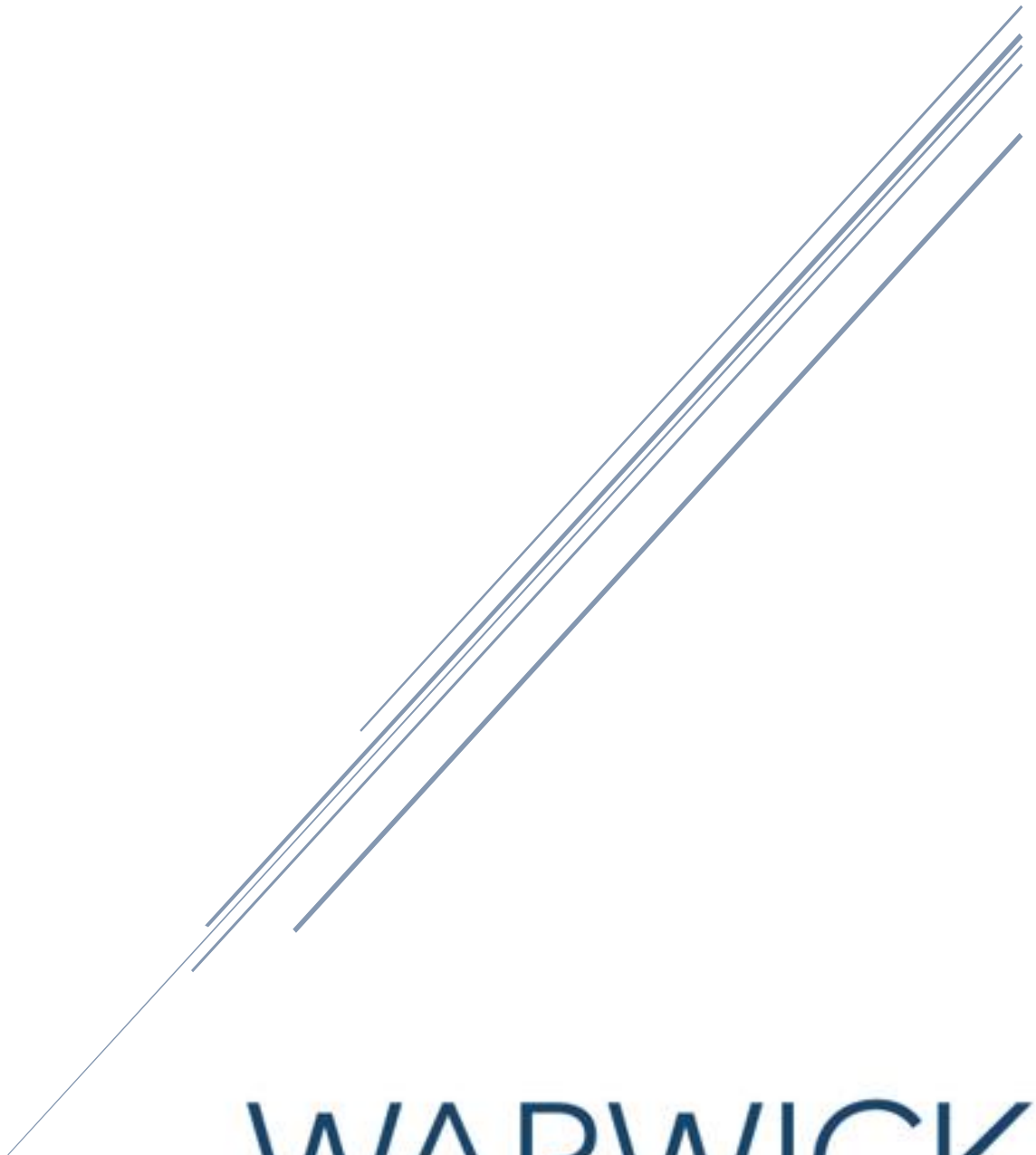


# Postgraduate Research Scholarship Competition 2019/20

Guidance Notes for Applicants



**WARWICK**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

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## Introduction

The University of Warwick manages a central scholarship competition awarding over £3.2 million of scholarships for PhD students. The annual postgraduate scholarship competition consists of the following awards:

- **Chancellor's International Scholarships (International fee paying students only)**
- **Warwick Medical School Scholarships (Home/EU fee paying students only)**

PhD applicants and first year PhD students who are eligible to apply for either of the awards listed above should apply to the *Postgraduate Research Scholarships Competition*.

New applicants will apply via the [Joint Admissions and Scholarship Application Form](#) (via the Postgraduate Admissions web pages) and current students or those who applied for their admission *before* 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 for admission to Warwick will apply via the [Single Scholarship Application Form](#). When an application is submitted you will automatically be considered for the competition listed above for which you are eligible.

## Scholarships available and eligibility

Chancellor's International Scholarship		
Number of awards	Value/Length	Who can apply?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For 19/20 we will award up to 25 CIS Scholarships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Full payment of overseas tuition fees (up to £22,860 at 2019/20 rates)</li> <li>➤ A maintenance stipend in line with RCUK rates (provisional £15,040* for full time holders in 2019/20)</li> <li>➤ Length of funding: 3.5 years for new students; 2.5 years for current Year 1 PhD students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ International PhD applicants in any discipline, starting their degree in Autumn 2019</li> <li>➤ International students in Year 1 of their PhD in any discipline</li> </ul>

*\*Please note this is a RCUK provisional predicted figure and is subject to change*

Warwick Medical School Scholarships		
Number of awards	Value/Length	Who can apply?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For 19/20 we will award up to 2 WMS Scholarships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Full payment of Home/EU tuition fees (£4,347 at 2019/20 rates)</li> <li>➤ A maintenance stipend in line with RCUK rates (provisional £15,040* for full time holders in 2019/20)</li> <li>➤ Length of funding: 3.5 years for new students; 2.5 years for current Year 1 PhD students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Home/EU PhD applicants applying to WMS starting their degree in Autumn 2019</li> <li>➤ Home/EU students in Year 1 of their PhD at WMS</li> </ul>

*\*Please note this is a RCUK provisional predicted figure and is subject to change*

### We welcome applications from:

- Applicants applying for a full-time PhD (or MPhil/PhD) course at the University of Warwick, expecting to begin in Autumn 2019;
- Students currently enrolled on a PhD or MPhil/PhD at the University of Warwick in their **first** year of their registration only;
- PhD applicants must be applying, or have already applied for, a place at the University in order to make a scholarship application. A single, combined application form is used for the application for both admission and the scholarship;
- Applicants must have obtained or be expected to obtain at least an upper second class honours degree (or equivalent) from a recognised institution of higher education before **31 July 2019**. Contact your prospective department for further details about the qualification expected.

### Further information about eligibility is available for:

- Applicants or current students on the 2+2 MPhil in Philosophy (*See Appendix 1*)
- Applicants OR current students on the 2+4 MRes > PhD research programme in Economics (*See Appendix 2*)
- Overseas applicants or current overseas Warwick Master's student on a 1+3 course in a Centre for Doctoral Training (*See Appendix 3*) *Note: Home/EU applicants should apply to the Centre for Doctoral Training for funding.*

### Further information for candidates not eligible for an award through this scholarship competition

If you are applying for an ineligible course, OR if you are a **Home/EU** PhD applicant or current student in:

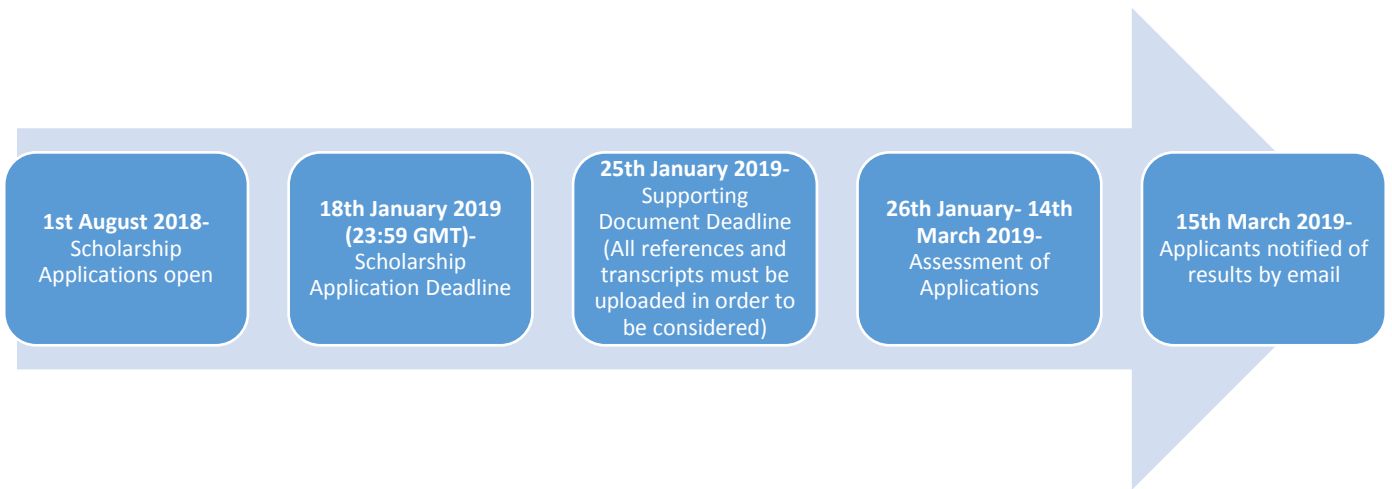
- [The Faculty of Arts](#)
- [The Faculty of Social Sciences](#)
- [The Faculty of Science](#)

You will not be able to apply for the scholarships administered through this competition process, and you will not be given the option to apply for a scholarship through the joint admissions and scholarship applications form.

Each of these faculties listed above have scholarship competitions for Home/EU applicants, including our EU Chancellors Scholarship Competition and large number of opportunities available for Research Council Funding. We recommend looking at the [Graduate School Scholarships Database](#) and your prospective department's webpages for the most up to date scholarships available.

We cannot accept applications from candidates applying for a Master's degree, either Taught or by research, nor from any other category of degree course, including EngD, EdD, PhD by Published work.

## Scholarship competition timeline



### Top tips to remember:

- **DO** give yourself plenty of time to prepare your application;
- **DON'T** leave it to the last day to start your application;
- **REMEMBER** you can save your application and return to it, leave yourself time to make sure you are happy with the content. Once you submit your application it cannot be amended.
- **DO** discuss your application with your potential supervisor
- **REMEMBER** that the deadlines are set by Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) meaning if you are applying from overseas, you **MUST** follow this time or you may miss the deadline;
- **DON'T** forget to submit your application before the deadline! If applying via the Joint Application you **MUST** submit by the 18<sup>th</sup> January, 23:59 GMT; the Admissions application form will remain open beyond this date but the opportunity to complete a Scholarship application will not.

## How to apply

There are two scholarship application routes for applicants, depending on your current status.

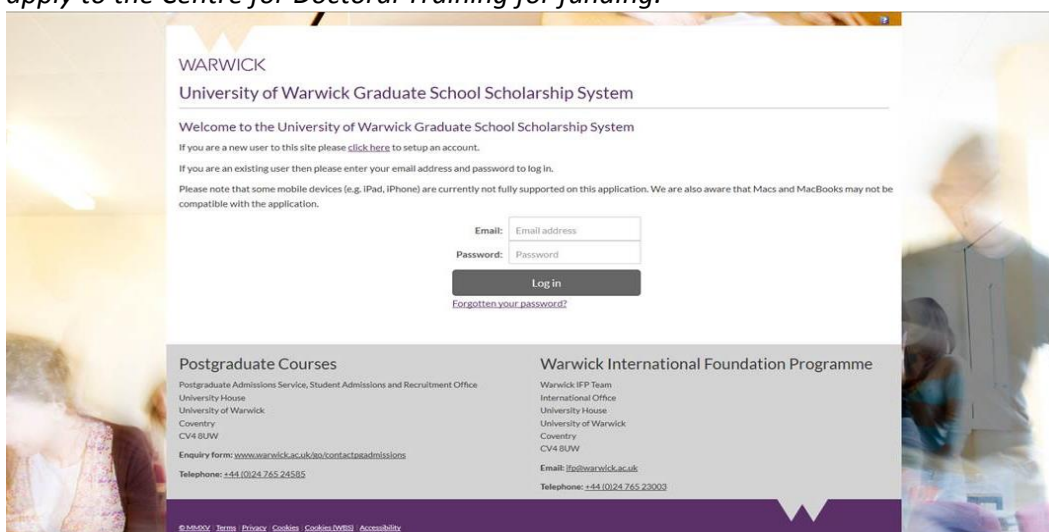
### Route 1: Joint Postgraduate Admissions and Scholarship Application Form

- You are applying after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 for admission to the University of Warwick;
- You are a new doctoral applicant

For applicants applying via Route 1, take a look at the [Postgraduate Admission webpages](#) for details on the admission portion of the application form, as well as what supporting documents are required (your transcripts and references will be used in your scholarship assessment).

### Route 2: Single Scholarship Application Form

- You are a new doctoral applicant and have already applied before 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 for admission to the University of Warwick;
- You are a current Warwick first - year doctoral student;
- You are a current students on the 2+2 MPhil in Philosophy (*See Appendix 1*)
- You are a current students on the 2+4 MRes > PhD research programme in Economics (*See Appendix 2*)
- You are a current student ( assessed as overseas fees) Warwick Master's student on a 1+3 course in a Centre for Doctoral Training (*See Appendix 3*) *Note: Home/EU applicants should apply to the Centre for Doctoral Training for funding.*



The screenshot shows the login page for the University of Warwick Graduate School Scholarship System. The page includes a header with the Warwick logo and the text 'University of Warwick Graduate School Scholarship System'. Below the header, there is a welcome message and instructions for new and existing users. A login form with fields for 'Email' and 'Password' is present, along with a 'Log in' button and a link for 'Forgotten your password?'. At the bottom, there are two columns of contact information for 'Postgraduate Courses' and 'Warwick International Foundation Programme'.

WARWICK  
University of Warwick Graduate School Scholarship System

Welcome to the University of Warwick Graduate School Scholarship System  
If you are a new user to this site please [click here](#) to setup an account.  
If you are an existing user then please enter your email address and password to log in.  
Please note that some mobile devices (e.g. iPad, iPhone) are currently not fully supported on this application. We are also aware that Macs and MacBooks may not be compatible with the application.

Email:   
Password:   
  
[Forgotten your password?](#)

**Postgraduate Courses**  
Postgraduate Admissions Service, Student Admissions and Recruitment Office  
University House  
University of Warwick  
Coventry  
CV4 8LW  
Enquiry form: [www.warwick.ac.uk/go/contactpostadmissions](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/contactpostadmissions)  
Telephone: +44 (0)24 765 24585

**Warwick International Foundation Programme**  
Warwick IFP Team  
International Office  
University House  
University of Warwick  
Coventry  
CV4 8LW  
Email: [ifp@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:ifp@warwick.ac.uk)  
Telephone: +44 (0)24 765 23003

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## The application form and supporting documents

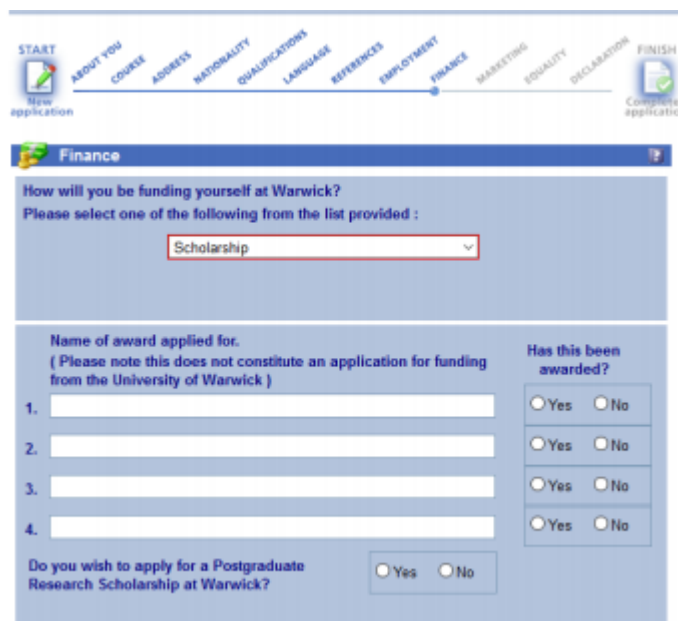
Applicants applying via Route 1 and 2 will be required to complete the same Scholarship application form.

### Route 1

Section 9 of the Joint Postgraduate Admission and Scholarship Application Form is entitled 'Finance'. You will be asked the following questions:

- 1) How will you be funding yourself at Warwick? (drop down options available)
- 2) Do you wish to apply for a Postgraduate Research Scholarship at Warwick?

You will need to select 'Yes' for question 2; this will then reveal further sections for completion.



START ABOUT YOU COURSE ADDRESS NATIONALITY QUALIFICATIONS LANGUAGE REFERENCES EMPLOYMENT FINANCE MARKETING EQUALITY DECLARATION FINISH

**Finance**

How will you be funding yourself at Warwick?  
Please select one of the following from the list provided :

Scholarship

Name of award applied for.  
( Please note this does not constitute an application for funding from the University of Warwick )

1.   Yes  No

2.   Yes  No

3.   Yes  No

4.   Yes  No

Do you wish to apply for a Postgraduate Research Scholarship at Warwick?  Yes  No

*Note: If this option does not appear, unfortunately you are not eligible for any of these scholarships.*

### Route 2

The Single Scholarship Application Form is a standalone scholarship application. In order to apply via this method, you will be asked a small number of questions that enables the system to link your scholarship application to your admissions record. Therefore, you won't be able to apply via this method without an existing admissions application.

## The Ranking Criteria

Departments and the Faculty Assessors responsible for the assessment of your application will follow a Ranking Criteria in their evaluation.

The Ranking Criteria consists of two descriptors:

- Person and Preparedness
- Project and Place

See [Appendix 4](#) for the Ranking Criteria.

You **must** review the Ranking Criteria found in Appendix 4 before starting your application as you will be assessed by how you engage with these descriptors in your application.

## Application Form Sections to complete

There are three sections to the Scholarship application form which you will be required to complete.

### 1. Person and Preparedness (1000 characters max.)

Here is your opportunity to evidence why you should be chosen to receive a scholarship. What makes you stand out as a person? What is your academic history at Undergraduate and, if applicable, Postgraduate Taught Level. How well equipped are you to undertake a PhD? What are your skills? Do you have any professional experience? You may wish to highlight any publications or awards that are relevant to your proposed study.

### 2. Please give details of your research proposal, as appropriate to your discipline, and your ability to complete it (4500 characters max.)

You will be required to provide a summary of your research proposal and your ability to complete it.

If you have applied via Route 1 and have already provided a summary as part of your admission application (under 'Employment') then you are free to use the same text, but you must ensure you complete this section of the application as scholarship assessors will not be able to see the summary provided as part of your admission application.

Applicants applying via Route 2 are also required to complete this section in full.

Faculty Assessors will not have access to your full research proposal or additional documents upload for admission. Please take the time to complete this section, think about what you wish to convey within the 4500 character limit.

Please note: References to 'See attached' or 'See previous summary' will not be accepted.

### 3. Project and Place (1000 characters max.)

This is your opportunity to evidence why you should be chosen to receive a scholarship. What makes your project worthy of an award? How will it contribute to the field? How well have you articulated and justified your research question? Have you engaged with relevant literature? How well does your project fit with your proposed supervisor and department? How well does your project fit with the research strengths?

Before you begin your application, contact your prospective department to discuss your project and how it will fit with their research. You should be able to demonstrate in your answers that you have engaged with both the department and ranking criteria.

A strong application shows initiative.

## Supporting documents

Please note that the Graduate School and PG Admissions cannot upload documents on your behalf;

Route 1 (joint admission and scholarship) applicants:

- you will need to ensure your transcript(s) and two references are available for review;
- Approximately 24 hours after you have submitted your admission application you will receive an acknowledgement email from PG Admissions with instructions for uploading your supporting documents;
- Alternatively use the [Upload Facility portal](#).

Route 2 (single scholarship) applicants:

- The transcript(s) and references provided in your admissions application can be used;
- If you are a current student applying for a scholarship you should request new references so as to provide an up to date account of yourself; this could include your current supervisor.

## References

- When you submit your application, we will use the referee contact details you have provided to contact your chosen referees for a reference. The reference request will include a link to an upload page for referees to submit their reference.
- Please be aware that reference requests **will not** be sent until you submit your application form. You should allow for sufficient time for referees to respond, noting that no exceptions can be made.
- You will need to provide two academic references but we can accept professional references if you have been out of higher education for over two years. These must be submitted by your current or most recent line manager. Personal references are not accepted.

Top tip: if you submit your application on or right before the deadline your referees will only have until the 25<sup>th</sup> January to provide their reference. Try and submit with as much time as possible before the deadline, and ensure you have already spoken to your referees so that they are aware of the reference request, and of the urgency of the request.

## Transcripts

All applicants must provide a transcript of your current and/or previous study.

Your academic qualifications form an important part of the Ranking Criteria. Contact your prospective department if you have any questions on academic requirements.

**Reminder: The deadline for uploading all supporting documents is Friday  
25th January, 23:59 GMT.**

## The Assessment Process

Competition for awards is very high and scholarship offers will be made to those who are able to demonstrate academic excellence and the potential to be an outstanding research.

Warwick operates a transparent ranking criteria that enables candidates to understand how their application will be assessed. Refer to [Annex 4](#) for the Ranking Criteria.

It is your responsibility to ensure that your application is as strong as possible and aligns with the Ranking Criteria.

Applicants are encouraged to self-assess before applying for a scholarship as successful applicants rank very highly against the criteria.

### Selection and Assessment

Departments are asked to nominate their strongest applications and provide a nomination statement. The nomination statement will contextualise your application and references, and will outline your strengths and fit within the department. Due to the limited number of awards available, departments are allocated a specific number of nominations.

Decisions will be made by each Faculty, and within each Faculty there are five independent Faculty Assessors.

The Faculty Assessors will score independently then convene at the Faculty Graduate Awards Committee to discuss the ranked applications and approve the award allocations. It is the Faculty Graduate Awards Committee's responsibility to ensure that university processes and policies are free, fair, and transparent.

**Note: Due to the volume of applications we receive each year, we are unable to provide any assessment of chances.**

## Notification of scholarship results

All applicants will be informed of the results by email by 15th March 2019. Results will not be communicated earlier.

Due to the volume of applications we receive each year, we are unable to provide any feedback to applicants.

Please be aware that an application must have been submitted by the scholarship deadline in order to receive a notification of results, and any late applications will not be considered for a scholarship.

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply for a scholarship if I am applying for part-time study?

*Yes, if you are applying for part-time study you are able to apply for a scholarship. You will need to email the Graduate School, addressed to the Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies, outlining the reason why you would like to undertake part-time study. The Chair of the Board of Graduate Studies will decide whether to approve this request. If applying for CIS, consider visa implications.*

2. Can I include details about my publications, awards, prizes, or professional experience in the 'Person and Preparedness' and 'Project and Place' scholarship questions?

*Yes, you can include details of your publications, awards, prizes, or professional experience, but you should only do this if it is relevant to your project. Please also be aware that scholarship assessors will only look at transcripts and references uploaded.*

3. Once I have submitted my application, can I make any changes?

*No, once you have submitted your application you will not be able to make any changes. Therefore you must double check your application in its entirety before submitting. The Graduate School cannot make any changes to your application.*

4. Can I receive a scholarship offer if I haven't received an admission offer?

*No, you must have an offer of admission in place to receive a scholarship offer.*

5. I'm updating my CV, where do I upload it?

*The scholarship assessors will not review CV's as part of this competition.*

6. Can I apply now for entry in 2020/21?

*No, the application process is specifically for funding starting in October 2019, and subsequent funding schemes may be subject to change. Information on the next year's funding scheme will be on the Graduate School's website in July 2019.*

7. 8. I'm a Home/EU fee payer – why can't I apply for Research Council funding on this form?

*The application form is specifically for the four scholarship schemes shown in the introduction. For further guidance on other schemes please contact your department.*

8. My fee status is incorrect, how do I get this changed?

*You should contact the Postgraduate Admissions team to challenge the decision on your fee status. They will ask you to complete a form and submit supporting evidence for them to make a decision. Any changes to your fee status should be reported to the Graduate School before the department's nomination deadline.*

9. Who do I contact if I have any queries not shown here?

*You can email the Graduate School at [graduateschool@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:graduateschool@warwick.ac.uk) or complete and submit the contact form shown on the Graduate School's website*

## Appendix 1

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for '2+2 MPhil in Philosophy' applicants and current students

### Eligibility

Applicant Category	Eligible to apply for Chancellor's International Scholarship
<b>Applicant for the '2+2' MPhil&gt;PhD course</b>	x
Student in year 1 of MPhil	✓
Student in year 2 of MPhil	✓
Student in year 1 of PhD	x
Student in year 2 of PhD	x

### How to apply

- To apply to the postgraduate research scholarship competition, students who are eligible based on the information above should apply via [Route 2](#), the single scholarship application form.

**We would strongly advise all potential applicants to contact the Department of Philosophy for further advice about eligibility and how to apply.**

Email: [pgphilsec@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:pgphilsec@warwick.ac.uk)

## Appendix 2

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for '2+4 MRes/ PhD Research Programme in Economics' applicants and current students

### Eligibility

Applicant Category	Eligible to apply for Chancellor's International Scholarship
Applicant for the '2+4' MRes>PhD course	x
Applicant for Year 2 (Masters Level) '2+4' MRes>PhD course	x
Current student in year 1 ( Masters Level) of the '2+4'	x
Current student year 2 ( Masters Level) of the '2+4'	√
Current student in year 1 of the '+4' (PhD Level)	√
Current student in year 2 of the '+4' (PhD Level)	x
Current student in year 3 of the '+4' (PhD Level)	x
Current student in year 4 of the '+4' (PhD Level)	x

### How to apply

- To apply to the postgraduate research scholarship competition current students who are eligible based on the information above should apply via [Route 2](#), the single scholarship application form.

**We would strongly advise all potential applicants to contact the Department of Economics for further advice about eligibility and how to apply.**

Email: [economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:economics.pgoffice@warwick.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 24 76523027

## Appendix 3

Further information on eligibility and how to apply for Overseas applicants and current students in a Centre for Doctoral Training' (CDT)

### Eligibility

Applicant Category	Eligible to apply for Chancellor's International Scholarship
Applicant for 1+3 in a CDT	x
Applicant for PhD in a CDT	v
Student in year 1 ( Masters Year) of the '1+3'	v
Student in year 1 of '+3' (PhD)	v
Student in year 2 of '+3' (PhD)	x
Student in year 3 of '+3' (PhD)	x

### How to apply

- Current Students should apply to the postgraduate research scholarship competition via Route 2, the single scholarship application form.
- Applicants for a PhD (not currently enrolled) should apply to the postgraduate research scholarship competition via Route 1, the joint admissions and scholarship application form.
- We would strongly advise all applicants to contact the Centre for Doctoral Training directly for further advice before applying.
- Please note that Home/EU students can apply for funding through CDT's directly, scholarships available for Home/EU students through CDT's will not be part of the postgraduate research scholarship competition.

## Appendix 4

### Ranking Criteria for open competition applications

Applications are ranked in order of preference – 1 being the most highly ranked application. Judgment is made under two broad categories: Person and Preparedness and Project and Place. The following descriptors indicate the characteristics considered under each heading. It is important to note that the descriptors below should be used to guide assessors, but the University has consciously moved away from a defined scoring criteria in order to recognize areas such as professional experience.

<b>Person and Preparedness descriptors <sup>1</sup></b>	
<p>An applicant with an outstanding academic record, very well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a first class degree, or a distinction at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</li> <li>• excellent references</li> </ul>	Excellent
<p>An applicant with a strong academic record, well-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an upper second class degree, or a merit at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</li> <li>• good references</li> </ul>	Good
<p>An applicant that fulfils the academic requirements for entry to doctoral study but does not demonstrate that they are equipped to excel, usually evidenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a lower second class degree, or a pass at Masters level, or equivalent professional experience</li> <li>• acceptable references</li> </ul>	Acceptable
<p>An applicant with a weak academic record, ill-equipped for doctoral study, usually evidenced by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a third class degree or no degree level qualification</li> <li>• poor references</li> </ul>	Poor

<sup>1</sup> \* An applicant with substantial and relevant professional experience may be judged to have an outstanding, strong or solid academic record without having achieved the degree classification associated with that category. Applicants in some disciplines are often established and successful practitioners undertaking applied research in professional contexts. They typically have significant professional knowledge and experience that bears directly on their ability to undertake doctoral research. Furthermore, in light of recent grade inflation, the degree classifications of applicants who graduated many years ago may not be directly comparable with the degree classifications of recent graduates.

Project <sup>2</sup> and Place descriptors	Assessment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project with the potential to make a significant contribution to the field</li> <li>• A clearly articulated and robustly justified research question</li> <li>• Sophisticated critical engagement with relevant literature</li> <li>• An appropriate and well-developed research design</li> <li>• An excellent fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, an excellent fit between the candidate’s prior knowledge/experience and the project.</li> <li>• An excellent fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department/University</li> </ul>	Excellent
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project with the potential to make a strong impact within the student’s field</li> <li>• A clearly articulated and justified research question</li> <li>• Critical engagement with relevant literature</li> <li>• An appropriate and partially-developed research design</li> <li>• A good fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, a good fit between the candidate’s prior knowledge/experience and the project.</li> <li>• A good fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department</li> </ul>	Good
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project with the potential to make an original contribution to the field</li> <li>• A clearly articulated research question</li> <li>• Engagement with relevant literature</li> <li>• An appropriate indicative research design</li> <li>• An acceptable fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, an acceptable fit between the candidate’s prior knowledge/experience and the project.</li> <li>• An acceptable fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department</li> </ul>	Acceptable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A project without the potential to make an original contribution to the field</li> <li>• An unclear research question</li> <li>• Little or no engagement with relevant literature</li> <li>• An inappropriate research design</li> <li>• A poor fit between the project and the expertise of the proposed supervisors, or in the case of a project the applicant is recruited to, a poor fit between the candidate’s prior knowledge/experience and the project.</li> <li>• A poor fit between the project and the research strengths or priorities of the host department</li> </ul>	Poor

<sup>2</sup> In disciplines where the project is recruited to rather than designed by the applicant, greater reliance will be given to the departmental statement demonstrating the expected characteristics.