan. Applications open Monday 14 October 2024 to Friday 20 June 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

\*EU students **with settled status** and in receipt of their full UK student funding (Maintenance Loan (ML) or Postgraduate loan (PGL)).

## SUMMER FINANCIAL SUPPORT GRANT

This fund **may** be available during the summer vacation (July & August) for continuing students who cannot work e.g., lone parents, disabled students, or those re-sitting exams. The eligibility criteria are the same as for the Support Grant. Dates will be published in 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

## **UNDERGRADUATE QAHE FINANCIAL SUPPORT GRANT**

A non-repayable means-tested grant is available to students who require extra financial support to help meet costs which are not already being met from other statutory courses of funding or who have an unexpected financial crisis.

To be eligible, students must have **home** fee status, enrolled on a full-time undergraduate course and receive the maximum maintenance loan that they are eligible for. **Students must have received the first loan instalment before applying.** **PLEASE NOTE: EU STUDENTS WITH PRE-SETTLEMENT/INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY**

## **COMPULSORY COURSE COST SUPPORT GRANT**

This is a means-tested grant to help support students who have **compulsory** course costs and/or final major project costs (not general costs such as books, stationary etc). The eligibility criteria are the same as for the Support Grant. Applications open Monday 23rd September 2024 to Friday 20th June 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

## **UNPAID PLACEMENT/VOLUNTERING SUPPORT GRANT**

This grant is available to support students who have been offered a **short-term unpaid placement** which lasts a minimum of 10 working days (or 100 hours) and a maximum of 20. If over 20 days, students can still apply but we will only assess up to 20 working days' worth of costs. It is not for whole year placements, social work, or nursing placements.

Only full time 'home' UK and EU (U/G and P/G) are eligible to apply. You can only apply once during your course for this grant. Applications open from Monday 23rd September 2024 to Friday 20th June 2025 \* For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

\* If you arrange your placement **after** the closing date but it's before 31 August 2025, please contact [student.funding@solent.ac.uk](mailto:student.funding@solent.ac.uk) for advice.

## **ACCESSIBLE NEEDS SUPPORT GRANT**

This grant is a contribution to support students requiring a diagnostic assessment in order to receive

support from the university and the 'disabled students' allowance'. The eligibility criteria are the same as for the Support Grant. Students can also apply for financial support with the Blue Badge student parking permit. Applications open from Monday 23rd September 2024 to Friday 20th June 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

## **CARE LEAVERS, FOYER FEDERATION AND SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION BURSARIES**

**Care leavers** are recognised as a priority group as part of the university's admissions procedure for contextual offers. Our support package includes a **£1,500** bursary each academic year along with other support.

We also provide additional support to students who have lived in **Foyer Federation/supported accommodation**. This includes an annual bursary of **£1,500** each academic year. For full details, application forms and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#) or [download our information leaflet](#)

If successful, you will receive the bursary in instalments over the academic year, providing you remain on, and demonstrate an acceptable level of engagement, with your course. The deadline to submit applications is 20th June 2025.

## **CARERS' BURSARY**

This non-repayable bursary of **£1,200** per year is awarded to carers who continue to have significant caring responsibilities whilst studying at university. Students must have been recognised as a carer by their local authority. It is paid in instalments over the academic year directly into the student's bank account. The deadline to submit applications is 20th June 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

Carers must be aware that they are **not eligible** to receive the **DWP carers allowance** whilst in full time education.

## **ESTRANGED STUDENTS' BURSARY**

This is a non-repayable bursary of **£1,500** per year awarded to students who have been assessed as an **estranged student** by student finance and continue to be estranged from their parents whilst they are studying at university. You must be a **Home UK** or **EU national with settled status**, full-time

undergraduate student who has taken out their maximum entitlement of maintenance loan for the academic year. The deadline to submit applications is 20th June 2025.

For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

## **GYPSY, TRAVELLER, ROMA, SHOWMAN, BOATER COMMUNITY BURSARY**

Solent University is committed to the [GTRSB into Higher Education Pledge](#) The University recognises the unique individual experiences of Gypsy, Traveller, Roma, Showman and Boater students and how these may inhibit access and participation in Higher Education. The University has introduced this bursary to provide additional financial **and pastoral support** to GTRSB students.

If you're from the Gypsy, Traveller and Roma community, we will offer you a bursary of £500 in each year of study.

### **To be eligible students must:**

- disclose your ethnicity of GTRSB on your **UCAS application form** or to the **University upon enrolment**
- You must be enrolled on a full-time undergraduate degree
- Be a home UK student or have settled status paying £9,250 fees
- have a household income less than £25,000 and receive the maximum maintenance loan

You can apply from Monday 23rd September 2024 to Friday 20th June 2025

## **PARENTS BURSARY**

This bursary is for students with children who are in receipt of their maximum maintenance loan and Student Finance Parents' Learning Allowance (PLA) / or child benefit and postgraduate loan (if postgraduate). Successful applicants will be awarded a one-off payment of **£300** for the academic year. You can apply from Monday 23rd September 2024 to Friday 20th June 2025. For full details, application form and eligibility criteria please go to this [link](#)

## **LOCAL STUDENT BURSARY SCHEME**

The Local Student Bursary Scheme is entirely funded by alumni, former Solent students, staff and friends of Solent University. Through their kind donations we are able to support local students. It opens for 1 month each year from October to November. To be considered for a bursary you must be a UK student enrolled on a full-time undergraduate degree at Solent University along with other criteria. For full eligibility criteria and how to apply, visit this [link](#)

## TECHNOLOGY BURSARY

This bursary is to help towards the costs of IT equipment needed to enable students to study online. This is a one-off payment of **£400** given as a voucher. It is for new foundation and first-year students **only**. Please refer to the information on the university website for full eligibility criteria with this [link](#)

## UTILITIES BURSARY

A non-repayable bursary of **£175** is available to students who are living in the private rented sector and paying utility bills (gas and electricity). To be eligible students must be **Home** fee status, enrolled on a full time UG course, have received the maximum maintenance loan, indicating a parental/spousal income of under £25,000 living in the private rented sector and have evidence of paying utility bills. Private Halls of Residence and University Halls of Residence are excluded.

## UNDERGRADUATE APRENTICESHIP BURSARY

A non-repayable bursary of £250 is available to students who are on apprenticeship courses to assist with the costs of attending university. To be eligible students must have **Home** fee status, be enrolled as an apprentice, and have a household income under £25,000 per annum.

## USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

### ➤ Solent's Student Funding Team:

- Tel: 023 8201 5200 or by [email](#)
- Visit the Student Hub in the Spark

➤ **Student Finance England:**

- Tel: 0300 100 0607
- Visit their [website](#)

➤ **Student Finance Wales:**

- Tel: 0300 200 4050
- Visit their website [here](#)

➤ **Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS):**

- Tel: 0300 555 0505
- Visit their website [here](#)

➤ **Student Finance NI:**

- Tel: 0300 100 0077
- Visit their website [here](#)

Please note that the information in this guide is intended for Students applying for finance through the Student Finance England system, if you have applied for funding through the Welsh, Irish, Scottish or EU systems the regulations may differ. We have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this leaflet is accurate. However, we cannot be held responsible for any omissions or errors.