
RIBA AHR Scholarship 2024

Information and Guidance Notes for Applicants

Background

The RIBA AHR Scholarship has been made possible thanks to the generous support of [AHR Architects](#). The aim of the scholarship is to address a lack of inclusivity at Part 2 stage of the professional qualification in architecture by supporting talented students who have demonstrated commitment to their studies and to the profession, who might struggle to cover the costs associated with their course.

The scholarship particularly wishes to support students from low-income households.

Scholarship

In 2024, one scholarship of £7,000 will be available to support one student throughout their RIBA Part 2 course in the UK for the academic years 2024/25 and 2025/26.

The recipient of the scholarship will be assigned a mentor, an architect based at one of AHR's UK offices, and will be encouraged to attend regular meetings with their mentor throughout the course of their Part 2. The recipient will also be offered the opportunity of a four-week work placement at an AHR office, supervised by their assigned mentor. This will be a paid position and is designed to fit into the recipient's academic timetable.

Successful applicants studying full-time will receive £1,166.50 per term throughout the course of their Part 2 to a maximum of £7,000. Successful part-time applicants will receive the same maximum amount in payments proportionate to the length of their studies.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to apply for this scholarship in the 2024 application cycle, applicants must be in the process of applying for a RIBA Part 2 course in the UK beginning in September 2024.

- Applicants do not need to have a place confirmed at the time of applying but will need to list their first and second university choices in the application. Proof of enrolment will be required before the scholarship is paid to successful applicants.
- Applications are welcomed from those classified as 'Home Students' only. Under the UK university fee status definition, 'Home Students' are those living in the UK or Republic of Ireland, and EU nationals with settled status in the UK.
- Applications will be accepted from full-time and part-time students.
- In the case of two equally good applications, preference will be given to applicants who are RIBA members. RIBA Student Membership is [free](#) to students studying on RIBA-validated courses.
- Employees of the RIBA, AHR, trustees or members of the RIBA Education Development Group will not be eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed on the following:

- Evidence of the applicant's academic performance, commitment to studies, and potential contribution to the profession
- The applicant's personal circumstances and journey to architecture
- The applicant's household income and financial situation

Applications will be assessed by a panel comprised of members of the RIBA Education Development Group and representatives designated by AHR.

Submitting an application

To apply for this scholarship, you will need to submit an online application via the Good Grants application platform: <https://riba.grantplatform.com>

You must complete all required sections of the online application form, which has been designed to ensure the assessment panel have all necessary and relevant information to assess the applications. The assessment panel will base its decision on household income and financial need, as well as demonstrable academic ability and merit.

Please see below further guidance on key sections of the application form.

- **Section 3: Household income assessment**
 - To help our assessors determine your household income and financial background, we have requested certain information regarding your history of income assessment, the annual income of your parent(s) or spouse/partner (if applicable), details of any dependants (if applicable), and your financial resources for the 2024/25 academic year.
 - If your parent(s) or spouse/partner need to provide their annual income, they should provide their net income for both the current and forthcoming year.

- **Sections 5&6: Income and Expenditure for 2024/25**
 - If you are living with a partner, your income and expenditure listed should be for the whole household.
 - Rent/mortgage payments should be calculated for the 10-month academic year; if you intend to pay rent for a 12-month period please note this in the application form.
 - Do not include your accommodation deposit in this section. As it is money that you will receive back at the academic year, the assessors will not consider this as expenditure.
 - Only give your proportion of utility bills where you will be sharing your accommodation.
 - The assessors usually only accept travel costs for public transport to/from university, travel for project work and for UK students one return journey from your home each term. (For EU students, one trip home per year is accepted.) If your travel costs are high because your travel costs exceed this, you are required to explain this in the application form.
 - The assessors only take account of car or motorbike ownership costs in exceptional circumstances.
 - You should make it clear whether any specific one-off items of expenditure (such as field trips, course costs or equipment costs) have already been paid for or still need to be paid.
 - The assessors do not normally make any allowance for debt repayment or debt interest. If there are exceptional circumstances, such as a formal debt repayment arrangement with a lender, and you think they should consider these, you are asked to explain this in the application form.
 - If you have savings, you should include these in your income declaration. If you are not able to use these towards your costs, please specify your reasons in the personal statement.

Supporting documents

You are required to upload the following supporting documents in the online application form: Items 1, 2, 5, and 7 are required documentation and items 3, 4, 6, and 8 should be provided if applicable to you. Documents must be uploaded as either PDF or .doc files.

1. Five pages of design work in one PDF and at high resolution
2. A letter of endorsement written by your most recent Year/Studio Tutor, commenting on your academic performance to date and expectations for your Part 2 course.
3. A letter of endorsement written by your Professional Studies Advisor (PSA) or Practice Mentor/Employer, providing details of your performance and the kind of work you have been undertaking (optional - to be provided if applicable)
4. A letter from Student Finance (England/Wales/NI) or SAAS, or grant provider, confirming the total sum to be made available to you in the academic year 2024/2025 (if eligible, and this has been confirmed at time of application.) If ineligible for support, please provide a letter from Student Finance (England/Wales/NI) or SAAS confirming that this is the case (optional - to be provided if applicable)
5. Copies of the most recent bank statement for all accounts (including credit cards and savings accounts) held for the last full month, collated into one document.
6. Confirmation of any other confirmed funding, including bursaries, scholarships, and grants etc. (optional - to be provided if applicable)
7. Either a copy of your current tenancy agreement; or, if you own your accommodation, a copy of a recent mortgage statement showing monthly payments; or, if you are contributing towards rent on an informal basis, a letter from the mortgage holder/rent payer confirming the amount of rent and contributions to household costs that you will pay weekly or monthly in 2024/25.
8. If your parent(s) and/or spouse provided their income details in the 'Household income assessment' section, please provide a copy of their most recent payslip (optional - to be provided if applicable)

Guidance to referees

It would be useful for referees to comment on the following in their letters:

- **Year/Studio Tutor**
 - The applicant's academic performance and commitment to their studies
 - Their potential contribution to the profession
 - Reflections on how the applicant will adapt to Part 2 study
 - Any other reasons you may have for recommending this student for the Scholarship
- **Professional Studies Advisor (PSA) or a Practice Mentor/Employer**
 - The applicant's performance in Practice and examples of the work they have been undertaking
 - Their potential contribution to the profession
 - Reflections on how the applicant will adapt to Part 2 study
 - Any other reasons you may have for recommending this student for the Scholarship

Application process and deadline

Applications must be submitted via <https://riba.grantplatform.com> by the deadline of **15:00 (GMT) Friday 14 June 2024. You will NOT be able to submit an application after this time.** You will receive an automatic email notification upon submission of your application.

Following the deadline, the application process will follow the timetable below:

Processing/shortlisting of applications:	Throughout June/July 2024
Interviews for shortlisted applicants:	August 2024
Recipient notified:	ASAP following interviews

The first instalment of funding will be available in October 2024, providing the recipient has confirmed their enrolment.

Confidentiality

All information provided in the applications will be treated in the strictest confidence, in line with the RIBA Privacy Policy: architecture.com/about/privacy-policy

Contact

If you have any issues with the online application system, or any questions about your application, please email student.support@riba.org. Please note, this email address is monitored Monday-Friday, 09:00-17:00 (GMT).