

Selecting Sanctuary Scholars

A selection framework built on, and directly connected to, the Sanctuary Scholarship application form. It is designed to support universities in the process of shortlisting, interviewing and assessing the specific needs of Sanctuary Scholars.

Our partners:

Application & Selection Framework

This resource has been designed to facilitate the process of selecting Sanctuary Scholars. It is intended to be a working document for use by professionals involved in the process of student selection. The application and selection framework supports this process by collating complex information about applicants in one document, allowing for easy assessment and overview of the information used to make decisions on the award of scholarships.

This resource is intended to be used as a tool to support the shortlisting and interview process, in order to better understand the barriers faced by individual applicants.

The Sanctuary Scholarship application form requests information in relation to the five areas in which students may face barriers to accessing higher education.

By collating this information in one document, university staff can review the overall circumstances of the applicant. This allows staff to better assess the extent to which the award of a scholarship can remove some or all of the barriers they face. This process will also highlight any additional support needs the student may have, which the university can then address. The aim of this tool is to also ensure that the applicant, once awarded a scholarship, can begin their degree programme or pre-sessional qualification with the necessary support in place. This in turn will inform the student contract, aid student retention and improve the student experience.

The application and selection framework addresses five areas of the applicant's circumstances:

1. Rationale for Higher Education

– this section explores the applicant's future goals and ambitions, and how the chosen university course will support them in achieving these.

2. Interruptions to Prior Education

– this section addresses the applicant's education history, any interruptions to their education and the impact of these interruptions.

3. Immigration Status

– this section clarifies the immigration status of the applicant at the time they are due to commence studying. It is also an opportunity to explore whether the applicant may soon be eligible for student finance, for example if an application for Indefinite leave to remain is imminent.

4. Eligibility: Student Finance & Alternative Funding Sources

– this section assesses the applicant's financial circumstances and whether they have made any other applications for financial support.

5. Scholarship and Support Needs

– this section draws a more holistic picture of the applicant's wider support needs, in order for them to achieve in higher education. It also explores the applicant's living circumstances, examining how secure their accommodation is and whether relocation is necessary for the applicant to be able to commence their studies at university.

Example Guidance

Below is an example of how the resource can be used. In each section of the main document, we offer a number of prompts to help obtain the relevant information. However, these are merely suggestions and are supplied as guidance.

1. Rationale for Higher Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Why has the applicant chosen to study at this university? – Why has the applicant chosen this course? 		
	Barrier level: High	Barrier level: Moderate	Barrier level: Low
2. Interruptions to Prior Education	<p>Applicant could not access higher education in home country due to personal circumstances/social political climate of home country.</p> <p>Applicant has deferred entry several times and cannot defer again.</p>	<p>Applicant commenced a degree in home country but was interrupted and it was not completed due to personal circumstances.</p> <p>Applicant's journey to the UK took several years.</p>	<p>Applicant already holds a degree from home country.</p> <p>No interruptions, applicant completed secondary education in the UK.</p>
3. Immigration Status	<p>Applicant has submitted a fresh claim for asylum.</p> <p>Applicant is awaiting on an asylum claim.</p>	<p>Applicant has limited leave to remain for the next 2 years.</p> <p>Applicant is on 10 year pathway to Indefinite Leave to Remain.</p>	<p>Applicant has refugee status.</p> <p>Applicant has Humanitarian Protection and will meet ordinary residence criteria in 1 year's time.</p>
4. Eligibility for Student Finance & Alternative Funding Sources	<p>Applicant does not qualify for student finance.</p> <p>No other sources of support available.</p>	<p>Applicant will qualify for student finance in 1 years' time when they will meet ordinary residence criteria.</p>	<p>Applicant qualifies for student finance but has applied for foundation course which is not covered by student finance.</p> <p>Applicant has been awarded a grant for a charitable trust towards the costs of higher education.</p>
5. Scholarship & Support Needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Does the scholarship meet the needs of the applicant? – What are the applicant's chances of success given their current circumstances and the support this scholarship offers? – What other sources of support are available to the applicant? 		

Application & Selection Framework

Applicant Name

Course/programme would you like to study

Date of birth

Contact telephone number

Email address

 Write your notes below

1. Rationale for Higher Education

Why do you want to study on this course and why at this university?

Points to consider:

- Career trajectory and goals
- Personal and family circumstances
- Previous experience within higher education

2. Interruptions to Prior Education

Has your education been interrupted or delayed at any time?

Points to consider:

- Have there been interruptions to commence, continue or complete previous studies?
- Impact of interruptions to studies
- The highest level of education applicant has completed (e.g. does applicant have a degree from home country)
- Qualifications due to expire or are invalid?

Barrier level: High Moderate Low

3. Immigration Status & History


What is your immigration status at the start of the course?

Points to consider:

- What stage is their application at if 'appeal rights exhausted', will a fresh claim be submitted imminently?
- If temporary leave to remain, how long before the applicant is eligible to apply for ILR?
- Consider impact of scholarship on applicant's existing accommodation and support arrangements (e.g. NASS accommodation/support).

Barrier level: High Moderate Low

Application & Selection Framework

 Write your notes below

4. Eligibility for Student Finance & Alternative Funding Sources

Is the applicant eligible for student finance or will they be in the very near future?

Points to consider:

- Qualify for student finance?
- Access to employment opportunities?
- Other sources of support/funding available?

Barrier level: High Moderate Low

5. Scholarship & Support Needs

What are the applicants wider support needs and does the scholarship enable their full participation in higher education?

Points to consider:

- Applicant's living circumstances, including accommodation and support
- Cost of living and additional study costs
- Type of scholarship on offer

Barrier level: High Moderate Low

6. Selection Summary

Barrier level: High Moderate Low