

Newcastle University
School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics
MASTERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
Eligibility Criteria and Application Guidelines

The School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics at Newcastle University, UK, is seeking outstanding applicants for scholarships on our Masters programmes in Literature, English Language, Linguistics and Creative Writing. We are offering several bursaries **worth up to £2,500** towards the cost of postgraduate study.

Successful applicants will join our thriving School in which the Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2021 placed our research in English Literature and Creative Writing 1st in the UK (Times Higher Education) and our research in Modern Languages and Linguistics 7th in the UK (Times Higher Education).

We have an energetic, creative and well-resourced postgraduate community within the School, and we hope successful applicants would contribute to this culture via participation in the Postgraduate Community and Culture Group. Award holders will benefit from expert teaching and supervision. They will have the opportunity to work within the University Library's [Special Collections](#), with the wide range of linguistic corpora created by the School and with our partner organizations.

ELIGIBILITY

Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of scholarly merit and awards are open to Home and International students starting one of our PG programmes at the start of 2024/25 academic year.

Applicants must, at the time the application is submitted, have completed an application on the [admissions portal](#) for 2024/25 entry on one of the following postgraduate programmes in the [School](#):

- [MA in Creative Writing](#)
- [MA in Writing Poetry](#)
- [MA in Linguistics](#)
- MLitt (Masters by Research) in [English Literature](#)
- MLitt in English [Language](#)
- MLitt in [Linguistics](#)

Scholarships will be awarded on a competitive basis. Applicants should have achieved, or be predicted to achieve, a **first-class or 2:1** undergraduate degree or, where relevant, a lower qualification with professional practice that provides equivalent academic and research skills. Applicants are expected to outline why Newcastle University is the best place to undertake Postgraduate study and how Masters level study will lead to doctoral study or otherwise support their future career aspirations.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Applicants must submit the following documents to Scott Burdon (scott.burdon@newcastle.ac.uk) by the deadline:
 - An up-to-date CV (no more than 2 pages in length)
 - A transcript of undergraduate marks
 - A proposal for funding of 750 words (excluding bibliographies/list of references)*

AND

2. Applicants must ask one academic referee to send a reference letter to Scott Burdon by the deadline. **It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that referees meet this deadline.** Your reference should be from those who are best placed to comment in detail on your undergraduate work and potential for postgraduate study. Referees will be asked to comment on past performance, deservedness for funding, predicted results (if applicable), as well as their potential and preparedness for postgraduate study.

*The proposal for funding should, where relevant, consider the following questions:

- Why is the School of English Literature, Language and Linguistics at Newcastle University the best place for you to embark on postgraduate research (e.g. in terms of resources, research strength, research Centres and Institutes)?
- How have your undergraduate studies – or equivalent professional experience – prepared you for your chosen Masters programme?
- How do you intend to use the Masters programme to further your area of research interest? (e.g. What modules will you take? How will you structure MLitt assignments? What will be the focus of your dissertation or creative work?)
- How will your chosen Masters programme aid your career development:
 - How do you envisage your Masters programme leading to an application for a Research Council funded PhD?
 - If you are interested in a career outside of academia, how do you envisage your Masters programme supporting your future career plans? For example:
 - What skills would you hope to acquire from PG study?
 - How will you contribute to the School's postgraduate community?

If you intend to apply for a Masters Scholarship to study **Creative Writing or Poetry**, please be aware that the creative portfolio you included in your application for the MA programme will be used to inform a decision on your Scholarship application. You are also encouraged to get in touch with the Degree Programme Director, Professor Jacob Polley, to discuss your Scholarship application - jake.polley@newcastle.ac.uk

Shortlisted applicants may be invited for interview, with all successful and unsuccessful applicants notified by the end of June.

CONTACT

Scott Burdon – scott.burdon@newcastle.ac.uk

DEADLINE

The deadline for applications and references is **17th June 2024 by 5pm.**
Applications that are late or incomplete will not be considered.