The University of Edinburgh
Welcome to Open Day

www.ed.ac.uk
applyedinburgh

Established
1583

39,000 +
students from 150+
countries

World no.18
QS World Uni
Rankings 2018

Research
Power
Scotland no.1
UK no.4
REF 2014, THE

Scotland’s
first
Fairtrade
university

Scotland’s
Capital
The Festival City!

www.ed.ac.uk
@applyedinburgh

The University of Edinburgh
Facts and Figures

15,000+ PG
students
10,000 taught
5,500+ research

140 spin-off
companies
in last 5
years

Postgraduate
community

Work with world leading researchers
Work with each other
Diversity of perspectives
Local and global

www.ed.ac.uk
@applyedinburgh

Stories from our PG community:

Penny Granger - MSc Community Dental Health
Each year, Penny embarks on a 13,000 mile round trip to visit the world’s most remote inhabited island, Tristan da Cunha, to look after the islanders’ teeth.

“It’s a joy being part of a dental team providing dental treatment and preventing dental decay in the children.”

Julia Sebutinde
LLM 1991
Judge, High Court of Uganda 1996, 1st woman in this role
LLD 2009 for distinguished service in international justice and human rights
Judge of the Special Court for Sierra Leone 2005-11 presiding over high profile war crimes tribunals
2011 International Court of Justice (first African woman to sit on the court)

Stories from our PG community:

Julia Sebutinde

Our research impact

We aim to deliver the highest attainable excellence in research and innovation to transform understanding of humanity, the world we live in and the universe around us.

www.ed.ac.uk
@applyedinburgh
3MT challenges students to consolidate their ideas and research discoveries so they can be presented concisely to a non-specialist audience.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLBcSHVMkBO7zCQfYe7Qz1R5SefK72Jla

The secrets of scarless healing

WINNER – UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH 3MT, RUNNER UP UNIVERSITAS 21 INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION – Phoebe Kirkwood

Stories from our PG community:

Zandile Nare, 3rd year Eastbio PhD student

www.ed.ac.uk

REL1 drug discovery for kinetoplastid diseases

Typanosoma brutai

Sleeping sickness

Trypanosoma cruzi

Chagas disease

Leishmania spp.

Leishmaniasis

Low/middle income populations in the tropics

Insufficient drugs

Drug resistance

No incentive for big pharma

Increasingly problematic due to climate change & increased global movements

Need new drugs

Targeting REL1 (essential for survival)

REL1 DRUG DISCOVERY

Investing in our students

• New facilities, resources and learning spaces for students (new/refurbished libraries, modern learning & social spaces)

• New Student Centre

• New Health & Wellbeing Centre

www.ed.ac.uk

The city of Edinburgh

• Small capital city with large student population

• Ranked 2nd in UK (16th in World): QS Best Student Cities 2018

• World’s first UNESCO City of Literature and two UNESCO World Heritage Sites

• Diverse array of social, cultural and sport events and activities on offer – plus 12 annual festivals!

“Edinburgh isn’t so much a city, more a way of life... I almost love it more than the act of writing Edinburgh, or just or in print.”
Ian Rankin, best selling crime writer & University of Edinburgh alumnus

www.ed.ac.uk

applyedinburgh
Enjoy your day!

Helen Stringer
Assistant Director
Careers Service

Where will PG study take you?

Motivations

Post graduate qualifications don’t get jobs!

People get jobs!

Quality of employment

HSEFS = Highly skilled employment and further study
Average salary by level

Qualifications + Skills, Abilities, Attributes = Employment

Longer term ➔ Employability

Qualifications

Completing!

Tailoring
- Dissertations
- Course choice
- Projects

Skills, Abilities, Attributes

Previous experience

Gaining experience
- WB and WR Learning
- Formal and informal

Personal approach
- Plan
- Take ownership
- Act

What support you can expect

Academic and specialist staff
e.g. Careers Service, Institute for Academic Development

Development opportunities
e.g. MMM, employment, conferences, volunteering

Employer engagement events
- Fairs, workshops, networking

Where will PG study take you, or…

Where will you take your Edinburgh experience?
Postgraduate Open Day
Wednesday 14th November 2018

Funding for Postgraduate Study
2019-2020 Academic Session

Postgraduate Funding
- Tuition fees and living costs
- Sources of postgraduate funding
- General funding tips
- Useful websites for further information
- Contact details

Postgraduate Tuition Fees 2019-2020
Taught Degrees

Fees vary depending on programme of study

Example fees (per year):

- **MSc Archaeology**
  - Full time: £10,700 (home) £21,600 (overseas)
  - Part time (2 years): £5,350 (home) £10,800* (overseas)

- **MSc Informatics**
  - Full time: £13,800 (home) £30,700 (overseas)
  - Part time (2 years): £6,900 (home) £15,350* (overseas)
  - Part time (3 years): £4,600 (home) £10,235* (overseas)

*if eligible to study on a part-time basis

Postgraduate Tuition Fees 2019-2020
Research Degrees

**MSc by Research fees:**
- Home/EU: £8,300
- Overseas: £21,600 (classroom) £26,600 (lab)

**PhD and MPhil fees:**
- Home/EU: £4,260 (2018/19)*
- Overseas: £19,000 (classroom) £22,200 (lab)

*Home/EU Fees for MPhil and PhD degrees are set by UK Research and Innovation and will be published in January 2019

Some research degrees have additional programme costs in addition to fees of between £100 - £4,000.

Living costs

Current estimated living costs
- £8,500 - £16,500 per academic year (12 months)

Accommodation costs
- £5,394 - £7,993 (university accommodation single room in 2018-2019)

Detailed breakdown of living costs
www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/finance/cost-of-living

Graduate and Alumni Discounts
- 10% discount for UK, EU and Overseas alumni of the University of Edinburgh
- Applies to tuition fees that are self-funded (UK Postgraduate Loans are regarded as self-funded for this discount)
- Self-funded means tuition fees not covered by another scholarship, employer, or other funding body
- You MUST apply as applicants are not automatically identified for this discount
- www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/discounts
Funding available for Masters study

• Postgraduate Loans:
  Scotland through SAAS
  EU through SAAS (usually tuition fee only)
  England through Student Finance England
  Wales through Student Finance Wales
  Northern Ireland through Student Finance Northern Ireland

  • Erasmus+ Master degree loans
  • Canadian and US loans

Examples of funding available for Masters study

• Highly Skilled Workforce Scholarships

• School Awards

• Scotland’s Saltire Scholarships

• MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program

Funding available for Research Degrees

• Principal’s Career Development PhD Scholarships
• Edinburgh Global Research Scholarships
• The Carnegie Trust
• College and School Awards
• Canadian and US loans
• PhD Loans

Research Councils

• Primarily fund research programmes
• Awards normally require a minimum 2:1
• You must be “ordinarily resident” in the UK
• Applications are usually made through the School of study
• Application deadlines vary
• Refer to individual Research Council websites for the most up-to-date information www.ukri.org (UK Research and Innovation)

The Research Councils

• Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) www.sgsah.ac.uk/dtp/
• Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) www.socsci-scotland.ac.uk/home
• Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) www.bbsrc.ac.uk/skills/investing-doctoral-training/
• Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) www.epsrc.ac.uk
• Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) www.nerc.ac.uk/skills/postgrad/
• Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) www.stfc.ac.uk
• Medical Research Council (MRC) www.mrc.ac.uk

Trusts, Foundations and Charities

• Usually dedicated to a specific purpose – e.g. subject of study
• Rarely provide full funding (e.g. tuition fees and cost of living)
• No standard rules on eligibility criteria and application process
• Open4learning (available from Scholarships website)
• The Grants Register (published by Palgrave) – available in the University Careers Service
• The Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF)
Charities, Foundations and Trusts

- **General**
  - British Federation of Women Graduates; Cross Trust; George Hein Memorial Trust; Holywood Trust; Sir Halley Stuart Trust; Wolfson Foundation.

- **Arts and Humanities**
  - British Association for American Studies; European Consortium for Political Research; Joel Davies Foundation; Institute of Historical Research Schemes; National Gallery; Royal Historical Society; Royal Institute of Philosophy.

- **Business and Social Sciences**
  - Leverhulme Trust, Social Workers Educational Trust, UK eInformation Group; Sutasoma Trust.

- **Science and Engineering**
  - Institute of Engineering and Technology; Worshipful Company of Engineers; Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining; Royal Academy of Engineering; Royal Geographical Society; Douglas Bomford Trust; Bernard Butler Trust Fund.

- **Medicine**
  - Heart Research UK, Swann-Morton Foundation; Sir John Sumner’s Trust; Muirhead Trust.

Working and Studying

- Almost half of all postgraduate students study part time (HESA figures)
- Many institutions recommend a limit of 10 to 15 hours a week during semester time
- Some postgraduate students have their fees paid for by their employer

General Funding Tips

- Submit your application for a place on the programme first
- Start looking for funding early
- Request references well in advance
- Spend time putting together your funding application
- Apply for a number of awards

See our website for 10 Key Funding Tips:
www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding/funding-tips

Useful Websites

- Postgraduate Studentships: www.postgraduatestudentships.co.uk
- Graduate Prospects: www.prospects.ac.uk
- Postgraduate Search: www.postgraduatesearch.com/funding
- Findamasters.com: www.findamasters.com
- A guide to postgraduate research and PhD studentships: www.findaphd.com

Further Information

For more information on Scholarships at the University of Edinburgh please go to our website:

Website: www.ed.ac.uk/student-funding

Contact details for the team:

Scholarships and Student Funding Services,
The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL

E-mail: studentfunding@ed.ac.uk
Making an effective postgraduate application.

Overview
Before you apply - preparation.
How to apply – important things to remember.
After you apply - what happens next?

Before you apply
Research your options thoroughly.
Reflect on yourself and your purpose.
Consider the practicalities.

Before you apply
Check out programme start dates and deadlines to apply.
Locate your qualification documents.
Contact your referee(s).

Before you apply
PGR - important that you consider funding deadlines.
Seek School-specific advice today.
Applying for a funded project / applying with your own research proposal.

How to apply
Complete the application fully.
Upload documents and reference with your application.
Provide an appropriate personal statement.
After you apply

Access our applicant Hub:
- monitor progress of your application
- check for and respond to messages from us
- Receive our decision, and if offered a place, send your reply.

Writing an effective personal statement

“Tell us what your background is, how your interests have led you to a PG degree at Edinburgh and what you hope to do thereafter. We’re not interested in your fascination with law-themed films. Please just be professional. The more professional your application is, the more it will be taken seriously. This is critical when it comes to funding and doubly so if you are borderline when it comes to meeting your requirements.” (School of Law)

“Pitfalls are poorly worded, abrupt or very brief generic statements. This just looks like they have made very little effort, probably not studied the supervisor’s research project and are more than likely sending out identical applications to dozens of other institutes hoping that anyone will take them on. It’s not a good first impression. Enthusiasm, a professional approach, and evidence of genuine interest are key.” (School of Biological Sciences)

“Research proposals must present a research question and give an indication that students have researched possible approaches to carrying out the research. They should also refer to current literature on the subject. The proposal at application is not expected to be a finished product but should be well thought through to show that the student is serious and has thought through what they would like to do.” (School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences)

Personal Statement – PG Research

“Our supervisors advertise their projects and ask for applications. A good applicant will personalise their text to show they have taken the time to read the project description and link their research interest with the supervisor’s project. In their personal statement and relevant training sections, they should expand on this by referring to their research experience, projects they have worked on, their qualifications, and importantly, why they are interested in the supervisor’s project and how they would be a good match/contributor. They should also mention their career aspirations.”

“We expect you to show that you understand the programme and that you have a genuine interest. We are not interested in a list of quotes from famous physicists/engineers – we want to know why you are interested in studying the particular programme and what you hope to gain from it personally and professionally. We are also not interested in a list of your sporting achievements etc. at postgraduate level.” (College of Science and Engineering)

Timescales will differ if:
- offer is conditional or unconditional
- we screen your application within 10 working days
- You send us anything we flag as missing within 28 days
- We send you our decision within 28 days – offers can be conditional or unconditional
- You respond to us within 28 days to accept or decline

“Personal Statement / Research Proposal – PG Research

For PGR students the personal statement takes a back seat to the research proposal but it is still important as it shows the student to indicate why they want to come to Edinburgh to complete their research. Fit with the research environment is vital, so it comes to PGR application consideration as well as for future funding applications.

“We provide clear instructions about what we want to see included in the personal statement so we can be sure that you have applied for the correct programme because we have programmes that are closely related and the personal statement allows us to be sure that you have applied for the correct programme – we will refer you to other programmes if the match is not a good one.” (School of Health in Social Science)

For applications to other programmes:
- You have 28 days to screen your application
- If we have not been sent an initial response within 28 days
- We will screen your application within 10 working days
- If you decide to accept the offer you and respond to us within 28 days
- If you decide to decline

“Offers can be conditional or unconditional. Conditional offers are still a firm offer from us, however, you may be required to meet specific criteria as set out in our offer letter. You must reply to us within 28 days to accept or decline an offer.”

“Your fascination with law is critical when it comes to funding and doubly so if you are borderline when it comes to meeting your requirements.” (School of Law)

www.ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk

www.ed.ac.uk
Finding out more

https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/postgraduate/applying/your-application

College of Humanities and Social Sciences
+44 (0)131 650 4086  hsspg@ed.ac.uk

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
+44 (0)131 242 6358  mvmpg@ed.ac.uk

College of Science and Engineering
+44 (0)131 650 5737  sciengpg@ed.ac.uk