
RIBA Part 2 Bursary 2025

Information and Guidance Notes for Applicants

Background

The aim of the RIBA Part 2 Bursary scheme is to provide long-term financial support to Part 2 architecture students who demonstrate talent and commitment to their studies and who might struggle to cover the costs of living and course-related expenditure.

Successful applicants studying full-time will receive £8,000 paid in termly instalments (£1,500 in the Autumn term and £1,250 in the Spring and Summer terms) throughout the course of their Part 2. Successful part-time applicants will receive the same maximum amount in payments proportionate to the length of studies.

These bursaries are made possible thanks to donations by the Rosenberg Memorial Fund, Joanna Lewinski, Donald and Nancy Notley, the WJ Parker Trust, the Charles Peel Charitable Trust, the Shanta Foundation, the Family of Kenneth Mark, Hawkins\Brown, and individuals, trusts and foundations to the RIBA Education Fund.

We welcome applications from students wishing to enrol in a postgraduate Architecture course in an international higher education institution, provided the qualification they wish to obtain is intended to be recognised as a Part 2 qualification in the UK. Bursaries awarded to students enrolled in international institutions is made possible thanks to a donation by Donald and Nancy Notley.

Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to apply for this bursary in the 2025 application cycle, applicants must be in the process of applying for a RIBA Part 2 course beginning in September 2025.

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 and confirmation of funding from Student Finance will be required before the bursary is paid to successful applicants.

All home, EU, and international students are eligible to apply.

Selection criteria

Applications will be assessed by members of the RIBA Education Development Group. This is an expert working group tasked with overseeing the allocation of grants, awards, and bursaries from the RIBA Education Trust Funds in accordance with the objectives attached to each fund, and as delegated by the RIBA Education and Learning Committee.

The assessors will use the following criteria to select the successful applicants:

- evidence of their academic performance, commitment to studies, and potential contribution to the profession
- demonstration of financial need
- demonstration of clear consideration of their future goals and aspirations as an architecture student, and how they hope to achieve them

The assessment panel will base its decision on household income and financial need as well as demonstrable academic ability and merit.

Submitting an application

To apply for this scholarship, you will need to submit an online application via the Good Grants application platform at <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 evaluate the applications thoroughly and fairly.

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 2025/26 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 and 6: Income and Expenditure for 2025/26

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 one return trip home per term for UK students and one return trip home per year for international students. If your travel costs are high because you exceed these criteria you must explain why 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, 4, and 6 are required documentation and items 3, 5 and 7 should be provided if applicable to you. Documents must be uploaded as either PDF or DOC files:

1. 5 pages of design work at high resolution in one single PDF file
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. Confirmation from Student Finance (England/Wales/NI) or SAAS, or grant provider, confirming the total sum made available to you in the final year of your Part 1. If you were ineligible, refused a loan, or did not apply, please attach the most recent bank statements for all accounts (including credit cards and savings accounts) held for the last full month, collated into one single document.
5. Confirmation of any other funding, including bursaries, scholarships, grants, etc. (optional - to be provided if applicable)
6. Tenancy/mortgage agreement confirming your current share (if you have confirmation of your tenancy for 2025/26, please include this agreement instead). If you are not formally paying rent, please provide evidence of any contributions you are making; e.g., a letter from a parent or guardian noting the monthly amount
7. 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

If you are providing a reference about the applicant it would be useful for the assessors if you would comment on the following:

- their academic performance and commitment to their studies (if you are a Year/Studio Tutor)
- their performance in practice and examples of the work they have been undertaking (if you are a Professional Studies Advisor or a Practice Mentor/Employer)
- their potential contribution to the profession
- your reflections on how they will adapt to Part 2 study
- any other reasons you may have for recommending them for the bursary

Application process

Applications must be submitted via riba.grantplatform.com by 15:00 (GMT) on Thursday **13 March 2025**. You will NOT be able to submit an application after this time.

You will receive an automatic email notification upon submission of your application.

Applications will be processed and then assessed over a period of 6 to 8 weeks, after which all applicants will be informed of the results.

The first instalment of funding will be available in October 2025, 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](#).

Contact

For any questions about your application, please email student.support@riba.org (this email address is monitored Monday to Friday, 09:00-17:00).