

PHD APPLICATION SERVICE

ELEMENT FIVE



support@oxbridgeessays.com

Please ensure that you read our [Fair Use Policy](#) to better understand how model learning resources can and cannot be used.

FUNDING SUPPORT

A 1000-word report, giving customized advice on institutional and national scholarships and sponsorships that may be available for the five universities.

There are several options for funding a PhD or DPhil in English. You can either apply to the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), which is a national body, through a university or apply for university specific funding, which includes internal awards and scholarships. We would recommend applying to as many opportunities as possible to give yourself the best chance of success.

Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)

The AHRC provides an excellent source of doctoral funding for humanities research in the UK. As a Home student, you could apply for a full AHRC awards, which covers fees plus a maintenance stipend (currently £18,062 per year). Applications are made through Doctoral Training Partnerships at individual universities. The following are suitable for you:

Open-Oxford-Cambridge AHRC Doctoral Training Programme: If you apply to the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge, we recommend you apply for [Open-Oxford-Cambridge AHRC Doctoral Training Programme](#) standard route funding. This fund offers at least 77 doctoral studentships each year for postgraduate research in the arts and humanities across three consortium universities: the Open University, the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge. In order to be considered for a studentship, you must tick the relevant box in the studentships section of your application form. You will also need to complete the OOC DTP Application Form and upload it as an additional document when completing your application.

AHRC Midlands 4 Cities (M4C) Doctoral Training Programme: If you apply to the University of Warwick, we recommend you apply to the [AHRC Midlands 4 Cities \(M4C\) Doctoral Training Programme](#). Applications for this round close on 1st December 2025.

London Arts and Humanities Partnership: If you apply to King's College London, we recommend you apply to the [London Arts & Humanities Partnership](#), which is an AHRC-funded doctoral training partnership supporting doctoral studies in arts and humanities. LAHP brings together three global leading UK Research Organisations: King's College, London, University College London (UCL), and the School of Advanced Study, University of London (SAS). This opportunity will open for 2026-2027 enrolment.

CHASE Doctoral Training Partnership: If you apply to SOAS, we recommend you apply for a [CHASE Studentships](#), which is for PhD-level study only and successful applicants will have their fees paid, as well as receive a stipend to cover living expenses and access to further funds for skills training and research. This opportunity will open for 2026-2027 enrolment.

University Specific Awards

University of Oxford

There are a wide range of funding opportunities available at the University of Oxford. The collegiate University typically offers over 1,000 full or partial graduate scholarships across programmes, with automatic consideration for most Oxford scholarships upon application. These are awarded based on academic excellence and will cover some or all of your course fees and/or living expenses.

We recommend applying for a Clarendon scholarship, which are new fully-funded scholarships awarded each year to assist outstanding graduate scholars. The scholarship also provides the opportunity to join one of the most active, internationally diverse and multidisciplinary communities at Oxford. Clarendon offers fully-funded scholarships covering course fees, as well as a grant for living expenses. You will be automatically considered for Clarendon if you apply by the December or January deadline, whichever is relevant to your course. You do not need to submit a separate application.

We also recommend applying for the [Ertegun Graduate Scholarship Programme](#), which offers a scholarship to cover course fees and a grant for living costs for students studying Humanities subjects. To be considered for this scholarship, you must select 'Mica and Ahmet Ertegun Postgraduate Scholarships in the Humanities' in the University of Oxford scholarships section, attach the [Ertegun supporting statement](#) to your Oxford graduate application and submit your application for graduate study by the relevant January deadline for your course.

We recommend applying for an Oxford-Wolfson-Marriott Graduate Scholarship in English, which is a fully-funded three-year graduate Scholarship for a DPhil student in English to study at the University of Oxford as a graduate Scholar at Wolfson College. All eligible applicants who have applied for admission to the University by the relevant January deadline for their course will be considered for this scholarship. No additional application materials will be requested.

University of Cambridge

Cambridge offers numerous funding opportunities for doctoral students. We would recommend applying for the [Judith E Wilson Studentship](#), which offers £30,000 per year (for 3 years) funding for a PhD student studying literature. The award is based on academic merit. All students who are offered a place to study a PhD in the Faculty of English and who indicate that they are seeking funding will be considered for the award. The deadline for this studentship is the same as the funding deadline for the course.

We also recommend that you apply for [The Alice and James Penney PhD Studentship](#) in English or European Literature, which is a three-year studentship for home students who wish to undertake a PhD course at the University of Cambridge in English or European Languages with

a focus on literature. The award is £31,838 per year (for three years). This funding will be open shortly for 2026-2027 admission.

University of Warwick

There is limited PhD funding available. We recommend you apply to the AHRC Midlands 4 Cities (M4C) Doctoral Training Programme (see details above).

King's College London

We recommend you apply for a Harold Moody PGR Studentship, which King's College London and the Centre for Doctoral Studies are offering to support underrepresented communities within postgraduate research students in the arts and humanities. The studentship covers tuition fees and offers an annual stipend plus research costs. Applications open soon for 2026-2027 admission.

We also recommend you apply to the Open Competition, which enables students to propose their own research project for funding. The Open Competition opens each November with an application deadline at the end of January 2025. The studentships fund three years of a PhD programme. You will need to identify a supervisor who will write a supporting statement for your application.

SOAS, University of London

We recommend you apply for a SOAS Research Studentship, which offers full-time MPhil/PhD scholarships to eligible Black British students. Each scholarship covers tuition fees in full and includes a maintenance allowance, providing full financial support and doctoral skill development to successful recipients for a 3-year full-time programme. You must submit a complete application for your programme as soon as possible and then submit an application for this scholarship in order to be considered. Applications open for 2026-2027 admission.