Guide to searching for postgraduate funding

Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Graduate School
UNIVERSITY FUNDING

Funding at the University of Bath for UK/UE and Overseas Students

The Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences Graduate School website provides information on the funding opportunities available to postgraduate taught and research students studying at the University of Bath.

www.bath.ac.uk/hss/graduate-school

We advise you to consider the funding opportunities available on the website before you begin applying for funding externally.

University of Bath websites include:
- Student Services - Funding
- Postgraduate Funding at the Careers Service website
- Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences:
  - Taught Postgraduate Funding
  - Research Postgraduate Funding

Guidance on searching for funding from external sources

OVERSEAS, UK/EU STUDENTS

UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs)

UKCISA offers advice to overseas students on a wide variety of matters including sources of funding and visas.
http://www.ukcisa.org.uk/

Prospects Postgraduate Funding Guide (UK/OVERSEAS)

Prospects is a popular graduate careers website, providing careers advice, job opportunities and course opportunities together with funding options.
www.prospects.ac.uk/funding_my_further_study.htm

Postgraduate Funding Guide (OVERSEAS/UK-EU)

From the NPC (National Postgraduate Committee), a registered charity whose aim is to support postgraduate education.
http://www.npc.org.uk/page/1082154863
UK/EU STUDENTS

Postgraduate Studentships (MOSTLY UK/EU)
A dedicated website in the UK which brings together all the different types of funding opportunities for postgraduate students.
http://www.postgraduatesstudentships.co.uk/organization

Postgrad Solutions Study Bursaries (UK/EU)
Provides information on ways to fund a masters programme.
http://www.postgrad.com/editorial/fees_and_funding/

Student CashPoint
A dedicated website designed to advise and assist students in the process of finding funding opportunities.
http://www.studentcashpoint.co.uk/

UK ONLY

Student Finance England (UK)
provides advice on Student Loans and Fee Support.
http://www.slc.co.uk/students/student-finance-england.aspx

UK Education Department Grants & Student Loans

The Education Departments in each of the four home countries of the UK produce guides to grants and loans for UK/EU (only) students. Although most of the information contained in the guides concerns undergraduate study, there is some information relating to graduate awards. Copies of these booklets may be obtained from the following addresses:

- Department for Education— see and Directgov and Careers Development Loans.
- Awards Agency for Scotland, Gyleview House, 3 Redheughs Rigg, South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9HH. Telephone: +44 (0)845 111 7111; Fax: +44 (0)131 244 5887 - see Student Awards Agency for Scotland
- Department of Education for Northern Ireland, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down BT19 7PR. Telephone: +44 (0)28 91 279279; Fax: +44 (0)28 91 279100 - see Financial Help for Postgraduates.
- Welsh Office Education Department (Estyn), Government Buildings, Ty Glas Road, Llanishen, Cardiff CF4 5WE. Telephone: +44 (0) 2920 825831; Fax: +44 (0) 2920 825823 – see Guide to Funding.
**Local/Regional funding** schemes are occasionally available covering distinct regions, for example:

- **Richmond Parish Lands Charity** (UK VALID) meets eight times a year and gives grants to residents totalling approximately £100,000 p.a. to individuals wishing to pursue a course in a wide variety of fields of education and vocational training (including PgDip, Masters and PhD programmes).
- **Renfrewshire Educational Trust** (UK VALID) funds one student per annum intending to undertake a one-year full-time Taught-Masters Programme at a University within the UK (grant of £3,000).
- **The Drapers’ Company** (UK VALID) awards scholarships, bursaries, maintenance allowances or grants to beneficiaries who, in the opinion of the Trustee, are in need of financial assistance and who are resident in the Boroughs of Greenwich or Lewisham.
- **Glasgow Educational & Marshall Trust** (UK-GLASLOW VALID) awards are made under various categories (e.g. mature students, post graduate students, travel and school excursions) and can only be made to persons who have lived in the City of Glasgow for a minimum of five years.

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### Funding for disabled students

- Postgraduates can apply for the Disabled Student’s Allowance from their Local Education Authority. For more information, contact the disability advisors in the Student Support Services supportservices@bath.ac.uk or Student Money Services studentmoney@bath.ac.uk.
- **Prospects** ‘Funding for Students with Disabilities’ page: http://www.prospects.ac.uk/disability_related_funding.htm

If you are funded by a research council (e.g. the General Social Care Council or the Arts and Humanities Research Council) you may be entitled to additional financial support.

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### Other funding sources

Depending on your personal circumstances:

**Your Employer** may give you paid leave for study, or pay for all or part of your tuition fees and other costs such as examination fees and books. This is only likely, however, if the course is directly relevant to your work. For example:

- **The State Bank of Pakistan** offers various scholarship schemes for its
employees – such as the ‘Higher Study Scheme – Foreign’ scheme.
• Barclays Bank administers the Alfred Foster Charitable Trust, aimed primarily at employees and former employees of the bank.

Professional Institutions - members of some professional institutions may be able to access training funds. (We don't have any details so if you come across any who do, please let us know.)

Hard-copy publications

These are available in large public reference libraries, university libraries or in your local British Council office, or you may purchase a copy from booksellers/web.


National Newspapers and other publications (for example, UK candidates should especially watch the Guardian, the Independent, the Times and Times Higher Educational Supplement – all of which often include information about scholarships and schemes of funding).

(None of these publications have been examined and so we welcome comments on their relative use.)

Tips when making an application

Finding funding for postgraduate study can be difficult. There is no way of guaranteeing an application will be successful, but there are a number of things you can do to improve your chances. Here are some points to bear in mind:

Start early
Most funding bodies adhere to deadlines very strictly and will not accept late applications. You should allow plenty of time to obtain referees' reports or
confirmation of an offer of a place. This may take several weeks or more if your referees are outside the UK. In order to be considered for many awards, you must already have been offered a place at the University; you should therefore apply for admission earlier than would normally be the case.

Do you qualify?
Check the eligibility criteria carefully – whether for country of residence, academic qualifications, subject remit or mode of study.

Contact potential funder
If possible meet with (or contact) the potential funder for advice on how to develop your application (but some funders may not be able to meet or provide specific advice).

Develop a strong application
Make sure you put adequate time and thought into your application. Most funding bodies receive a large number of applications, and will view illegible or poorly presented applications unfavourably.

Be thorough
Supply all documentation requested and give full, relevant answers to any questions. Try to strike a balance between being informative and being concise.

Inform referees
Ensure that your referees are fully informed of what is required of them: a reference focused upon a particular undertaking will carry more weight than one couched in more general terms.

Make contingency plans
Obtaining funding for most postgraduate study is competitive – be realistic about your chances and, if appropriate, consider seeking alternative sources.

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External funding opportunities

The following are some examples of funding schemes available to prospective students. Some of these may only provide funding for their own employees, and some may not accept applications from individuals, but instead require the university department to contact them directly.
Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.

African Development Bank
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>African Educational Trust</strong></th>
<th>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities. Candidates from African countries only.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alban Programme - European Union</strong></td>
<td>Supports postgraduate studies at masters or doctoral level for Latin American graduates for further study in the EU. Open to citizens from 18 Latin American countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aga Khan Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Provides a limited number of scholarships for postgraduate studies to outstanding students (preferably under the age of 30 years) from developing countries who have no other means of financing their studies. Scholarships are awarded on a 50 per cent grant / 50 per cent loan basis through a competitive application process once a year in June or July. Priority to requests for masters level courses. Willing to consider applications for PhD programmes when doctoral degrees are necessary for career progression.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anglo-Danish Society</strong></td>
<td>Offers various scholarships for Danish students to study postgraduate programmes/research in the UK.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Anglo-Jewish Association</strong></td>
<td>Offers scholarships to potential students who could not otherwise afford to enter university in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arab-British Chamber Charitable Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Provides financial support to Arab students studying in UK universities. These are partial funding grants intended for postgraduate students whose own funds fall short of their total requirements and need additional contributions to cover their fees, living expenses and study costs (typically up to £2,000).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arab Student Aid International</strong></td>
<td>Interest-free loans for Arab Students. Enables students to upgrade the academic and experience levels at reputed universities. Scholarship loans range between $1,000 to $3,500 per year, to partially cover tuition and expenses. Candidates must meet all the requirements.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asian Development Bank</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Association for Social Economics</strong></td>
<td>The Association for Social Economics offers a research grant in the amount of up to $5,000 to promote research in social economics and the social economy.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Association of Commonwealth Universities</strong></td>
<td>Commonwealth students only.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Bank of England</strong></td>
<td>Offers postgraduate internships and sponsorship to students intending to undertake postgraduate study in economics and/or finance before joining the Bank of England.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beit Trust</strong></td>
<td>A small number of scholarships for postgraduate studies or research to graduates who are domiciled in Malawi, Zambia or Zimbabwe (the beneficial area). Scholarship duration is normally for up to three years at the discretion of Trustees. Scholarships are taken up at a university in</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Program</strong></td>
<td><strong>Details</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>British Council</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>British Lebanese Association Scholarship Fund</strong></td>
<td>Awards scholarships to Lebanese graduate students and civil servants who wish to pursue postgraduate studies, research and training in the UK that are unavailable in Lebanon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canon Collins Educational Trust for Southern Africa</strong></td>
<td>For southern African students to pursue postgraduate degrees in the UK or in South Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Career Development Loans</strong></td>
<td>A bank loan (for UK students) designed to help pay for work-related learning. Up to two years of learning, or up to three years if the course includes one year's relevant practical work experience. Full-time, part-time, or distance learning courses, up to postgraduate level.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Charles Wallace India Trust Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>For Indian nationals, £1,000 towards completion of doctorate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chevening Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>Funded by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and enable overseas students to study in the UK. Offered in over 150 countries enabling talented graduates and young professionals to become familiar with the UK and to gain skills that benefit their countries. Candidates are selected by British Embassies and High Commissions overseas. Scholarships are administered overseas and in the UK by the British Council on behalf of the FCO. Applications should be made to the Representative of the British Council in the overseas country concerned. Applications cannot be made from the UK. The closing date is October of the year before the award is due to start.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Colfuturo Scholarship Loan Programme</strong></td>
<td>For Columbian students only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Commonwealth Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>Various schemes for Master’s and PhD study, some of which are only available at specific UK universities. Need to also check how to apply as some awards require nominations from the candidate’s national Commonwealth Scholarship agency (and not from the candidate themselves).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (formerly the BERR)</strong></td>
<td>A series of research scholarships for postgraduate students. Applications are encouraged from postgraduate research students at UK universities across the social science and law disciplines. This includes labour economics, employment relations, HRM/management, industrial sociology, organisational psychology and employment law.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD)</strong></td>
<td>Funds the further academic and personal qualification of outstanding German students, interns and student trainees, postgraduates, young academics and researchers. Enables successful candidates, chosen by independent academic selection committees, to complete study or research stays at the best universities around the world by awarding scholarships and grants.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Entente Cordiale Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>For French students. Managed by the British Council in France</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Erasmus+ Master Loans</strong></td>
<td>Erasmus+ Master Loans allow students to apply for financial support for their Master's studies abroad.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Europe-Korea Foundation Scholarship Program</strong></td>
<td>Various programmes support students from South Korean with excellent academic records, who wish to undertake their graduate studies in Europe. In 2004, established a scholarship programme through which North Korean students and experts were sent to Europe to study various fields, such as economics, business and international law, from an international perspective.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FINNIDA (Finnish International Development Agency)</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO)</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Ford Foundation MCC</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>US-UK Fulbright Commission</strong></td>
<td>Provides up to 11 awards to US citizens to fund the first year of a masters or doctorate degree or to pursue research at an educational institution within the UK. Awards cover tuition fees, a maintenance stipend and accident and sickness insurance for one academic year, usually beginning in mid-late September (approximately nine months).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global Study Award Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>The Global Study Awards recognises studying abroad as a positively life changing experience for many students, opening their minds to alternative ways of personal life and professional career, as well as promoting intercultural understanding and tolerance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GTZ (German development organisation)</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Inlaks Shivdasani Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Scholarships for up to two years at top American, European and UK institutions for young (under 30 years) Indian citizens who hold a good degree from a recognised university and are resident in India at the time of application. Preference will be given to candidates who have not yet studied abroad. Candidates who are already studying or have started their programme abroad are not eligible.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institut Francais</strong></td>
<td>May fund postgraduate (taught or research) students through the ‘Entente Cordiale Scholarship’. Enables French or British nationals to study in each other's country.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scholarship</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Federation for University Women and British Federation of Women Graduates</strong></td>
<td>Awards that support postgraduate research, study and training for women.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Kulika Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>For residents of Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Li Po Chun Trust Overseas Postgraduate Study Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>For residents of Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marshall Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>Finance young Americans of high ability to study for a degree in the UK. At least forty Scholars are selected each year to study either at postgraduate, or occasionally undergraduate level, in any field of study. Each scholarship is held for two years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Marshal Papworth Trust</strong></td>
<td>Enables students to study postgraduate courses for one year at specially selected universities and colleges participating in the Scheme throughout the UK. Closing date: end of March. The University of Bath has previously not been included in this scheme, however recent discussions have indicated possible funding for our students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mott MacDonald International</strong></td>
<td>For UK graduates only.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NORAD (Norwegian Agency for International Development)</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund</strong></td>
<td>Provides financial support for Norwegian students to study overseas.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Nuffield Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Provides various schemes, including Elizabeth Nuffield Educational Fund (below).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>O’Reilly Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Supports a programme of scholarships to provide world-class educational opportunities for outstanding young Irish scholars to undertake postgraduate education in their chosen field and in an institution or university of their choice. O’Reilly Scholars are individuals who have an excellent academic record and have demonstrated leadership qualities as well as the potential and desire to make a significant contribution to the future of Ireland. The Foundation supports scholarships each year for postgraduate studies at PhD or equivalent level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overseas Development</strong></td>
<td>A highly regarded scheme whereby young postgraduate economists work in the public sectors of developing countries.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Institute (ODI) Fellowship Scheme</strong></td>
<td>countries in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific on two-year contracts.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Postgrad Solutions Study Bursaries</strong></td>
<td>Offers a number of small Postgraduate Study Bursaries. The bursaries are open to students from anywhere in the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rotary International</strong></td>
<td>Furthers international understanding and friendly relations among different countries and geographical areas. The program sponsors several types of scholarships for undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as for qualified professionals pursuing vocational studies. For residents of countries with active Rotary clubs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Sino-British Fellowship Trust</strong></td>
<td>Chinese students only.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SDC - Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fellowship</strong></td>
<td>For residents of Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sir Robert Black Trust Fund Scholarships</strong></td>
<td>For residents of Hong Kong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tan Kah Kee Foundation Postgraduate Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Open to Singapore citizens and permanent residents who are pursuing full-time masters degree or PhD in any discipline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tata Group Community Initiatives</strong></td>
<td>Supports an assortment of causes, institutions and individuals in a wide variety of areas. For Indian nationals. Includes scholarships for higher education and travel grants for studying abroad (some scholarships being specifically aimed at younger women). The Sir Ratan Tata Scholarships for study in the UK in the broad field of Development Studies, with special focus on Development Economics and Science &amp; Technology Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UMID Foundation</strong></td>
<td>Residents of Uzbekistan only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>United Nations</strong></td>
<td>Contact local office for in-country funding opportunities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| | - Organisations include: United Nations Childrens Fund (UNICEF)  
  United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
  United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)  
  United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) |
<p>| <strong>Wingate Scholarships</strong> | Scholarships for individuals of great potential or proven excellence who need financial support to undertake creative or original work of intellectual, scientific, artistic, social or environmental value. |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women's Leadership Scholarship</strong></td>
<td>Creates educational opportunities for women activists, grassroots leaders, and organisers from the Global South and/or from indigenous groups. Invests in women's leadership by supporting non-doctoral graduate education in human rights, sustainable development, and public health in many places around the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>World Council of Churches</strong></td>
<td>Candidates who are directly engaged in church service, or community service, or who have previous theological education may be eligible to apply for a WCC scholarship. Candidates should normally have had some working experience related to their proposed field of study. Applications should be made through a candidate’s local church or church-related organisation (WCC application form is made available by the National Correspondent only after local selection has taken place).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>World Health Organisation (WHO)</strong></td>
<td>Offices in many countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>George Heim Memorial Trust</strong></td>
<td>Awards grants of up to £1,000 for students under the age of 30 who are in further or higher education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Leverhulme Trade Charities Trust</strong></td>
<td>Grants up to £5,000 to postgraduate students who are the child, spouse, widow or widower of a commercial traveller, chemist or grocer and who are resident in the UK.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Albanian International Scholarship Foundation (AISF)</strong></td>
<td>Finances university studies of students of Albanian origin.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alexander Onassis Public Benefit Foundation</strong></td>
<td>The Foundation has established a permanent programme of scholarships awarded to Greeks for postgraduate studies outside Greece.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fundación Obra Social y Monte de Piedad de Madrid</strong></td>
<td>This Foundation offers scholarships for postgraduate studies in Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gordon Memorial College Trust Fund</strong></td>
<td>In awarding grants, preference will be given to those applicants whose chosen courses will enable them to contribute to the skills base of South Sudan or Sudan. Grants may be given towards the cost of course fees and/or food and accommodation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sir Richard Stapley Educational Trust</strong></td>
<td>Supports students of medicine, dentistry or veterinary science and postgraduate students in all fields of study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wellcome Trust</strong></td>
<td>Offers funding postgraduates in biomedical research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>