

# Essex Futures Bursary 2024-25

We are offering all eligible UK undergraduate students entering the University in 2024-25, a support package worth up to £3,000. The bursary is available for the initial year of undergraduate degree study only. The bursary comprises of:

Household Income	Bursary Amount
Up to £25,000	£1,000 cash bursary £2,000 applied as a credit against your university owned or administered accommodation fees
£25,001 - £30,000	£1,500 applied as a credit against your university owned or administered accommodation fees
£30,001 - £35,000	£1,000 applied as a credit against your university owned or administered accommodation fees

## Terms and conditions

### Eligibility

- This bursary is restricted to students who are UK home fees and are entirely self-funded\*.
- Students must be ordinarily resident (see below for the definition of ordinary residence) in the UK.
- Students must register for the foundation year (Year 0) or the first year (Year1) of a full-time undergraduate degree\*\* for the first time at the University of Essex in October 2024-25.
- Students must have applied for and have been **approved** for funding from Student Finance England (or other UK funding provider) with the University of Essex as your chosen institution. You must have requested a **means-tested assessment** for funding to Student Finance England, with consent to be shared with University of Essex and have been assessed as having an annual household within the thresholds stated in the table above.
- To receive the accommodation credit component of the award, students must have applied for, and accepted, a place in university owned or administered accommodation for the academic year 2023-24 by the deadline of **2 October 2024 at 11:59pm GMT**.

- If students become eligible during the year due to your Household Income being assessed or reassessed, they will be entitled to the bursary for that academic year.
- Applicants must meet our standard conditional offer. This includes if you are applying through the Clearing process.
- Student must have a valid tenancy agreement for university owned or administered accommodation at the time of payment.
- This bursary may be held in conjunction with other University of Essex awards, for example (but not limited to) the [Schools Membership Bursary 2024-25](#).
- This bursary is available for the first year of study (Year 0 or Year 1) at undergraduate level in 2024-25 only.
- Successful applicants should be available for promotional activities.

\*Students receiving a repayable loan to fund their studies will be considered as self-funded. This includes but isn't restricted to tuition fee loans from Student Finance England or other UK funding body.

\*\*Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, Foundation Degree, Bachelors Degree, Integrated Masters (four years)

## **Students who are not eligible**

The following students are NOT eligible for this scholarship regardless of meeting the above criteria:

- Students entering via the direct entry route.
- Students who are assessed as overseas fee payers.
- Students who are not ordinarily resident in the UK.
- Students undertaking courses at Higher or Degree Apprenticeships.
- Students who are directly continuing from one course to another (for example from foundation degree or HND on to the final year of an honours degree).
- Students transferring in from another UK higher education institution.
- This award does not apply to deferred entry. Where a bursary has been awarded to a student who subsequently defers entry to the following academic year, the award will be withdrawn, and the applicant will be considered again in line with the terms and conditions that apply in the new proposed year of entry.
- Students undertaking a degree that is normally delivered wholly online.

- Students who are fully or partly sponsored.
- Current students whose first year of undergraduate study at the University of Essex, was prior to academic year 2023-24.

## What is “Ordinary Residence”?

For the purposes of assessing eligibility for the bursary, you must have been ordinarily resident in the UK, for the three-year period prior to commencing your course. Ordinarily resident means that you must have been habitually, normally, and lawfully, residing in one of the countries listed, from choice, for the specified period. The three-year period for courses starting in October 2024 is calculated as 1 September 2021 to 1 September 2024. Temporary absences during this three-year period may be permitted at the discretion of the relevant University officer. Students may be asked to provide documentary evidence to determine ordinary residence and an assessment of whether a student meets the ordinary residence criteria will normally be made by the Head of Admissions or their nominee, and their decision will be final.

## How to apply

- You do not need to complete an application form. If you meet all the eligibility criteria above, you will automatically be awarded the Essex Futures Bursary.
- You will be notified about the cash bursary by the end of November 2024. If you become eligible during the year you will be notified of the award as you become eligible.
- You will be notified of the credit against your accommodation fee before your rent is due each term in October 2024, January 2025, and April 2025.

## Payment arrangements

- The cash bursary will be paid directly into your bank account registered with Student Finance England and will normally be made in two equal instalments, usually in December 2024 and February 2025.
- The credit against your accommodation fee will be applied in three equal instalments in October 2024, January 2025, and April 2025.
- Students must be registered and meet the above conditions to receive payment. The bursary will be suspended during a period of approved leave of absence (intermission) where this period covers a whole or part of an academic year and you may, at the discretion of the University, be entitled to a pro-rata payment of the remainder of your award on your return to study. Please contact the [Funding Team](#) for further information. There will be no payment for repeat periods of study in any circumstances.

- If you withdraw from your studies completely, or are required to withdraw, no further outstanding payments will be made.

## **Resolution of disputes**

Acceptance of this award constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. Registered students should contact the [Funding Team](#) in the first instance for guidance regarding this award. In cases not covered by the above terms and conditions, or where a student claims exceptional circumstances, or disputes a decision not to make payments due under an award, final appeals on decisions regarding eligibility must be made via the [Student Complaints process](#). The Academic Registrar or their nominee will review the case and his/her decision will be final.

*These terms and conditions apply to the academic year 2024-25. The University of Essex reserves the right to update these terms and conditions as necessary.*