

Nottingham Trent University

Sanctuary Scholarship

Guidance Notes for those applying for 2024 Entry

Nottingham Trent University is very pleased to be offering two NTU Sanctuary Scholarships for undergraduate entry in September 2024, for new students who have sought asylum in the UK but do not have access to Student Finance from the UK government. Recipients of the Scholarship will receive a full tuition fee waiver and a £3000 bursary for each year of the course.

Am I eligible to apply?

In order to be considered for a NTU Sanctuary Scholarship, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- You have been granted and currently have discretionary or limited leave to remain or some other temporary leave following an asylum application made in the UK,
OR
You are an asylum seeker (or the dependant* of an asylum seeker and included on the asylum application)* and can evidence your current immigration status as an asylum seeker (or dependant of an asylum seeker) and have an active asylum claim with UK Home Office; **and**
- You are not able to access Student Finance from the UK government (student loans and grants) because of your immigration status in the UK; **and**
- You have a firm unconditional or firm conditional offer of a place to study a full-time undergraduate degree or foundation degree course at Nottingham Trent University commencing in September 2024; **and**
- You have not already obtained a degree or degree equivalent qualification; **and**
- You can demonstrate that you will have sufficient funds to cover your living expenses and accommodation costs during your studies.

* Please note: Spouses/civil partners must have been the spouse/civil partner on the date which the asylum application was made. Children must have been aged under 18 on the date on which the asylum application was made.

How do I apply?

If you meet all of the eligibility criteria listed on the previous page, you can apply for the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship. To apply, you will be required to complete the following online form

2024 NTU Sanctuary Scholarship application form

and provide documentary evidence to support your application. You can provide electronic copies of your evidence by emailing them to studentmoneyteam@ntu.ac.uk: please type 'Sanctuary Evidence' in the subject line of your email. Please note, we may at a later stage request to see the original documentation where copies have been submitted.

The deadline for applications is 16th June 2024.

Before you apply, you are advised to read the following guidance notes on the application form and process.

Section 1 and 2 - About you and your studies

In this section, you will need to provide some basic information about you and your intended studies at NTU. You will need to provide your NTU ID number in this section.

Section 3 – Current status in the UK

In this section, you will be asked to provide details of your immigration status and your residency in the UK. You will also be asked to provide documentary evidence to confirm this. This evidence can be uploaded with your application form.

Section 4 – Student Finance

In this section, you will be asked to provide information regarding any application you have made for financial support from the UK government (i.e. student loans) for 2024/25.

Section 5 - Personal statement

As part of the application process you will be required to write a personal statement of up to 800 words covering all of the themes listed below.

1. Your personal and family circumstances and what barriers have you overcome in order to continue your education. You do not need to give details of the events that led to your seeking asylum unless you wish to do so.
2. Your financial circumstances - how have you managed financially whilst at school/college and how will you support yourself financially at University. Please note, although recipients will be eligible to receive a £3000 bursary award towards course and living costs for each year of study, the University cannot provide any additional funding towards your living expenses. Please ensure that you have sufficient funds to cover all of your living costs during your studies.

3. Your academic and extracurricular achievements, including contributions you have made to School / community life and how your previous studies and experiences will help you to succeed in your chosen course and make a positive contribution to the University and the student community.
4. Why you have chosen to study at Nottingham Trent University and what you hope to gain from your studies at the University.
5. Your future plans, ambitions and career aspirations and how the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship will help you to achieve them.

Section 6 – Referee's supporting statement

In this section you will be required to provide the name and contact details of a referee who is supporting your application. Your referee will be required to respond to specific questions regarding your current circumstances, your suitability for your course at NTU and your contribution to college / school & community life, so we advise you to select a referee who knows you in a professional capacity and is able to respond to these questions (for example, a teacher, social worker, community or voluntary group leader).

Your referee will be required to submit a statement of up to 500 words addressing the points below. The referee's supporting statement can be emailed to studentmoneyteam@ntu.ac.uk. When e-mailing your referee's supporting statement, please type 'Sanctuary Evidence' in the subject line of your email.

In their statement, the referee should respond to the following questions:

1. How do you know the applicant and how long have you known them for?
2. What are the applicant's personal and financial circumstances and what barriers have they overcome to continue their education?
3. How well suited is the applicant to the higher education course they plan to take and how realistic are the student's ambitions?
4. What contribution, to your knowledge, has the student made to (a) college life and /or (b) their community?
5. How do you think the student would benefit from the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship provided by Nottingham Trent University?
6. Is there any other information that you believe is relevant to the student's application?

If I apply who will my information be shared with?

The personal and sensitive data you have provided on your application form will be used for the purpose of administering the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship. The University's Admissions and Student Privacy Notice are available to view online: www.ntu.ac.uk/policies/privacy-statement

What happens next?

If you meet the eligibility criteria to apply for an NTU Sanctuary Scholarship, your application will progress onto the selection process. A selection panel will consider all applications made by eligible candidates. The panel will use the information provided in your NTU Sanctuary application, in particular your responses to the questions covered in your personal statement and your referee's supporting statement, to select the successful scholarship recipients.

The selection panel will take the following into account in awarding Scholarships:

- Your ability to demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to cover your living costs during your studies;
- Clear evidence that the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship will help you to achieve your ambitions for the future;
- Your academic achievements and the likelihood of you succeeding in higher education;
- Your previous contributions to school/college and community life and your extracurricular achievements;
- How you have demonstrated your ability to make a positive contribution to the University and its community and pursue your career aspirations.

Please note, we may request to see original copies of documentation you have sent to us electronically. We may also request that you provide additional supporting evidence to validate information that you have given in your application or to evidence your immigration status. The University will already hold information relating to the academic qualifications that you have used to secure your offer of a place at the University. If your application is taken forward to the selection panel, we may also contact you to clarify the information you have provided in your application and may invite you in to attend for interview. **We will inform you of the outcome of your application in writing by the end of July.** The decision of the selection panel is final.

Important Information

If, from the information you have provided in your application relating to your immigration status and residency in the UK, we consider that you should be eligible for Student Finance from the UK Government, we will not be able to progress your application for an NTU Sanctuary Scholarship unless you provide written evidence from your national Student Finance Service to confirm you are not entitled to Student Finance.

If at any stage in the application process there are changes to your circumstances which may impact on your eligibility for an NTU Sanctuary Scholarship e.g. any change in your immigration status / immigration application status/ eligibility for UK student finance, you are required to update the University immediately.

The University will require your permission to contact UKVI to validate your current immigration status and your permission to study in the UK prior to awarding the NTU Sanctuary Scholarship.

Further Information

If you have any further queries, or need to advise us of any change in your circumstances, please contact Student Money Team.

Tel: 0115 848 2494, email: studentmoneyteam@ntu.ac.uk.