

Scape Scholarship Information Sheet

What is the Scape Scholarship?

Queen Mary, University of London (QMUL) and Scape are partnering to provide accommodation to undergraduate students at QMUL who are estranged from their families, a care leaver or who are care experienced (Scotland).

Scape is a leading private provider of student accommodation in the UK. Scape designs, builds and operates buildings for students and welcomes the opportunity to offer eligible students the ability to enjoy the state-of-the-art facilities Scape offer as part of this scheme.

This scholarship has been established to support students who may otherwise experience additional challenges finding suitable accommodation to accompany their studies at QMUL.

The partnership involves Scape providing the accommodation and QMUL administering the process.

This scholarship is being offered to new Undergraduate students commencing their studies at Queen Mary in September 2024, therefore we are unable to offer this scholarship to Postgraduate students or returning/continuing Queen Mary students.

Benefits of the scholarship

As part of this QMUL and Scape initiative, Scape are pleased to provide one ensuite and one studio room for the 24/25 academic year, at either Scape Mile End or Scape Shoreditch. For more details, please visit <http://www.scape.com/>

Successful applicants will be offered a room in Scape Shoreditch or Mile End year-round (including summer) at a reduced rate. They will also be able to make use of all onsite facilities and be supported by the dedicated team working 24/7 onsite.

Successful applicants will be able to remain in their room, paying a reduced rate for up to three years if they wish, provided they remain fully enrolled at Queen Mary, and eligible under the terms of this scholarship scheme.

Financial Information

The rent will be £137.73 per week for the 24/25 Academic Year. This amount will rise in line with SFE indexing but will always cap at 55% of the maximum maintenance loan from Student Finance England.

Payment dates will be aligned with Student Finance payment dates to ensure students ease of payment.

Successful Applicants will also be asked to pay a fully refundable damage deposit of £400 prior to moving into their new accommodation. If you are worried that this charge may be difficult to pay, please reach out to the QMUL Advice and Counselling Service via their contact form to discuss this and the support options which may be available to you.

Scape's Booking Terms and Conditions can be found: [Scape](#)

What are my chances of receiving a scholarship?

Two scholarships will be awarded each academic year.

We expect interest in this scholarship to be high and therefore encourage applicants not to solely rely on the Scape Scholarship for your student accommodation as we cannot award all eligible applicants. An application to this Scholarship offers the possibility, and not the guarantee, of an award.

Reserve candidates will also be selected (and notified of their placement on a reserve list) who may be offered the scholarship at a later date if further places become available, however this is not guaranteed.

If places become available, we will contact reserve candidates directly.

Timeline and Application Process.

Applications are now open. Applications will close on the 26 July 2024 and successful applicants will be informed in early August 2024. Reserve and unsuccessful applicants will also be informed in early August 2024.

Your application will be assessed by a panel which will include representatives from QMUL and Scape. The decision of this panel will be final and not eligible for appeal.

We will not be able to offer individual feedback on any applications.

Who is eligible for the Scape Scholarship?

You must be an Undergraduate student, applying to Queen Mary and intending to study the first year of your course in September 2024 to apply.

Principle Criteria

To be eligible for the Scape Scholarship you must:

Be able to demonstrate with evidence that you are estranged from your family, a care leaver or a care experienced student (Scotland).

Please read the descriptions below carefully to see if you meet the principal scholarship criteria.

The Scholarship adopts the same definitions that the different national governments use.

Estranged from family

If you are estranged from both of your biological parents, adoptive parents, or only living parent, you may be eligible to apply for the Scape Scholarship as an estranged student. Student Finance (SFE, SFNI, SFW) or Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS), considers you an independent student on the basis of being estranged from your parents if you have little or no contact with your parents (either biological or adoptive) and this is unlikely to change. Please note, you are not eligible to apply if you have been assessed as an independent student for reasons other than being estranged or a care leaver.

Please provide your Student Finance letter which states that you have been assessed as an independent student on the basis of irreconcilable parental estrangement. If you are unable to provide a supporting document for estrangement as it has not yet been decided, please enclose the application and supporting documents that you have submitted to Student Finance

to apply for independent status as an estranged young person. You will need to provide confirmation this has been accepted by the 26 July.

<https://www.practitioners.slc.co.uk/estrangement/>

<https://www.studentfinancewales.co.uk/undergraduate-finance/part-time/welsh-student/household-income/independent-and-estranged-students/>

<https://www.studentfinancenl.co.uk/student-finance-explained/before-you-apply/before-you-apply-what-can-you-get/estranged-students-and-care-leavers/>

Statutory Care Leaver (Northern Ireland, Wales, England)

Care leaver is a legal status that can begin at age 16 and lasts until 25 if in Higher Education. There are several different categories of care leaver, but all legal definitions are eligible for the Scape Scholarship.

Ask your Local Authority for a letter on headed paper confirming that you are a statutory care leaver; ideally stating which category you fall into, i.e. Relevant Child, Former Relevant Child, or Qualifying Care Leaver. Definitions of these terms can be found on the BECOME webpage. Ask them to include in this letter the support they will provide for you whilst you are at university.

<https://www.practitioners.slc.co.uk/care-leavers/>

<https://www.studentfinancenl.co.uk/student-finance-explained/before-you-apply/before-you-apply-what-can-you-get/estranged-students-and-care-leavers/>

Care Experienced (Scotland)

The Scottish authorities define a care experienced student as being aged 16 years or over but under 26 and having, at any time in their lives, been looked after by a Local Authority.

Share your SAAS letter confirming your Care Experience Bursary or alternatively provide a Local Authority letter. Please ensure your Local Authority letter explicitly states 'looked after', 'care experienced' or 'care leaver' – if you are unsure, please send this application guidance to your Local Authority for assistance or discuss with a Welfare Adviser in the QMUL Advice and Counselling Service: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/welfare/about-us/contact-us/> who are available to support all applicants.

<https://www.saas.gov.uk/full-time/support-for-care-experienced-students/bursary>

For guidance on how to prove estrangement or care leaver status to Student Finance England or your devolved funding authority please visit their websites.

If you are unsure of your eligibility or the documentation needed as evidence for any of the above categories, please contact a Welfare Adviser in the QMUL Advice and Counselling Service: <https://www.qmul.ac.uk/welfare/about-us/contact-us/> who can support all applicants.

Additional Criteria

To be eligible for the Scape Scholarship you must also:

- Be applying for a full-time undergraduate degree offered by QMUL, to be studied in person.
- Be holding a firm choice offer from QMUL
- Have been assessed as eligible for home fees by QMUL
- Have not studied at degree level previously.
- Be eligible for the maximum student maintenance loan as offered by Student Finance England or your devolved funding authority.
- Be aged 25 or under on 1 September 2024.

Where possible QMUL will verify the information given on your application with information that is already held or accessible by QMUL.

In some cases, QMUL may need to collect further information/evidence. Where this is required, we will contact you via the email and will provide a deadline within this email for your response.

Please note we are unable to offer this scholarship to Postgraduate students and can only offer this Scholarship to Undergraduate students commencing their studies at Queen Mary in September 2024.