

Open Futures – Environmental Management Scholarship

The Open University is a leading distance learning provider. Our flexible, innovative teaching fits around the lives of students who otherwise could not attend a campus-based university.

Renewable energy is energy derived from natural resources that replenish themselves in less than a human lifetime without depleting the planet's resources. These sustainable resources – such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, waves, biomass and thermal energy stored in the earth's crust – are available in one form or another nearly everywhere. As an essential, practical and widespread response to global climate change, they need to be utilised in an energy-efficient, environmentally acceptable and socially responsible manner. Environmental management, with techniques such as life cycle assessment, will play a vital role in their deployment.

There is an unprecedented momentum for leaving the fossil fuel age behind us and embarking urgently on a path to a sustainable energy future. The Open Futures – Environmental Management Scholarship, provided in partnership with North Energy Associates Ltd and The Open University, aims to provide students who have a passion for assessing effective action to release the potential of renewable energy and energy efficiency with the opportunity to study an MSc in Environmental Management.

Terms & Conditions

These conditions contain the terms of the Open Futures – Environmental Management Scholarship. They set out the rights and responsibilities of each party which will apply in relation to your application for the scheme and, for successful applicants only, whilst you are a registered student. Please read these conditions carefully before you apply and make sure that you understand them.

A. Eligibility

1. In order to qualify for the scheme, you must meet **all** the following criteria:
 - You should normally hold a bachelor's degree in a science or engineering discipline from a UK university, or the equivalent

- Be enrolled to study, or planning to enrol to study, the MSc in Environmental Management (F65) starting in the 2021/22 academic year
- Have a gross household income of not more than £25,000 per year or be in receipt of a UK qualifying benefit
- Be able to demonstrate a passion for, and commitment to, implementing renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions to tackle the global energy crisis

B. Supporting Evidence

2. You will be asked to provide evidence of your previous education and any qualifications you have attained.
3. You will also need to provide evidence of your household income or a qualifying benefit (see [Appendix 1](#) for further information).
4. You will be asked to provide a written statement of no more than 500 words outlining how you would expect environmental management and its assessment techniques to assist the rapid deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency on a nationwide scale.

C. Fee Waivers

5. Full fee waivers up to the maximum fee value of the MSc in Environmental Management will be available.
6. Fee waiver amounts will be calculated based on the fee amounts for which you are directly liable.
7. Study breaks may be permitted up to a total of 12 months in aggregate. Study breaks of longer than 12 months will terminate your eligibility for the scholarship, after which an application for exceptional reinstatement will be required.
8. In circumstances where you are required to repeat, defer or withdraw from a module, consideration will be given to the circumstances which led to the repeat, deferral or withdrawal and an exceptional award of additional waivers or a fee credit may be approved.

9. Decisions on exceptional awards will be made by the Chair, Bursary & Scholarships Management Group or their delegated authority in line with the eligibility criteria for Discretionary Fee Credits detailed in the Fee Rules 2021/22.
10. Any awards made by The Open University as a result of inaccurate or false information submitted by the applicant will be recovered from the applicant.
11. Cash alternatives will not be available.

D. Applications

12. Applications may be submitted by email to studentfees@open.ac.uk or by post to:

Student Fees
The Open University
PO Box 6055
Milton Keynes
MK10 1NH
13. The deadline for applications is midnight on 31st July 2021. No further applications will be accepted after this date. This applies to all study which begins during the 2021/22 academic year (1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022).
14. It is your responsibility to provide all supporting evidence for your application. Any application form received without the necessary supporting evidence will be returned to you.
15. In the instance that more applications are received than scholarships available, a panel of specialists will review the supporting evidence accompanying each of these applications to determine which applicants are awarded a scholarship.
16. Successful applicants will be notified by email and letter on or before 20th August 2021.
17. No further applications will be required. Once a scholarship is approved, fee waivers will be allocated automatically subject to satisfactory participation in study for the previous academic year.

18. Applications on behalf of another person will not be accepted. The Open University accepts no responsibility for applications that are lost, delayed, misdirected, incomplete or cannot be delivered.
19. If an applicant rejects the scholarship, fails to complete their registration for study for which the award was made or the applicant is in breach of these terms and conditions the award will be forfeited, and The Open University shall be entitled to select another recipient.
20. You may be asked to take part in promotional activity related to the Open Futures – Environmental Management Scholarship.
21. The Open University shall use and take care of any personal information supplied to it as described in its [Privacy Notice](#), a copy of which is available on request, in accordance with data protection legislation.
22. The Open University accepts no responsibility for any disappointment incurred by the applicant as a result of entering the application process. The scholarship is discretionary, and the outcome of the panel's decision is final.
23. The Open University reserves the right at any time and from time to time to modify or discontinue, temporarily or permanently, this scholarship scheme with or without prior notice due to reasons outside its control, e.g. as a result of insufficient funds.
24. The Open University will take all reasonable steps to continue the services offered as part of this scheme. There may be circumstances outside of our control where we are unable to provide those services in full or in part for reasons such as fire, flood, pandemic, terrorist acts or industrial disputes. Where those, or similar, circumstances arise we will minimise disruption so far as we are reasonably able to.
25. Promoter: The Open University, Walton Hall, Kents Hill, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA.

Appendix 1 – Qualifying benefits

- Income Support
- Housing Benefit (including Local Housing Allowance)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Income-based Jobseeker’s Allowance (JSA)
- Universal Credit
- A reduction under the Council Tax Scheme (*students in Wales only*)

Appendix 2 – Household income

Types of income and evidence

Types of income and supporting evidence required for yourself and/or your partner.

Employment income

One of:

- Copy of P60 or P45.
- Copy of pay slip from tax month 12 or tax week 52 showing ‘total paid to date’.

Self-employment income

(estimate for 2020/21 if you are not sure, you must provide evidence of 2019/20 income)

One of:

- Copy of letter from accountant confirming income from self-employment.
- Copy of HMRC tax calculation.
- Copy of your P60, P11D or confirmation of earnings from chartered or certified accountant.

Retirement or disability pension

Copy of proof of amount and how often it is paid.

Benefits income

Copy of letter from Jobcentre Plus confirming amount and type of benefit (see the sections below on [benefits to include/not to include as income](#)).

Unearned investment income

(e.g. interest from bank or building society accounts, ISAs, shares)

Copy of letter or statement from bank, building society or investment company.

Unearned income from property rental or lodgers

- Rental income: Copy of tax calculation showing total property rental income.
- Lodger income: Copy of signed letter from lodger confirming total amount of rent paid.

Other income

(e.g. loans, bursaries, maintenance payments, redundancy payments)

Copy of proof of other income including amount and date received.

Benefits to include as part of household income

- Contribution-based JSA/ESA
- Incapacity Benefit
- Maternity Allowance
- Statutory Sick Pay
- Carer's Allowance
- Retirement Pension

Benefits NOT to include as part of household income

- Disability Living Allowance
- Attendance Allowance
- Industrial Injuries Benefit
- Child Benefit
- Guardian's Allowance
- Working or Child Tax Credits
- Higher Education Bursary paid to care leavers
- Personal Independence Payments
- Armed Forces Independence Payments